

Draft minutes of the Combe Martin Parish Council Meeting,
held on 11th May 2026 at 7pm at Combe Martin Community Centre.

Present: Cllrs. Seldon (Chairman), Corner, Masters, Molloy, Optix, Richards, Smallridge, and Worth.

Also in attendance: Andrew Wyer (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

001/26 Election of Chairman – The Council **elected** Cllr. Seldon to continue as Chairman for the 2026-27 Council year. She then signed the “Declaration of Acceptance of Office”.

002/26 Election of Vice - Chairman – The Council **elected** Cllr. Optix to become Vice - Chairman for the 2026-27 Council year. She then signed the “Declaration of Acceptance of Office”.

003/26 Apologies – Apologies were received and **accepted** from Cllrs. Cass, Galloway, Lethaby and Watkins. County Councillor Davis also sent her apologies.

004/26 Declarations of Interest – **None**

005/26 Public Participation questions (with any answers in brackets):

Information for Councillors who hadn't attended the National Trust walk/Tour - They plan to introduce cattle to the land and may move the path from the bottom of the valley. (Noted) Would the council like to have a short presentation showing the decline in various ecological markers in the village (such as the decline of Water Cress)?

Does the Council agree that Local Government Reorganisation (abolishing the District Councils) had not been adequately consulted on? (NDC has very limited benefit for CMPC)

Invitation to Councillors to attend an event in Pinhoe, Exeter about UN Agenda 2030.

Can CMPC put pressure on NDC litter and recycling collectors to be more careful/pick up items they drop on the floor? Mondays & Tuesdays are bad days for litter on the streets.

High Street Car Park still being used as a dumping ground by NDC. (Will follow up on these.)

Streetlight in Pound Lane on 24/7 (Contact CMPC office with location or the number on the streetlight column. If the light is CMPC's they will arrange to have it fixed, if it belongs to DCC, CMPC will log it with them.)

Would it be possible to have a can collection point at the Community Centre? Cans being recycled to help raise funds for the Football Club MUGA pitch. (Yes)

006/26 Minutes – The Minutes for the Council meeting held on Monday 13th April 2026 were **approved** and signed.

007/26 Clerks Report – The report had been distributed prior to the meeting and was **noted**. The Council **resolved** to make the recommended payments from Earmarked Reserves.

008/26 County Cllr & District Cllr reports – Neither were present to provide their reports.

009/26 NDC planning – The Council reviewed and **resolved** to support the following application:

[81575](#) Change of use from Retail to Hot Food Takeaway at King Street Stores.

010/26 Exmoor NPA: **None**

011/26 Planning Decisions: **None**

012/26 Finance – The Council reviewed the list of invoices to be paid and then they **approved** these payments, totalling £31,561.89. The Clerk explained that nearly half of this was coming from Earmarked Reserves or would be covered by a donation.

013/25 Finance – The Council **noted** the “Receipts” and “Payments” for April.

014/25 Finance – The Council **noted** the receipt of the 1st half of the Precept (£53,100). The Clerk explained that this was included in the “Receipts” report but that he was required to minute this item separately.

015/26 Committee Membership – The Council **resolved** to continue with the current membership and outside bodies representatives.

016/26 Meeting Calendar – The Council **approved** the provisional calendar, which will now be posted at the Council Office and on the website.

017/26 Annual Reviews – The Council **resolved** to accept the following in one go as nobody had any queries about them:

- a. Standing Orders [Standing Orders](#).
- b. Financial Regulations [Document](#)
- c. Asset Register [Document Changes](#)
- d. Delegation Policy [Document](#)
- e. Terms of Reference: [Document](#)
 1. Community Centre Committee
 2. Emergency Committee
- f. Insurance confirmation (Confirmed by the Clerk)
- g. Subscriptions [Document](#)
- h. Complaints Procedure [Document](#)
- i. FOI Policy [Document](#)
- j. Data Protection Policy [Document](#)
- k. Press/Media Policy [Document](#)
- l. Employment Policies ([16 policies](#))
- m. Council Risk Schedule [Document](#)
- n. Risk Assessments [Documents](#)
- o. To note that Council Expenditure came to £352,497 in the last Apr-Mar year.

018/26 Correspondence – The Clerk had a notice of a Road Closure for 5 days in August affecting the road from Wheel Cross to Rectory Road. As it was unlikely to affect Rectory Road itself, this was **noted**.

019/26 Date of next meeting –

Monday 8th June 2026 - Council meeting 7pm at Community Centre

The meeting closed at 7.31pm.