COMBE MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Interim meeting of Combe Martin Parish Council held at the Community Centre on Wednesday, 30 November, 2016, at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Peter James (Chairman) Wendy Druce, Yvette Gubb, Ian Lawton,

Celia Withers.

In Attendance: District Cllr John Lovering, 1 member of the public, Parish Clerk.

194/16 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Julia Clark and Helen Mallinder.

195/16 **Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Subject Interest

Peter James Skirhead toilets Lives nearby

196/16 **Planning**

a Applications

District Councillor Yvette Gubb drew the meeting’s attention to the fact that any observations or decisions which she made regarding planning applications at this meeting were based upon the information available at the time. Such observations and decisions might well change in the light of any information which might come before district councillors when sitting upon North Devon District Council’s planning committee.

62041 - CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING MOBILE HOME TO A HOLIDAY LET AT STRAWBERRY FIELDS, SHUTE LANE

Applicant - Mr R Turner

RESOLVED to recommend that the application be APPROVED.

b Appeal

An appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the

refusal of application number 61350 - Erection of dwelling at Plot 11 Hillside View.

It was NOTED that this Council's response to the planning consultation will be sent to the Planning Inspectorate, but it was RESOLVED to write to the Inspector supporting North Devon Council's planning refusal and stating that this Council has no grounds on which to change its views about the application.

197/16 **Footpaths**

The footpath from Holdstone Down Car Park to the South West Coast Path is in a

very poor condition. RESOLVED to write to the landowner to ask that it be maintained.

198/16 **Beach, Seaside and Parade Areas**

a Wall at the Parade

Martin Worth and Ben Hoyles had organized and carried out the removal of the dangerous section of the wall. Additional Heras fencing has been hired to enable the path below to be re-opened.

North Devon Council's engineer is to be reminded about inspecting the site.

b Hole in the sand near the Umber on the Beach

It was NOTED that a hole has appeared in the sand on the Beach below Mean High Water, beside the Umber where part of the stream makes a loop. RESOLVED to monitor this.

c Parade toilets

There has been considerable interest in the sale of the Parade toilets and the closing date for offers is 8 December, 2016. The results will be discussed at the December Parish Council meeting.

d Seaside Award

RESOLVED to leave the decision on whether or not to apply for the Seaside Award 2017 on the table until the Finance meeting and to ask the Chairman of the Tourism Association to attend the meeting.

199/16 **Adams Hay**

a Removal of hedge on seaward side

Pathfinder volunteers have cut down a good section of the hedge at Adams Hay and will be returning next week to spend another day cutting the next section.

Combe Composters had been asked if they were able to recycle the waste, and were checking as it is believed that Parish Council waste counts as commercial which would invalidate their recycling credits.

b Replanting of hedge

RESOLVED to replace the hedge with willow cuttings/saplings, which will be pollarded/trimmed when they reach the appropriate height. This will provide an economical replacement and will help to promote and advertise the willow planting programme in Combe Martin.

Chairman will approach Broomhill Art Hotel to ask if they would be interested in participating in a creative use of this willow.

200/16 **Hollands Park**

A date is to be set for the Working Party to meet to discuss the construction of a new store at Hollands Park.

As there is currently no litter bin at Hollands Park, RESOLVED to look for a partner parish to put in a TAP Fund application for additional bins for Hollands Park and the barbeque area and to replace worn out bins at the Parade.

201/16 **Highways**

a Rectory Road

Water has been flowing across the C460 between the entrances to Rectory Cottage and Jevington. In the recent freezing weather, the water has frozen badly resulting in an accident. DCC has been requested to salt the area and address the problem and it was RESOLVED to press DCC to find a permanent solution to stop the water running over the road.

b Potholes

BT has not re-instated its road works very well and the holes are slumping. Members were all asked to report this on the DCC webpage and to remind villagers that the more they report defects, the better the chance of the work being carried out.

202/16 **Lighting - Western Gardens**

The faulty light at Western Gardens has been reported to SSE, who have also been asked to replace the irreparable light.

Cllr Peter James declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

Cllr Wendy Druce was elected as Chairman of the meeting whilst the Chairman was not present.

203/16 **Sale of Skirhead Toilets**

a Response from North Devon Council

A reply from NDC, regarding the apportionment of any sale proceeds, is awaited.

Cllr Yvette Gubb will remind NDC.

b Sale of toilets

RESOLVED to investigate the various options for selling the property. As a number of expressions of interest had been received, it was AGREED that it may be possible to sell the toilets without involving an agent.

It is important that any sale agreement should contain an 'uplift' clause so that a proportion of any future enhancement of the value of the property would be payable to this Council and North Devon Council.

204/16 **Eberleigh House Flat**

Three tenders had been received from RGP, and were considerably in excess of

the anticipated cost. RGP is obtaining a breakdown of the costs from the two lowest tenderers.

RESOLVED to consider the detailed costings and explore alternative ways of either converting into two flats, or converting one flat at a time.

205/16 **Community Centre**

The proposals are unlikely to be received until January or February 2017.

206/16 **Christmas trees**

RESOLVED:

a To ask Cliff Brookman if he would be willing to work at the weekend and take

time off in lieu during the week.

b Check if Council has any transport, as the tractor is awaiting repairs.

c Cllr Peter James will ask someone to assist Mr Brookman.

d Dates for the work are to be checked with Cllr Ian Lawton.

207/16 **Correspondence**

a Braunton Parish Council – LTR MOD proposed closure of Chivenor

RESOLVED to support Braunton PC's objections of the proposed closure of Chivenor and to write to the MOD about this.

b Christopher Savell - Barton Gate Lane

There were no objections to Mr Savell painting a white 'H' bar across the entrance to his parking area. Barton Gate Lane is an unadopted road and Mr Savell was recommended to contact white lining companies direct.

c Senior Citizens - Community Centre fundraising

The thank you note from the Senior Citizens for raffle prizes received was NOTED.

d Northern Devon Healthcare Trust - improvements to stroke services

The email from NDH NHS Trust was NOTED with surprise in view of the proposals to close the stroke unit at Barnstaple.

The meeting closed at 7.23pm.

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Chairman