

Draft minutes of the Combe Martin Parish Council meeting,
held on 8th April 2024 at 7pm at Combe Martin Community Centre.

Present: Cllrs. Cass (part), Lethaby Optix, Richards, Lethaby and Worth.

Also in attendance: County Cllr Andrea Davis, Andrew Wyer (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

258/53 Election of a Chairman – As the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman were both absent, Councillors **elected** Cllr Optix to be the Chairman for this meeting.

259/23 Apologies – Apologies were received and **accepted** from Cllrs. Corner, Everett, Galloway, Masters, Seldon, Smallridge and Watkins.

260/23 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Lethaby declared that as a District Councillor, the views he gives (and how he votes) at this meeting will not necessarily be the same as he does at a District Council meeting.

19:03 Cllr Cass arrived.

261/23 Public Participation – The Council were asked about their plans for their soon to be acquired field on Wood Lane and its potential impact on nearby residents. (The Council confirmed that the field was being bought to provide allotments, but the current plan is to put them on the southern side. There are no intentions of putting housing on the field. The Council agreed to keep the local residents in the loop with further plans.) A couple made representations about planning application 98490. The Council had no immediate answer to the questions: What are we doing about solar radiation management? and in relation to Covid and vaccine deaths: How many excess deaths have there been in Combe Martin? (The Council will reply if/when we are able to answer these.)

262/23 Minutes – The Council **resolved** to approve the draft minutes from 11th March Council meeting as an accurate record and Cllr Optix signed them.

263/23 County & District Cllr reports – County Cllr. Davis had sent her report ahead of the meeting and she wished to highlight the road safety projects. The report was **noted**. Cllr Lethaby confirmed that he was now fully qualified to sit on the Licencing Committee.

264/23 Council Representative Reports – Cllr Optix explained that her role as liaison with the Bowls Club was hampered by both organisations holding the meetings on the same day.

265/23 Clerk's Report –The report had been shared and it was then **noted**.

266/23 Planning (NDC Applications) –

[78403](#) – Extension to dwelling and driveway with provision of new entrance gates at Fidgets Rest, High Street, Combe Martin, EX34 0ET. Council resolved to **support** this application.

[78138](#) – Application for Listed Building Consent for repair/replacement of existing windows at Combe Martin Community Centre, Church Street, Combe Martin, EX34 0LQ Council resolved **not to comment** on this application as they are the applicant.

[78490](#) – Retrospective landscaping to garden including steps and raised patio at Bristol Channel View, Woodlands, Combe Martin, EX34 0AS Council resolved to **object** to this application due to the large garden tiers reducing the privacy and amenity of local properties.

[78524](#) – Alterations and extensions at Karino, 5 West Challacombe Lane, Combe Martin, EX34 0HF The Council resolved to **support** this application.

267/23 Planning (Exmoor NP Applications) – **None**

268/23 Planning (NDC Decisions) – **None**

269/23 Planning (Exmoor NP Decisions) – **None**

270/23 Planning Correspondence: **None**

271/23 Finance – It was **resolved** to approve the lists of payments to be made, totalling £5049.95.

272/23 Finance - It was **resolved** to note the lists of payments made, receipts received and the end of year Dashboard report.

273/23 Kiln CP Toilets – The Clerk **reported** that he had an undertaking from NDC that they would continue to clean the toilets while we were discussing the terms of a transfer.

274/23 Lloyds Mobile Bank – The Clerk **confirmed** that Lloyds would be stopping this service later in the year but were in discussions with the Council about running a Community Banker Service at the Community Centre, if suitable.

275/23 Cobblers Hill Crest– Cllr Worth had been up to see the state of the crest and declared that the surface is crumbling and is therefore very slippery and dangerous. The crest had been painted last year and was breaking up and looked like it could do with repainting. The Crest could either do with being broken up and being replaced or planted over. It was **resolved** to defer this matter to a later meeting so that the public could be better consulted.

276/23 Correspondence – The correspondence was **noted**.

Next Meetings –

Annual Parish Meeting will meet on 13th May at 6pm, followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7pm. (Both to be held at the Community Centre.)