

Minutes of the Meeting of Comberbach Parish Council held on Tuesday 5 September 2023

Present

Councillors:

John Ryder (Chairman in the Chair)

Sandy Cameron

Richard Chandler

John Darwin

Jill Johnston

Val McDermott

William Briggs

Stephen Penwill (RFO)

The Meeting started at 6.45pm.

Public Open Forum

There were no members of the public present.

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor Holt due to illness.

An apology for absence was also received from the Clerk, Denise French, due to illness.

Members noted that apologies had been received from the CWAC Councillors – Gibbon & Marshall; concern was expressed regarding the infrequent attendance of any CWAC Councillors.

(23/47) RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact the 3 CWAC Councillors and urge their attendance at future meetings as this is valued by the Parish Council and asking if there is anything that could help to support their attendance.

2. Casual Vacancy

William Briggs had put himself forward for the casual vacancy and had sent in some information prior to the meeting which had been circulated to all councillors.

(23/48) RESOLVED: that William Briggs be co-opted onto the Parish Council and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed in the presence of the Chairman.

3. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 July 2023

(23/49) RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

5. Progress Reports and Updates

5.1 Cyber fraud – Members noted that Andrew Kevan of Cheshire Police had provided leaflets on Cyber Safety which were to be distributed to all households and information on cyber safety would be included in the CVN along with relevant contact numbers

5.2 Neighbourhood Plan – Although Cheshire Community Action (CCA) no longer supported with detailed preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, they would still offer advice. Councillors agreed to request an online meeting with John Heselwood of CCA.

(23/50) RESOLVED: that the Clerk will contact CCA and request a virtual meeting about the Neighbourhood Plan at a mutually convenient date.

6. Cheshire West and Chester Councillors' (CWAC) reports

There were no CWAC Councillors present. Cllr Gibbon had provided a written update which was discussed.

7. Finance Committee Minutes

(23/51) RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 8 August 2023 be received.

8. Recreation Area and Pump Track

8.1 The Chairman updated: The wooden support to the Zip Wire was showing signs of deterioration. Noted that there had been no mention of this either at recent inspections or while NTC was working on the zipwire mechanism recently.

8.2 The recent Inspection Report was noted.

8.3 It was agreed that the infant swing set would be replaced with a 4 seat configuration to reuse the recently purchased infant swing seats along with a seat suitable for disabled children and an “adult and child” seat

(23/52) RESOLVED: that

(a) The update on the Recreation Area and the recent Inspection Report be noted.

(b) HAGS be contacted for prices regarding potential replacement legs for the zipwire support.

(c) Quotes be sought for the replacement of the infant swing set with a 4 seat configuration and quotes be considered at the next meeting on 24 October.

9. Highways and Streetscene

9.1 The Council considered 2 sets of data from the Speed Indicator Device. The July report referred to Cogshall Lane westbound out of the village and the August report referred to Cogshall Lane eastbound into the village. It was determined at the meeting the July report actually showed eastbound statistics as the SID had not been moved for the two-month period, and the data should be read in that context.

The Council discussed the speed of traffic on Budworth Lane, the majority of which was in Great Budworth parish.

9.2 The Council noted that Cheshire East Council now showed gullies on their interactive reporting map, and CWAC were believed to be working on the same. Concern was expressed that some gullies were not being cleaned sufficiently to prevent future flooding events but that their future mapping should help analyse maintenance schedules and improve reporting of issues.

9.3 The Council discussed a site visit to Gibb Hill which had been attended by CWAC Highways officers and CWAC Ward Councillors; at the visit the Head of Highway's had commented on the poor state of the surfacing.

(23/53) RESOLVED: that:

- (a) The Clerk write to Great Budworth Parish Council requesting permission to locate the SID on Budworth Lane for a future monitoring period.
- (b) Councillor Darwin will summarise the position on the gullies for the Clerk to write to CWAC Highways/ Ward Councillors.
- (c) The Chairman, Councillor Ryder, will summarise the position on grass cutting for the Clerk to write to CWAC Highways/ Ward Councillors.

10. Accounts and financial matters

10.1 The accounts for 31 July 2023 were listed in Appendix 1

10.2 The list of payments was in Appendix 2.

(23/54) RESOLVED: that:

- (a) The accounts in Appendix 1 with a balance of £23,714.76 and £28,397.09 in reserves be noted.
- (b) The list of payments in Appendix 2 be approved.

11. Projects

11.1 Cheshire West Crowd (Spacehive) – Cllr Johnston gave a report on the Information Session attended by herself, the Chairman and the RFO. The Cheshire West Crowd was a useful source of funding for a future project and could provide funding up to £25k.

11.2 Resilience Plan – the draft Plan had been submitted to the Joint Cheshire Emergency Planning Team who had made a number of suggestions and proposed additions.

11.3 Environmental projects – Cllr McDermott updated on some potential projects with local suppliers including local produce suppliers.

11.4 Freedom Fibre - progress on the Freedom Fibre installation was discussed, cabling was being installed but Members noted some reluctance by residents to commit their vouchers due to limited ISP scope and reputation.

11.5 D Day 80 Anniversary - the 80th Anniversary of D Day was on 6 June 2024. Siting of the beacon for the D-Day celebrations was discussed. Members had some concerns that the “Tommies” spear was focused on remembrance of the Army, rather than the other armed services and felt there may be an opportunity to also include the “Fish & Chip” element, particularly for residents who were over 80 years of age.

11.6 Additional land - Councillors discussed the potential to use a new parcel of land as a sports pitch. It was agreed that an area adjacent to the existing recreation area would be most convenient, though other land around the village may also be suitable. In the event any opportunity arose, the Spacehive funding model may be appropriate.

(23/55) RESOLVED: that:

- (a) The update be received and noted.
- (b) The Council to continue to update the draft Resilience Plan.
- (c) The 80th Anniversary commemoration for D Day budget be set at £1,000 in the 2024/25 budget.
- (d) A female “Tommy” be approved at a cost of £175, to represent all services.
- (e) The Memorial Hall and Methodist Church be approached to coordinate the commemoration of the D-Day anniversary with their own plans.
- (f) The sum of £250 be approved to modify the Council’s Jubilee Beacon to read “Comberbach”.
- (g) The Clerk write to the landowner of the field adjacent to the recreation area to enquire about any potential purchase opportunity to enable extension of the recreation area.

12. Planning

12.1 Planning decisions were listed in Appendix 3

12.2 There were no enforcement matters.

(23/56) RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

13. Correspondence

The list of correspondence had been circulated. CWAC had requested removal of a parking sign from their land which had been placed to dissuade parents from parking on verges when transporting children to or from the primary school.

(23/57) RESOLVED: that:

- (a) That the correspondence be noted.
- (b) Cllr Cameron draft a letter for the Clerk to send to CWAC asking where a considerate parking sign would be permitted.

14. Representative Reports

- Comberbach Memorial Hall Management Committee – nothing to update.
- Fete Committee – nothing to update
- Bowling Club – nothing to update.
- Police Liaison – it was agreed that the Clerk will invite a representative of the Police to attend the next meeting.
- School Liaison – nothing to update.
- Litterpick – nothing to update.

15. Exclusion of Public and Press – Part 2

There were no items under this section.

The Meeting closed at 8.34pm.

The next meeting of Comberbach Parish Council will be on Tuesday 24th October at 6.45pm.

Signed
Chairman

Appendix 1 Accounts for 31 July 2023 were approved:

Current account	£23,714.76	Reserve	£28,397.09
Cash book	£52,111.85	Reconciliation:	0

Appendix 2 Payments

Item	Amount	Power
OJT Tree Services - invoice 2380	£396.00	LGA 1972 s 111
J Ryder – Defib pads, signs, materials etc	£175.15	LGA 1972 s 111

Pre-Authorised Payments

Item	Amount	Power
PAP2307 – Synchroprint, CVN July 23	£327.60	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2308 – Yoxall Joinery, timber for bench repairs	£159.60	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2309 – ChALC, planning training x2	£60.00	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2310 – Northwich TC, Inspection Jul 23	£60.00	LGA 1972 s 111
PAP2311 – Northwich TC, Zipwire maintenance	£300.00	LGA 1972 s 111
DD – Tesco Mobile, Jun 23	£7.50	LGA 1972 s 111
DD – Information Commissioners Office , subs 23	£35.00	LGA 1972 s 111
DD – Techquarters, MSOffice license Jul 23	£21.43	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 3 Recent planning decisions by CW&C

APPLICATION DETAILS	DATE OF VALIDATION	CURRENT POSITION
21/05070/OUT - Outline planning permission for a mixed use development of up to 1,550 units of residential dwellings including affordable housing (subject to viability); specialist accommodation for older people including residential care home; local centre and active ground floor uses comprising up to 600 sqm of flexible floorspace for retail (including small convenience food store); up to 275 sqm of health, nursery and community; up to 7,700 sqm of employment space; up to 950 sqm of cafe, restaurant, takeaway and public house floorspace; up to a 2,250sqm (up to 2FE) primary school with associated playing fields	Wed 22 Dec 2021	Awaiting decision

(Use Class F1(a)); and associated road infrastructure, landscaping (including Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems), public realm and amenity space (all matters reserved except for vehicular access), land at Winnington Works		
21/01937/S73, Single storey side and rear extension and creation of first floor (Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 3 (materials) of planning permission 19/01832/FUL), 31 Senna Lane	Fri 30 Apr 2021	Awaiting decision
22/00792/FUL - Change of Use of Land from Horticulture to Landscaping Business including Use of Previously Existing PolyTunnels (x2), Tool Shed, Potting Shed and Reuse of Porta Cabin as Office, Erection of Tool Shed, Small Workshop Building and Office Building and Siting of 4x Mobile Containers, Land To South of Hough Lane Farm	3 May 2022	Approved
22/03311/FUL - demolition of existing dwelling, erection of dwelling, and a single storey outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation, 57 Senna Lane	2 September 2022	Approved
22/04415/FUL - Siting of 4no. glamping units, reception hut, bike storage, recycling/waste facilities and a new permeable parking/turning area with electric vehicle charging points with associated footpaths and a water treatment plant for onsite drainage, land On The Northeast Side of Senna Lane	28 November 2022	Withdrawn
22/04506/FUL Erection of side garage, additional front porch and part render to front elevation Glaslyn, Marbury Road	28 February 2023	Approved
23/00251/FUL Drop the kerb to the side of property on Freshfields to allow access to create a new driveway and raise the kerb at the rear of the property removing the current drive way 22 Cogshall Lane	6 March 2023	Awaiting decision

23/00659/FUL Removal of existing front tile hung cladding and replacement with PIR insulation board, finished with a light cream render 22 Burgamot Lane	1 March 2023	Approved
23/00734/FUL Two storey rear extension and first floor side extension, with storm porch to front and roof alterations 27 Senna Lane – AMENDED PLANS	7 March 2023	Awaiting decision
23/01116/TPO Ash (T1) on rear boundary - Reduce crown by approximately 25% by reducing main limbs to appropriate growing/reduction points as previous reduction points (stubs) are starting to die. 11 Brookfield Road	4 April 2023	Approved
23/02712/TPO – 1 x small Robinia, request to fell to ground level due to root plate movement, Three Oaks, Marbury Road	29 August 2023	Awaiting decision