

Combe Florey Parish Council held 9 January 2024

Present

John Passingham
Robin Cleverly
Adriana Truby
Simon Hawes
Jacquey Newton

7 parishioners in attendance

- 2) Apologies: Gemma Coombes Parish Clerk
Tony Peel, Parishioner
- 3) Nothing to declare
- 4) Minutes of last meeting agreed
- 5) Chair allowed public participation throughout the meeting
N brought up issue of brambles overhanging the walls of Combe Florey House
Chair responded that he would discuss this with the owner or clip the brambles off himself.
- 6) No Matters Arising
- 7) Disappointed that no Somerset Councillors were present to discuss the Council's financial issues.
- 8) Nothing recorded
- 9) Planning:
 - a) 11/23/0012 (Hollycombe appl)- Councillor Truby had been to the site. The proposed home will be slightly differently sited to existing van placement, more away from the Oak tree.
Next door neighbours Neil & Jana Truby were pleased it would be a home for local people working locally.
Council in favour with an Agri-forestry tie.
 - b) West Somerset Railway embankment plan approved.
- 10) Finance:
Parish Precept has to be set and entered into an online form by noon on 2nd February 2024.
The Precept has been £4000 for the past many years.
SIMON TO UPDATE FURTHER THIS SECTION
- 11)
 - i) The Chair has discussed the realignment of the footpath past the cemetery with the landowner who has agreed that this can be so.
 - ii) Councillor Passingham will email the Area Warden regarding the remainder of the rest of this path which is in a terrible state.
- 12)
 - i) Maintenance of Garden
A parishioner made suggestions that the garden could be laid to lawn.
Councillor Hawes reminded the meeting that a historic public meeting had agreed the current plan for the garden and all that was required now was to find a suitable person to maintain the garden. The Chair noted that the design had minimally changed from that plan. Councillor Truby would write an article for inclusion in Fiveways the Benefice Magazine including looking for a suitable gardener. A parishioner was disappointed that there were no volunteers to do the gardening work.

Further enquiries will be made as to available gardeners.

B. Councillor Newton's suggestion of her being paid for maintaining the garden falls foul of rules which Councillors have to work under.

12) ii) Felling of trees in the Conservation area. It was agreed that Councillor Newton would write to the Somerset Council Planning Enforcement Department regarding the non application and subsequent felling of the five trees.

12) iii) Manhole opposite Gatehouse - Councillor Newton to write to Somerset Council re this dangerous manhole which is proud of the road and upon which a parishioner has burst two tyres.

12) iv) Potential purchase of a Christmas Tree - The Parish Church (PCC) are encouraged to make a formal request for some funds towards a Christmas tree at the Parish Council meeting in November 2024

13) Local Community Network LCN - Councillor Passingham reports that the main topic of conversation was the Somerset Council's shortfall. Local Parish Councils asked detailed questions of the Councillors in attendance regarding the budget.

14) Village Hall Update - Councillor Newton had been unable to attend the last meeting so nothing to report.