

**Minutes of the meeting of Combe Martin Parish Council held on Monday  
11<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7pm at Village Hall.**

(Meeting moved from Community Centre to allow for covid distancing due to high numbers of public attending)

**Present:** Cllrs T Seldon (Chair), S Coomber (Vice Chair), D Woodbury, P Walker, M Richards, S Daukes, M Worth, S Boyce, A Williams and D Hatherley.

**In attendance:** Finance Officer (Acting Clerk and minute taker), District Cllr Y Gubb, and fifty four members of the public

**PART A:**

[224/21 Apologies](#)

County Cllr A Davis and Cllrs H Mallinder and C Galloway

[225/21 Declarations of interest](#)

None

[226/21 To consider any requests for dispensations](#)

None

[227/21 Off Street Parking Order](#)

Motion : To agree on the proposed changes to the Off Street Parking Order for 2022/2023. This agenda item was brought forward due to the high level of public attendance & communication. It was noted that there had been 12 e-mails circulated to Councillors before the meeting. The Chair agreed that there should be a vote on the original proposal in light of the public concern on this issue.

**RESOLVED** : Council voted unanimously not to proceed with the proposed changes.

It was also agreed to move to the Public Participation Period to allow explanation of an amendment to the proposed changes and to get feed-back from those who had attended.

#### 228/21 Public Participation Period

Standing orders were suspended to allow for questions from the public both before and during the following presentation

Cllr Daukes presented the proposed review process including the immediate need for decisions on residents permit and car park charging policy.

During a lively public debate there were multiple objections to the proposed increases and many parishioners expressed frustration at the general lack of parking availability in the village particularly in the summer months. Some specific points raised included:

- Lack of disabled parking bays
- Increased parking charges may impact on visitor numbers and dwell times.
- Many residents who did not buy permits would not be able to afford increases
- Having a permit did not guarantee a space

After exhaustive discussion it was obvious there was no common position it was therefore decided not to table the amendment and to keep the car park charges in line with NDDC whatever they may decide for 2022/23. Also any further review would be deferred until a wider study including public consultation can be undertaken. The Council also have to consider how it wishes to revisit the residents parking policy.

At this point the Public session closed and standing orders were reinstated to continue the meeting. Two members of the public remained.

## 229/21 Minutes

### 1. Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th September 2021

**RESOLVED:** To approve and sign as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### 2. Asset Management Meeting held on Monday 27th September 2021

**RESOLVED:** The minutes have been circulated and noted and recommendations contained therein adopted.

## 230/21 County and District Councillors' Reports

### North Devon Council

None

### Devon County Council

County Cllr Andrea Davis' has sent her apologies but her report is attached in full below:

## **Combe Martin Parish Council**

### **County Councillors Report**

**October 2021**

**Off Street Parking; thank you to everyone who has contacted me about this, DCC do not have any off street parking (car parks) in Combe Martin therefore I am unable to help with this or take part in the decision making on car park charging in the village as this is purely a matter for Combe Martin Parish Council.**

### **Queens Green Canopy.**

To mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 this project invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girl guiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees

during the official planting season between October to March. Tree planting will commence again in October 2022, through to the end of the Jubilee year.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC will encourage planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

Communities and Groups - The Queen's Green Canopy ([queensgreencanopy.org](http://queensgreencanopy.org))

So far there is one tree in North Devon! It would be great to see Combe Martin on the map.

If CMPC or any other community group in Combe Martin are interested I am happy to help fund this.

### **Highway engagement with Parish councils.**

The Parish Council will shortly receive a letter regarding "Doing What Matters" and how planning highway maintenance links with this important project. DCC will pilot a new way of working. The aim is to understand the routes within the parish which residents/visitors feel are the most important and gain more valuable local knowledge within the Highway team.

Currently DCC use technical data from specialised vehicles which travel along the network of roads and scan them for defects/weaknesses. Local knowledge from Parish Councils and other road users also feeds into this and would like the parish council to have an input into what you consider to be the priority routes within the parish together with any known issue such as drainage.

I will be sending out a map of the parish and will be asking ask that you identify the top 2 priority routes within the parish and any locations of known drainage issues that you would like to be investigated/considered. In identifying your routes it would be good if you could consider the following points:

- What routes you think are most used and important to your residents/visitors
- What problems you are aware of on the road/footway
- Which roads/footways you feel need to be maintained within the Parish in priority order
- If you are aware of any drainage problems
- Special events/dates when we should avoid undertaking works
- Issues which people raise with you in relation to highway maintenance

There will be other highways issues that you would like us to consider such as speeding, vegetation and signs but at present we would like the parish to focus on the maintenance of the roads within the parish.

This is just a 'heads up' to what will be coming to you and gives you some time to think about the routes which are your top 2 priority routes.

### **Funding available for organisations to support self-isolating residents**

Devon County Council is launching a new fund to help community organisations provide practical, social and emotional support to Devon residents self-isolating due to COVID-19.

The grants of up to £5,000 for small projects and £20,000 for larger projects can be used to help those self-isolating with any caring responsibilities; accessing food and other supplies; practical tasks such as dog walking; and mental health and wellbeing support to address things like loneliness and boredom.

Groups can also use the money to improve their community's awareness and understanding of the government's self-isolation rules, including when you need to self-isolate, how long for, what it involves and why it is a vitally important part of slowing the spread of COVID-19, as well as what

The legal requirement to self-isolate for ten days if you test positive for coronavirus, or you are an unvaccinated contact of someone who does, remains a critical part of breaking the chains of transmission by preventing those who are infected from mixing others and passing on the virus.

This financial support to the organisations that are doing innovative and inspiring work to reach people within their communities, particularly the most vulnerable, and help them to remain well-connected and resilient as we face the challenge of managing coronavirus over the winter.

To help ensure vital support reaches those who need it most, the council has identified particular communities that could be prioritised, including areas of socio-economic deprivation; multi-generational and high occupancy households and occupations with high COVID-19 exposure risk as well as Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups, certain religions, faiths and nationalities linked to increased risk and people with disabilities or impairments. They are also keen to focus funding on under-represented communities such as LGBTQ+ and trans or non-binary gender, Gypsy, Roma and Travellers, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and people with dependencies on drugs or alcohol in contact with services or experiencing homelessness and rough sleepers.

Applications will be accepted from constituted and not-for-private-profit voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector groups and organisations, town and parish councils, charities, very small groups who have no independent bank account (who have an eligible sponsor) or a

combination of such groups working together. Devon County Council is working in partnership with Devon Communities Together and the wider voluntary and community sector to support community groups wishing to access this fund.

For more information about the COVID-19 Outbreak Management Grant, including how to apply, please visit [devon.cc/outbreak-management-grant](https://devon.cc/outbreak-management-grant)

### **Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council**

The link below may be of interest to residents with the situation changing and many interested in what is happening locally this link is a useful starting point for questions and the current situation in Devon.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

### **Reminder about reporting a highway problem:**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

#### **231/21 Police**

The monthly Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Police Newsletter for September 2021 was received and circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Number of crimes reported in September 2021

#### Combe Martin

Violence with injury	1
Violence without injury	1
Criminal Damage	1
Public Order Offences	1
Possession of Drugs	1
Non-Notifiable offences	1

#### Berrynarbor

Violence with injury	1
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Violence without injury	1
Criminal damage	1

### East Down

None

### 232/21 North Devon Council – Planning Applications

1. **73869 Proposal:** Retrospective replacement of existing decking and stairs for fire exit and garden access at Sarnem, West Challacombe Lane, Combe Martin – Grid Ref: 258168: 147023  
Applicant: Mr & Mrs O’Farrell

**RESOLVED:** To inform the planning authority that Combe Martin Parish Council supports this planning application.

### 233/21 Exmoor National Park – Planning Applications

1. **62/19/21/004 Proposal:** Proposed erection of first floor balcony to front of house, together with enlargement of existing vehicular layby, re-positioning of access steps, redesign of front garden and replacement of front garden and replacement of existing garage roof. Sherracombe, Lester Point, Combe Martin, EX34 0DL  
Applicant: Michelle Whitchurch

**RESOLVED:** To inform the planning authority that Combe Martin Parish Council supports this planning application.

## 234/21 North Devon Council Planning Decisions

1. **73079 Proposal:** New agricultural building for storage of agricultural equipment at Land at Buzzacott Lane, Combe Martin, EX34 0NL. - **WITHDRAWN.** This was noted.

## 235/21 Exmoor National Park Decisions

1. **62/19/21/00DC** Proposed Discharge of Conditions 3 and 12 of approved application 62/19/20/005. This was noted.
2. **62/50/20/004** – Proposed re-instatement of railway line, creation of cutting and embankment previously removed together with new railway bridge (amendment to approved application ref 62/50/16/001). AS per further information in respect of Environmental Statement – Approved with Condition. This was noted.

## 236/21 Finance:

### Finance Reports

1. **RESOLVED:** To approve the September 2021 finance reports on the monthly payments and receipts and October 2021 list of payments to be paid:
  - The list of payments made between 01/09/2021 and 30/09/2021 totalling £12,674.6
  - The cash received between 01/09/2021 and 30/09/2021 totalling £68,134.32
  - The list of payments for October 2021 totalling £9,011.17
2. The September 2021 monthly summary balances and bank reconciliation and car park receipts were noted
3. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Q2 summary income & expenditure statement, forecast reserve movement for the year, and balance sheet as at 30 September 2021.
4. **RESOLVED:** To approve a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion



237/21 To confirm proposed dates for future meetings

**RESOLVED:** To hold a Parish Council Meeting on Monday 8th November 2021 at 7pm in the Community Centre.

238/21 Reports from Outside Bodies

**None**

239/21 Correspondence

**1**

240/21 Parks and Open Spaces (if any)

None.

241/21 Footpaths

None.

242/21 Asset Management

**1. Office Relocation**

Cllr Worth to update on progress and indicative costings for potential move to the Community Centre

Deferred until next meeting

**2. Lorna Irwin Walk**

Cllr Worth has proposed clearing ground at Lorna Irwin Walk to create a storage compound for equipment currently stored behind the toilets at Kiln Park

Deferred until next meeting

**3. Hollands Park Agricultural Building**

Cllr Worth would like delegated authority to progress an application for an Agricultural building at Hollands Park and to contact the Playing Fields Association for authorisation to proceed.

Deferred until next meeting

4. River UMBER Flooding Update

Cllr Woodbury to provide a summary of all the actions concerning this issue over the last few years.

Deferred until next meeting

243/21 Health and Safety

None

244/21 Exclusion of Press and Public

**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 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".

Part A of the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

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Chair of Combe Martin Parish Council

