

COMBE MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the Combe Martin Parish Council Strategy meeting held at the Community Centre on Monday 16 September 2019 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs, Peter James (Chairman), Ian Lawton (Vice Chairman), Helen Mallinder, David Woodbury, Chris Wyer, Katherine Armitage, Martin Worth, Andy Forgan, and Keith Wyer.

In attendance: Parish Clerk (minute taker).

1 **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs John Hales and Lee Lethaby were not in attendance.

2 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

3 **To consider any requests for dispensations**

None.

4 **Mission and values**

Combe Martin Parish Council (CMPC) has a wide range of responsibilities and several assets in the village that are available for people to enjoy. CMPC works with and alongside other local authorities and government agencies and raises issues with them that are of concern to the village. However, although CMPC can raise issues with other organisations, it is important that individuals raise their own concerns separately as several voices are stronger than one.

A list of CMPC responsibilities can be found on the CMPC website at: www.combemartin-pc.gov.uk/what-we-do/

ACTION: To publish the list of CMPC responsibilities and useful telephone numbers in the Shammickite magazine.

5 **Review of existing priorities**

Council Work Store

Cllr Chris Wyer is currently working on the plans for the Council work store that will accompany the pre-planning application enquiry to North Devon Council. It was agreed that Cllr Chris Wyer and Cllr Ian Lawton should prepare the first draft of the pre-planning application for submission.

Cllr David Woodbury raised his concern about the proposal to give the Football Club storage space in the new work store. He suggested that there needed to be a formal discussion with the Football Club about the storage space the club required. Cllr Woodbury also highlighted the fact that the pitch inspection had not been done yet. This will determine what sort of equipment is required to maintain the football pitch to FA standards.

Football Club Lease Arrangements

Cllr Woodbury and the Clerk had two meetings with the Football Club over the summer of 2019 and have asked representatives to come forward with their ambitions for the club. This is still awaited. However, discussions about future

occupancy arrangements have been more productive and at the last meeting, the Football Club agreed in principle to a licence.

Cllr Chris Wyer reiterated her concern about the goal posts being left on the pitch and creating an obstruction for the Air Ambulance.

ACTION: To ask the Football Club to padlock the goal posts so that they cannot be moved when the Football Club is not using them.

South West Water (SWW) Compensation Claim

SWW has made a financial offer to CMPC for the installation of attenuation tanks at the Coach car park. It was agreed that a resolution should be made at the next full Council meeting to accept the offer. It was further agreed that if the attenuation tanks at the Coach car park ever became redundant, then the land should be returned to CMPC.

ACTION: To contact SWW to discuss the proposal to return land to CMPC in the event that the attenuation tanks become redundant.

Parade Building

It was agreed that the group consisting of Cllrs Peter James and David Woodbury, and the Clerk should continue dealing with the lease arrangements for the Parade building.

Flooding

It was agreed that CMPC, via the Emergency Committee, should continue to tackle the relevant authorities about flooding issues in the village. The Emergency Committee should investigate the legal process for setting up a Drainage Board for Combe Martin.

Bathing Water Quality

The Combe Martin Water Watch Group is doing a remarkable job at tackling bathing water quality issues and co-ordinating the efforts of all interested parties.

Sale of the Parade Toilets

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the legal advisor in North Devon Council and try and get the conveyance fast tracked and the sale of the toilets completed.

Voids at Newberry Parade

Cllr Woodbury carried out an interim review of Newberry Parade. His report has been circulated to all Councillors and his recommendations were considered by the Asset Management Committee at its 2nd September 2019 meeting. The AMC will be recommending approval of those recommendations at the October 2019 meeting of full Council.

5 Identifying new priorities

Cllr Andy Forgan put forward three suggestions:

- To develop and implement an environmental policy;
- To develop a project development strategy; and
- To develop a customer relations strategy.

It was agreed to take these initiatives forward.

ACTION: Clerk to locate the details of the Neighbourhood Planning meeting held at the Village Hall in 2014. This should help inform CMPC's strategy going forward.

Community Centre

It was agreed to set up a small group of Councillors to investigate the viability of moving the Parish Council office to the Community Centre.

Holland's Park

It was agreed that the Holland's Park Sub-Committee should investigate the feasibility of enhancing Hollands Park as a sports facility.

Car Parking and Children's Play Area and Pleasure Gardens

It was agreed to set up a small group of Councillors to investigate the feasibility of providing additional car parking spaces in the village and look for suitable land to create a new children's play area and pleasure gardens.

Village Hall

It was agreed to write to the Village Hall Committee and ask them what their future plans are for the hall.

It was noted that CMPC should treat the Football Club, Bowls Club, and the Village Hall equitably.

Grass Cutting

It was agreed to identify with the manual workforce which grassed areas could be redeveloped as wildflower meadows and to involve the Composters in recycling any garden waste.

Asset Register

It was agreed that CMPC should review its Asset Register and register land that is currently unregistered.

Council Notice Boards

It was agreed to identify suitable locations in the village for CMPC notice boards.

Benches/Street Lights

It was agreed to adopt a policy to replace worn benches with recycled ones. It was also agreed to allocate funds and start a 10 year rolling programme for replacing benches and street lights with LED ones.

CCTV

It was agreed to set up a small group of Councillors to investigate the costs of providing CCTV to help protect CMPC assets. Full Council to make a decision as to where CCTV is installed.

Sea Wall Maintenance

The Asset Management Committee have recommended approval of Cllr Woodbury's proposal to maintain the sea wall as set out in his interim review of Newberry Parade. It was agreed that a sum of money be allocated to sea wall maintenance at the next budget setting meeting.

It was agreed that CMPC should undertake a review of arrangements and structures to successfully take forward strategy commitments, including the use of volunteers and ways of communicating with parishioners.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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Chairman