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| Combe Florey Parish Council | | |
| **Date of Meeting:**  Wednesday 19th September 2018 7.00 pm  At Combe Florey Village Hall | | **Written by:**  Gemma Coombes (Parish Clerk) |

# Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Draft

**Councillors Present**

**In attendance**

Gemma Coombes – Parish Clerk

Parishioners x 2 plus district & county councillors and our guest speaker.

Cllr Robin Cleverly (Chairman)

Cllr Peter Tayler

Cllr Adriana Truby

Cllr Simon Howes

Cllr Geoffrey Eggleston

1. **Welcome by Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed the parishioners to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

1. **Apologies**

None

1. **Declarations of Interest**

None declared

1. **Approval of minutes of last meeting**

The minutes from the 18th May 2018 were taken as read. Proposed by Cllr Eggleston Seconded Cllr Tayler.

All in favour to adopt the minutes. Signed by Chairman.

1. **Bill Jenman – Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme**

This scheme is funded by the lottery but managed by the county council. There are landscape changes due to estates being broken up and larger scale farming etc. There are access issues on the hills in places and with continued growth of surrounding areas this will get worse. The aim is to put in place a development scheme by 2020.

QLPC are looking at a variety of ideas and there will be active event programmes for people to get involved with activities like bat counting, astronomy and walks. There is going to be advice for people to help restore things such as old hedge lines and areas of beauty.

They want to restore areas of land, make community woodlands. They are looking for potential archaeological dig sites to show what was here in this area.

They are open to new projects and have asked for any ideas which will need to fit in with future-proofing the landscapes of this area. The potential projects are not aimed at improving the recreational uses.

There is no scope under this project to protect endangered species but it is the responsibility of land owners to apply for the grant.

1. **Public participation**

Nothing raised

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. ***Use of burial grant money***

There was a question raised about how this is being used. It is £350 for burial grant and £100 for the footpaths. We have spoken to the PCC and the PC is now satisfied that this is being used for the burial ground alone.

Footpath cost of £200 paid to John Passingham to defray his costs to maintain the footpaths, being the amount for the years 2017 & 2018 (£100 per year)

* 1. ***Broken signposts***

No progress at this stage. We need the sign fixed first before the posts are ordered.

* 1. **Coggan’s Lane – No Through Road sign**

This is now in place.

* 1. **GDPR – Data protection act**

There was a late amendment to the Act that says a parish council is not a public authority and does not need to appoint a data controller. After a review the PC decided that it holds no personal data. It holds no email addresses or names of individuals that is not available from a website.

Action: Gemma to reply to the email to say things have changed under the new legislation in May 2018 and we do not need a data controller now.

1. **Somerset County councillor’s report (Cllr Rigby)**

Every few years County councillors can bid for a job to be financed from the small improvement scheme, Cllr Rigby bid for two schemes, one of which was the junction at Farmers Arms and one of which was the path by the 40-Commando site at Cross Keys. Both were accepted and are now at the feasibility study stage. The results of these studies will be known later in the year.

Cuts at SCC are affecting the revenue budget. Latest forecasts were that SCC were £11 million over budget and this is now on a cost cutting scheme to avoid them going into section 114 emergency measures. There was an in-year budget last week to stop this action happening with a view to spending £14 million to allow for the £11 million over spend with a small buffer. There is some concern over some long-running contracts. There is anticipated £12 million cuts to be made next year.

There is a scheme going to get a better broadband if you get less than 2MBPS.

1. **Taunton Deane district report (Cllr P Watson)**

Proposals for ward boundary changes are being considered by the boundary commission. Crowcombe had made a counter-proposal to group the smaller villages together. The boundary commission is not anticipated to change their proposals greatly. There have been some issues over name changes of wards but there are not many comments. We should hear back mid-October.

The financial issues that SCC have are not impacting on TDBC and they are not in the same financial situation. SCC are withdrawing the funding for citizens advice and it is recommended by our district councillors that we give a contribution to help them. They employ 4 full time staff in Taunton.

1. **Policing Report**

a. The Farmers Arms was broken into and vandalised. Someone noticed a number plate of a suspicious van that has been traced to other similar incidents.

b. Criminal damage in Combe Florey is under investigation by CCTV footage.

1. **Planning**
   1. ***Current planning applications***
      * 11/18/0012/AGN – Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural building for the storage of timber and associated machinery on land at Combe Wood, NE of Combe Tower, Combe Florey. An extraordinary planning meeting to review this will be held on the 02/10/2018 at 6pm in the village hall.
   2. ***Other planning matters***

*None*

1. **Finance** 
   1. ***Account balances***
2. Current account - £9000.00
   1. ***Resolution of bank signatories***

Lorraine (ex councillor) to sign the form as a signature the bank recognises; she is not signing as a councillor but just to allow us to make changes to the account.

* 1. ***Remittances*** 
     + Taunton Deane Burial grant and footpath grant £450.00 (Burial grant £350.00 Footpath grant £100.00)
  2. ***Invoices for payment***

Parish clerk read out the invoices and asked if we can seek approval at the end for all. All in favour of doing this. All invoices were proposed by Cllr Truby and Seconded by Cllr Eggleston . Vote and all in favour

Bank reconciliation is given to the chairman by the RFO and this is signed.

* + - Parish Clerk wages and expenses £332.20
    - PAYE to inland revenue. £77.60
    - SALC 2018 affiliation fees £67.07
    - Footpath cost to be paid to John Passingham (2017 & 2018) £200
    - Burial grant money to church (2017 & 2018) £700

1. **Highways & Footpaths**
   1. **Use of dog friendly footpaths**

Any brambles etc have been removed, we have a dog friendly walk that will be put on a card to show the way via guidance notes.

1. **Parish Maintenance**

Mark has been only once so far this year. We may need to look at changing the amount of maintenance we have in future in order to keep our parish looking good. There are a lot of weeds in the stream by the causeway, this is a highways issue as this is a ford and a highway. We will review how to deal with this.

1. **Village Hall** 
   1. **Village Hall car park resolution of adoption status**

5th of October will have a formal meeting with the council.

* 1. **Update on building work**

The foundations are now in place for the next phase to take place. They needed to move some man holes. On the strength of the PC support and donation TDBC have donated £1500.

1. **Other Parish Matters/ Topics for next agenda**

Forecast the forthcoming years budget and how to appropriate the money if any money left.

1. **Correspondence**

Letter of thanks from the village hall for the £2000 grant toward the extension.

Letter from Avon and Somerset Constabulary to say they are going to deliver policing in a more efficient way using beat officers in different areas.

1. **NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday 09th January 2019 at 7.00pm. Location: Combe Florey Village Hall

Meeting closes at 21.00