

COMBE MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Combe Martin Parish Council held at the Community Centre on Monday, 11 September, 2017, at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Peter James (In the Chair) Julia Clark, Wendy Druce, Ian Lawton, Doug Seymour, Celia Withers, David Woodbury, Chris Wyer.

In Attendance: County Cllr Andrea Davis, District Cllr John Lovering, 4 parishioners, Parish Clerk.

The meeting was opened with prayers.

119/17 **Public Session**

a Nicky Tossell - asked County Cllr Andrea Davis when Devon County Council would be repairing the C460 which she said is in an awful condition. The white line in the centre of the road has almost disappeared. Concerns were also expressed that the road is falling away on the side of the road going out of Combe Martin towards Henstridge.

Cllr Davis said that she had asked for the lining to be done on both the C460 and the A39 but did not know when it would be done.

b Nicky Tossell - reminded members that it had been agreed to look for funding for a bus shelter so that school children would not get soaked waiting for the school bus and was advised that Council will be holding a strategy meeting in the near future, which will include this.

c Martin Worth - had noted that there was a letter on the agenda regarding the rear of the Village Hall and drew members attention to the fact that the existing level of lighting behind the hall was necessary to safely carry out evacuations of the hall and for practice fire drills. He also commented on the Management Committee's attempts to meet the writer of the letter, which had been unsuccessful.

There had recently been a very concerning incident which had been reported to the police. Two users of the hall had left their vehicles at the rear of the Village Hall and when they came to collect these the next morning, they found that four inch nails had been placed in such a position that the rear tyres of both vehicles would have been punctured had one of the drivers not noticed before driving off.

This incident of vandalism was condemned and it was NOTED that the police had been informed.

120/17 **Matter of Urgency**

It had been necessary for the Emergency Officer to close Combe Martin Beach today as the boat moored in the harbour had been damaged in the storm, had broken up and covered the Beach with debris and hazardous materials such as oils.

121/17 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Yvette Gubb and Helen Mallinder.

122/17 **County and District Councillors' Reports**

a Devon County Council

County Cllr Andrea Davis reminded members of the free training being offered at Kentisbury Village Hall on 25 September 2017.

b North Devon Council

District Cllr John Lovering reported that NDC has updated its car park machines to take debit or credit cards and Applepay/android payments. It is also possible to pay by telephone, although the minimum stay in short-stay car parks when paying this way is 3 hours.

There had been a recent news story in the press that a lady had been fined £400 when her vehicle had been removed from the car park. Prior to this happening, NDC had issued penalty charges and numerous warning notices, to which there had been no response, and had removed the vehicle and issued the fine as a last resort.

c Grant for Air Ambulance lights

County Cllr Andrea Davis was thanked for her kind donation of £1,000 to the Air Ambulance lighting for the landing site at Hollands Park fundraising.

123/17 **Police and Vandalism Report**

The Police newsletter for September had been received and circulated to members.

During the last month there had been 17 crimes reported. These were:

- Violence with injury 4
- Violence without injury 8
- Vehicle offence 1
- Criminal damage 4

124/17 **Minutes of the last meeting**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meetings held on 14 August, 2017 and 30 August, 2017, be confirmed and signed as a true record, subject to:

- Min 98/17 - deleting the resolution and adding 'The possible obstruction by vehicles at Five Turnings, following the extension of the yellow lines in West Challacombe Lane'
- Min 102/17 - adding 'clearing Normans Ham' to the list of tasks

125/17 **North Devon Council's planning decisions**

APPROVAL

63232 - Retrospective application for kayak display stand, new outdoor showers and changing facilities at the Outdoor Shop, Borough Road

63220 - Open porch at 2 Rone House, King Street

REFUSAL

63121 - Extension at Tanglewood, Kingston Avenue

WITHDRAWAL

63438 - Application to modify a planning obligation at 3 Home Place, Buzzacott Lane

126/17 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

a Min 102/17a - Coastal Communities Team update

The CCT Executive is meeting on Wednesday, and there will be a public meeting to report back on progress on 8 October, 2017 between 2 and 5pm in the Village Hall.

Peter Wilkinson has written a Woodlands Project paper and this will be presented to the CCT, as part of the Woodland project.

A treasurer will be appointed and a bank account opened soon.

The workmen will remove a dead tree from Adams Hay beside the former St John Ambulance building and Rachelle Jeffs has offered to clear the bed on the landward side of Adams Hay to enable the willow sculpture to be planted there. The DDCCRC are to be asked to remove the berberis on that side as part of their works.

b Min 102/17c - Eberleigh House flats

The conversion is progressing very well, the decorators are painting both flats and Southcombe Construction has started the snagging works. It was AGREED that Southcombes were doing an excellent job on the conversion.

The second gas supply was installed on Friday and the road is about to be made good.

RESOLVED that:

- Cllr Doug Seymour will arrange an open day for villagers to see what the flats are like.
- Southcombes be asked to replace the small flat roof between the flats and the Sail loft as there was a leak into the Museum at the end of last week.

The Clerk declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

c Min 102/17j - new building at Hollands Park and existing store

The response from the owners in respect of an extension of lease on Barton Gate store was discussed. The situation with planning for the new store was noted.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to:

- i Accept the offer of a 3 month extension to existing workmen's store.
- ii Withdraw the current planning application.
- iii Discuss with NDC's Planning Unit and the workmen the feasibility of siting temporary containers for storage of contents of current store, placement and operation. If operationally sound, to purchase containers for temporary storage.
- iv Expand the current Hollands Park Working Party, to explore options, to include renovating/replacing the existing football club building, to include workmen's store and potentially other facilities.
- v Establish, cost and plan alternatives for report back to Parish Council as soon as possible.

It was noted that Cllr Seymour would join Working Party and both Mark Worth and Martin Worth would be invited to join.

d Min 108/17 - Parade toilets

A quotation has been received from Des Young and Southcombes have agreed to provide costings for a robust cabinet to house the new electric supply at the Parade.

RESOLVED that Cllr Seymour and the Clerk be given Power to Act to organize the cabinet and have the fairy lights moved.

e Min 110/17e - Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Electoral Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has consulted North Devon Council on the Commission's initial proposals to reduce the number of seats in North Devon District from 43 to 41. NDC is considering these proposals and will be putting alternative proposals to the Commission. Once these have been considered, the Commission will issue its revised proposals, at which time this Council will be consulted.

127/17 Website

RESOLVED that the new website is now ready to go live and that Cllr Ian Lawton will request the hosting company to make it live. The new website is to be advertised on the noticeboard, the Shammickite and Whats On Combe Martin. Cllr Ian Lawton was thanked for all his work in populating the webpage.

128/17 Reports by Representatives to Outside Bodies

a Museum

At the last Museum meeting, committee members were shown the Museum's accreditation paperwork, which is done every two years. It is amazing the amount of work to be done when filling in these forms. 26 weeks are given for advance preparation of the forms, an invitation is then sent to the Museum to apply, at which point the documents are sent.

The Museum no longer needs to hold an AGM, as it is now a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Instead a public meeting will be held on 20 September, 2017 in the Sail Loft.

RESOLVED to give the painting of the original Twinning Event, which is currently on the wall in the Community Centre, to the Museum.

b Community Centre

The September table top sale raised approximately £80.

c Leys Charity

Leys Charity has received 9 applications for grants this year, all of whom have received funding. The Charity's finances are in a healthy position and it will be advertising to remind villagers that they are welcome to apply for funding for education.

129/17 Correspondence

a The following items were NOTED:

Combe Martin Museum - minutes of last meeting

DALC - Annual Report

Devon County Council - adoption of new Minerals Plan

Exmoor Consultative and Parish Forum - notice of meeting on 14 September 2017 and minutes of last meeting

Pensions Regulator - statutory contributions changes

Cllr Doug Seymour declared a personal interest in the following item.

b Paul Blackman - Village Hall matters

Mr Blackman's letter was NOTED. RESOLVED that Cllr Peter James will reply to him.

c Email objecting to dog mess

An email had been received objecting to the amount of dog mess throughout the village. NDC's officer who deals with dog issues has been advised and has offered to pursue the matter if the correspondent is willing to give his contact details, and the correspondent has been advised of this. The Dog Patrol will also be going out in the village in the near future.

d Email objecting to dogs on Beach

The email objecting to dogs being present on Combe Martin Beach was NOTED. Unfortunately, it is not possible for the Dog Warden to be present all the time and members of the public are requested to notify this Council of such events at the time it is occurring.

RESOLVED to:

- consider the proposal to put up signs advising that Newberry Beach is open to dogs,
- continue the work to persuade North Devon Council to take over the issuing of the Dog Control Orders for the Beach and play areas, as the legislation is changing soon.

e Southcombe Construction - request to use parking bay

There were no objections to Southcombe Construction hiring the top parking bay in Kiln Car Park to facilitate works to a neighbouring property.

f Combe Martin Museum - Beach Clean

There were no objections to the Beach Clean on 19/20 September, 2017, which will be led by Mya Plass.

130/17 Payments

a Balances

Balance b/fwd at 28 July 2017		176,189.91	
less outstanding chqs		7,462.86	
			168,727.05
Income			
Rents	1,893.75		
Car parks	28,665.00		
Senior Citizens re Community Centre	82.26		
Interest	0.93		
carpark admin	5.00		
air ambulance	97.50		
SWW refund	354.00		
Total income		31,098.44	
Expenses		48,681.92	
Balance carried forward plus outstanding chqs			151,143.57 10,257.91
Balance in bank 31 August 2017			161,401.48

b Car Park takings

Gross Takings	2014	2014	2015	2015	2016	2016	2017	2017
	Meters Only	Meters and Season Tickets	Meters Only	Meters and Season Tickets	Meters Only	Meters and Season Tickets	Meters Only	Meters and Season Tickets
April	6,948	8,253	8,713	10,643	5,259	7,129	9,900	12,035
May	8,053	11,238	9,085	10,676	8,963	11,878	8,450	10,565
June	10,050	12,305	10,343	15,443	12,418	15,853	10,400	13,900
July	16,380	18,266	14,660	16,630	14,829	17,054	13,011	16,426
August	23,512	24,796	22,436	23,127	26,088	27,778	26,300	28,540
September	10,285	11,325	10,810	12,160	10,369	11,109		
October	5,111	5,251	7,071	7,466	7,080	8,062		
November	2,747	3,572	0	580	1,053	1,693		
December	1,900	2,260	2,253	3,373	2,801	3,661		
January	1,423	1,923	1,545	3,260	1,382	2,372		
February	1,460	1,715	1,554	2,114	1,721	1,891		
March	3,785	5,915	5,466	8,431	3,477	6,507		
Total Year to Date	64,943	74,858	65,237	76,519	67,557	79,692	68,061	81,466
Annual Total	91,654	106,819	93,936	113,903	95,440	114,987	68,061	81,466

c Payments

The payments as set out on the attached sheet were approved following recommendation by the Chairman and Cllr Christine Wyer.

131/16 Exclusion of Public and Press and Restriction of Documents

RESOLVED

a That, under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as they involve the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information, and the items contain exempt information as defined by the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12a Part 1.

b That all reports and documents relating to the items be confirmed as 'Not for publication'.

132/17 Personnel Committee Report

The verbal report of the meeting held on Friday, 8 September, 2017 was NOTED. Advertisements for the post will be placed on the SLCC and DALC websites, in the North Devon Gazette (and Journal, depending on costs) on the noticeboard and website.

133/17 Provision of temporary office staffing

A temporary administrator has started today and a locum clerk will be employed to cover the period between the Clerk leaving and the new appointment being made.

134/17 **Vote of thanks**

A vote of thanks was passed to the Clerk, who is retiring in October 2017, for her contributions over the last 22 years.

135/17 **Parade Cafe**

RESOLVED that Cllrs David Woodbury and Peter James be granted Power to Act to follow Council's solicitor's advice and to instruct Council's solicitor to take the necessary actions.

The meeting closed at 10.04pm.

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Chairman