

COMBE MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Combe Martin Parish Council held at the Community Centre on Monday 14 January 2019 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Ian Lawton (Vice Chair), Doug Seymour MBE, Wendy Druce, David Woodbury, Yvette Gubb, Celia Withers, Chris Wyer and Helen Mallinder.

In Attendance: County Cllr Andrea Davis, District Cllr John Lovering, Parish Clerk (minute taker), and one parishioner.

Cllr Ian Lawton chaired the meeting.

The meeting was opened with prayers.

1/19 **Public Session – to receive, and reply to matters from Parishioners**

The parishioner raised several issues. She said that it was nearly a year since she first raised her concerns about the structural integrity of the river wall along Bowling Green Lane following the January 2018 floods. It is still unclear who is responsible for maintaining the wall. The parishioner has taken it upon herself to carry out some background research on the wall with the help of another. The parishioner has photos of the wall and information about who built it.

The parishioner said that there is a light on all the time on Park Lane. She gave details of the location of the light. **ACTION:** Parish Council Office to report the light to the lighting maintenance contractor.

The parishioner said that she was upset to hear of the recent reports of vandalism in the village. She has been down to the seafront and seen the damage to the memorial benches at the Parade. These benches were donated by local residents to the community and it is heart breaking to see them abused in such a manner.

The vandalism has been reported to the Police. If you have any information, please report it to the Parish Council Office and/or to the Police.

Council members congratulated Cllr Doug Seymour on his MBE award. Cllr Seymour received an MBE for his services to education in Oxfordshire and his work for the community in North Devon.

2/19 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllrs, Peter James and Julia Clark.

3/19 **Declarations of Interest**

Declarations dealt with per agenda item.

In relation to the planning applications considered at this meeting, any decisions or observations made by Cllr Yvette Gubb are based upon the information available at the time. Such observations and decisions might well change in the light of any information which comes before Cllr Gubb in her capacity as a District Councillor when sitting on the North Devon District Council's Planning Committee.

4/19 **To consider any requests for dispensation**

None.

5/19 **Finance**

- a. To receive the reports on the monthly balances.
The Finance Clerk circulated the finance reports prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the reports on the monthly balances (including the list of payments) be approved as a true record of the Council's finances.

- b. To approve the Parish Precept figure for 2019/20.

RESOLVED: To increase the Parish Precept by the rate of inflation published by the Office of National Statistics between 14 November 2018 and 18 December 2018; set at 3.3%. The Parish Precept for the coming year will be £77065.77.

6/19 **County and District Councillors' Reports**

Devon County Council

County Cllr Andrea Davis circulated her report to Council members prior to the meeting. Cllr Davis highlighted the following issues:

A361 roadworks North Devon Link Road

Work on the first phase of the £5 million project ended on Thursday 20th December and all lane closures were removed from the A361 for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

From Monday 7 January 2019, when the scheme resumes, the outside lanes of both the eastbound and westbound carriageways will be closed, from east of Gornhay Cross to west of Sampford Peverell, for one week.

From Monday 14 January to Sunday 3 February, a contraflow will be in place from east of Gornhay Cross to west of Sampford Peverell while work is carried out on the westbound carriageway.

From Monday 4 February to Sunday 24 February the contraflow will swap to the other carriageway while work is carried out on the eastbound side between west of Sampford Peverell and east of Gornhay Cross.

M5 roadworks

The M5 near to Wellington will close for one night on Friday 22nd February 2019 to carry out road safety works.

Recycling Awards

Communities across Devon are being called on to vote for their People's Choice Recycling Hero in the sixth annual Recycle Devon Thank You Awards.

This year there have been over 30 nominations in seven different categories including Your Recycling Hero, Collection Crew/Operative and Small Business Champion.

Residents can vote for their People's Choice Recycling Hero on the Recycle Devon website. Voting will be open until the **16 February**.

County Council updates street lighting policy

Devon County Council's Cabinet has agreed an updated street lighting policy to continue to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. Further information can be found on Devon County Council's website at:

www.devonnewscentre.info/county-council-updates-streetlighting-policy/

North Devon Council

Cllr Yvette Gubb reported on the following issues:

Contractors Sought for Ilfracombe's New Watersports Centre

Contractors with an interest in tendering for the new watersports centre in Ilfracombe are being invited to find out more at an information event next month. North Devon Council is holding an information day for potential contractors at its main office at Brynsworthy Environment Centre on Friday 11 January 2019 from 2pm to 6pm.

The council's Economic Development team will be explaining the project in more detail, with the architect and quantity surveyor on hand to answer questions about the design. Contractors interested in this exciting build can drop in or book a time slot at the event.

Ilfracombe Watersports Centre will be a state-of-the-art marine leisure hub at Larkstone Cove, boasting community facilities for local watersports clubs with storage for boats, a slipway providing safe and easy access to the water along with a commercial café with stunning views of the harbour. The project is being funded by the Big Lottery Coastal Communities Fund.

To book a time slot at the contractor information event contact Jo Barnard on 01271 388383 or email jo.barnard@northdevon.gov.uk, or if you can't commit to a time, just drop in.

Stand for What You Believe In – Become a Councillor

What matters to you in the district? Are you passionate about improving your community? Whatever needs changing in your local area, you could be the person to change it by becoming a councillor.

With just three months to go until North Devon goes to the polls, potential candidates for the district elections are being encouraged to find out more about what it means to become a district councillor and how people who work full time can manage to fit in the role alongside their work and personal life.

North Devon Council is holding a prospective candidates event on Tuesday 5 February. The aim is to give people an understanding of what the role involves and discuss aspects of becoming a councillor.

The prospective candidate event starts at 6.15pm on Tuesday 5 February in the Barum room at Brynsworthy Environment Centre. If you would like to attend, please email memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk or just turn up on the evening.

Combe Martin Parish Council is also looking for new Parish Councillors. We have a stall at the Fresh Start Fair event on Saturday 2nd February 2019 between 11am and 3pm at the Village Hall. Please come along; you will have an opportunity to speak to current Councillors and ask questions. Or come along to the monthly Parish Council meeting.

For further information about becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Combe Martin Parish Council Office.

Tel: 01271 883403

Email: info@combemartin-pc.gov.uk

District Cllr John Lovering reported on the following issues:

A Big Thank you to North Devon Residents for a Green 2018

North Devon Council is thanking residents for their efforts in recycling in 2018, and reflecting on the improvements made to its waste and recycling service over the last 18 months.

In June 2017 the council introduced a weekly food waste collection service across the district, and started a recycling trial in a small part of the district.

Recycling trial

3,400 properties were included in the trial of three-weekly black bin collections and unlimited recycling and the results have been very successful, with recycling rates in these properties doubling! The council measured the volume of waste going to landfill and the amount being recycled in the trial area:

- before the trial 23% of household waste was recycled whilst 77% of waste went to landfill
- since the trial started 51% of waste is now recycled whilst 49% of waste goes to landfill

The increase in recycling includes the impact of introducing weekly food waste collections. Decisions will soon be made by the council about the future of the trial. Further information can be found on the North Devon Council's News website at: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/northdevonnews/2018/12/21/a-big-thank-you-to-north-devon-residents-for-a-green-2018/>.

Crematorium Supports Local Children's Charity with Recycling Scheme

The North Devon Crematorium has been able to make a charitable donation to the North Devon Children's Holiday Foundation (NDCHF) thanks to its role in a national recycling scheme.

The charity has received £5,000 from the proceeds of the scheme, which enables metals from cremated remains to be safely recycled. The scheme is run by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) and is only carried out with the consent of the bereaved.

As well as generating funds for charitable giving, the scheme also helps to reduce harmful pollutants being buried in the ground.

The North Devon Children's Holiday Foundation is a registered charity which aims to provide a two week holiday of a life time to Florida for children living in North Devon and Torridge with serious illness or major disabilities.

7/19 **Vandalism and Police Reports**

The Police newsletter for January 2019 was sent in advance of this meeting and circulated to Parish Council members.

Crimes reported in December 2018 were as follows:

Combe Martin

Violence with Injury	8
Criminal Damage	2
Public Order Offences	1

Berrynarbor

Violence with injury	1
Robbery	1
Public Order Offences	1

East Down

Criminal Damage	1
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8/19 **Minutes of the last meeting**

To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 10 December 2018.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2018 be approved as a true record of that meeting.

Cllr Doug Seymour said that he had followed up on the subsequent information provided by the Clerk on the quotations for replacing the light fittings for the two lights along Rosea Bridge Lane, minute reference: 264/18 b). Cllr Seymour has approached and received a further quote for one of the lights from the contractor who supplied and installed the ambulance landing lights at Hollands Park. The quote was circulated to Council Members prior to this meeting.

RESOLVED: Subject to checking the conditions of the agreement with the Parish Council's lighting contractor, to give Cllr Doug Seymour the Power to Act to proceed with the quote that he has obtained for repairing one light along Rosea Bridge Lane.

9/19 **Planning**

a) Applications

65894 – EXTENSION AND ALTERATIONS TO DWELLINGS AT GLENBURN, KINGSTON AVENUE, COMBE MARTIN

Applicant: Mr Nigel Bird

Cllr Yvette Gubb declared an interest in this planning application.

RESOLVED: To advise the planning authority that the Council does not have any objections to this planning application.

66033 – ERECTION OF DOMESTIC GLASS HOUSE, CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN RETAINING WALLS AND REBUILDING OF CHIMNEY AT NUTCOMBE FARM, NUTCOMBE HILL, COMBE MARTIN

Applicants: Mr and Mrs David Penny

66034 – LISTED BUILDING APPLICATION FOR ERECTION OF DOMESTIC GLASS HOUSE, CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN RETAINING WALLS AND REBUILDING OF CHIMNEY AT NUTCOMBE FARM, NUTCOMBE HILL, COMBE MARTIN

Applicants: Mr and Mrs David Penny

RESOLVED: To advise the planning authority that the Council does not have any objections to planning applications 66033 and 66034.

b) Planning Decisions

None.

b) Planning Appeals

None.

d) Planning Correspondence

None.

Any planning correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda.

66035 – CONVERSION OF LOFT SPACE TO FORM ADDITIONAL LIVING ACCOMMODATION (INCLUDING INSERTION OF DORMER WINDOW) AT SHELL ROC, CASTLE STREET, COMBE MARTIN

Applicant: Mr Lock

RESOLVED: To write to the planning authority raising concerns about overlooking and the materials being used.

10/19 **Reports by Representatives to Outside Bodies, if any**

None.

11/19 **Correspondence**

1. SCOPE – Textile Recycling Banks.

RESOLVED: Cllr David Woodbury to establish official connection between SCOPE and the author of the correspondence.

2. Devon County Council – P3 Winter Newsletter. Noted.

3. Devon Communities Together – Course information. Noted.

4. Exmoor Consultative and Parish Forum – Agenda for meeting on 17 January 2019. Cllr David Woodbury is planning to attend this meeting. Cllr Chris Wyer expressed an interest in attending.

5. John Stoneman – Request to place skip in Kiln Car Park.

RESOLVED: Clerk to liaise with Mr Stoneman.

Any correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda.

6. Fallen fence – outcome of insurance company's investigation. Cllr Yvette Gubb declared an interest. The contents of the letter were noted

7. Devon Countryside Access Forum – Membership Recruitment. Noted.

8. ROSPA – Play areas proposed inspection date. Noted.

9. Combe Martin Water Watch Group – email. Cllrs David Woodbury, Yvette Gubb and Peter James and the Clerk have discussed this email and agreed on a response.

RESOLVED: To reply to the Combe Martin Water Watch Group as agreed.

12/19 **Neighbourhood Officer**

To consider the Dog Warden information.

The Dog Warden information was noted.

There have been recent reports of dog fouling at Wood Lane and at Hollands Park. It was agreed that an article on this topic should be prepared and included in the local Shammickite magazine. The Parish Council has been informed that where there are no dog poo bins, it is acceptable to place dog poo bags in litter bins and at home in your own black bin.

13/19 **Kayak Storage Area**

To consider the letter from Combe Martin Kayak Club requesting use (at sometime in the future) of the space at the back of the Museum for kayak storage.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will consider this request at a future date. For the time being, the space at the back of the Museum is currently being used by the Parish Council.

14/19 **To confirm proposed dates for future meetings**

RESOLVED:

To hold the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 11 February at 7pm at the Community Centre.

To hold a meeting to discuss Hollands Park on Monday 28 January 2019 at 6pm at the Parish Council Office.

15/19 **Coastal Access – Improvements to Public Access along the North Devon coast between Combe Martin and Marsland Mouth**

To consider Cllr David Woodbury's proposal to extend coastal access arrangements to the walking area either side of the Parade building.

RESOLVED: To approve Cllr Woodbury's proposal.

16/19 **Action Plan**

Minute ref: 191/18 Official Parish Council Name Boards – Quotes are in the process of being obtained for a new board and sign writing.

Minute ref: 155/17 Bowls Club – Further work is required on this matter. Cllr Yvette Gubb declared an interest.

17/19 **Parks and Open Spaces**

The financial cost and impact of the recent vandalism on Council property was discussed.

RESOLVED: To record in the minutes the financial cost on the Parish Council of repairing/replacing Council property that is vandalised.

18/19 **Beach**

To consider initial proposals for managing personal watercraft activity.

Cllr Helen Mallinder declared an interest and left the room.

RESOLVED: To pursue initial proposals liaising with the relevant authority.

19/19 **Footpaths**

None.

20/19 **Health and Safety**

The surface of the Parade Car Park is in a terrible condition. There is also an area of exposed rock on the walkway below the car park that is uneven and a potential trip hazard. Cllr Doug Seymour has obtained several quotes for resurfacing and relining the car park and tarmac the exposed rock area. These quotes were circulated to Council members prior to this meeting. Cllr Seymour has also been investigating survey types for detecting structural issues. The Parish Council would like to carry out such a survey in the Parade area. Cllr Seymour has obtained a quote for a Ground Penetration Radar survey.

RESOLVED: To proceed with the quote for the Ground Penetration Radar survey and accept quote number 2 for the resurfacing and relining work.

Council Members thanked Cllr Doug Seymour for all his hard work.

Tribute to Jim Williams

Council members paid tribute to the late Jim Williams and their condolences to his family.

District Cllr John Lovering left the meeting at 9.05pm.

21/18 **Exclusion of Press and Public and Restriction of Documents.**

RESOLVED a. That, under section1(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 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”

22/19 **Hollands Park building**

To consider the draft Heads of Term prepared by the Asset Management Group.

The Parish Council is meeting to discuss the way forward for the workmen’s store on Monday 28 January 2019. On the rising of this meeting if time allows, the Council will discuss the draft Head of Terms.

The Asset Management Group has been looking at potential income streams for the Community Centre and has been in discussions with a letting agent about business letting. The Asset Management Group would like to pursue the issue further.

RESOLVED: That the Asset Management Group follow up on the discussions/correspondence regarding business letting.

23/19 **Village Hall Parking**

To consider the correspondence from the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Yvette Gubb declared an interest and left the room.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk writes to all the parties involved about parking at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

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Vice Chairman