

**Draft until signed**

**Minutes of Combs Parish Council Meeting  
Monday 11 December 2017 at 7.30pm, Battisford Village Hall, Straight Road, Battisford**

**Present:** S Scarff (Chairman), D Stephens-Row (Vice Chairman), D Thorpe (Councillor), T Whitehead (Councillor), S Reynard (Councillor), and three members of the public.

**Attending:** T Bamber (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr C Todhunter; Cllr J Crooks Cllr A Whybrow (County Councillor); Cllr D Whybrow (District Councillor)

**2. Declarations of interest**

Cllrs T Whitehead and D Stephens-Row (neighbours in respect of item 9 (a) (i)).

**3. Public Forum**

Three members of the public were present to discuss item 9(a) (i). It was agreed that this point be brought forward.

**4. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Minutes for 13<sup>th</sup> November were signed as a true and accurate copy of the meeting.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes**

- Item 5 (17- 3): Cllr Thorpe has received confirmation that UK Power Network will advise Eon of the change.
- Item 5(17 -4): The spare dog bin has been found and used to replace the rusted one by Adstone, Bildeston Road.
- Item 10: Cllr Thorpe confirmed that he has pruned the tree on the triangle at Gilberts Hill.

**6. County Councillors Report**

None available

**7. District Councillors Report**

None available

**8. Parish Council Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report

**9. Planning**

**a. Applications received for consideration**

- i. DC/17/05659 – White House Farm, Moats Tye – Change of use of land for the siting of 5 mobile holiday glamping pods. Mr Cole summarised the application and then Mr Oliver outlined his objections. Councillors then clarified some points. *Following discussion Councillors agreed by a vote of 3-2 in favour of supporting the*

*application, although they expressed concern that the site should not become a residential site.*

**ACTION: Clerk to submit the Council's views.**

- ii. DC/17/05817 – Valley Farm Barn, Combs lane – Erection of 1.5 Storey Building following demolition of existing office/garage building. *It was observed that the site of this application was outside the Parish boundary (subsequently confirmed by Mid Suffolk District Council)*
- iii. DC/17/06035 – Tannery House, Combs Tannery – Listed Building application for internal and external alterations. *Councillors unanimously agreed to raise no objection.*

**ACTION: Clerk to submit the Council's view.**

The members of the public departed at 7.55 PM.

**b. Decision received from MSDC**

- i. DC/17/05032 – Pole Barn, Holy Oak Farm, Church Lane – Notification for Prior Approval for change of use from premises in light industrial use and any land within its curtilage to dwelling houses. Granted with conditions. *Noted*
- ii. DC/17/04222 – First Cottage, Moats Tye - Erection of single storey rear extension - Granted. *Noted*

**10. Finance**

- a. Accounts review to date – Current Account balance as of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 is £9,147.80 and the savings account balance as of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 is £1,901.10.

It was agreed that the clerk will send details of the latest accounts to Cllr Whitehead prior to future meetings for review.

**ACTION: Clerk to send accounts to Cllr Whitehead prior to future meetings.**

**b. Payments received**

- i. Memorial fee T/L John & Kathleen Cooper £125.00
- ii. Memorial fee T/L Don Laflin £45

**c. Payments to hand**

- i. David Windle – Cemetery maintenance - £612.50. Payment was proposed by Cllr Stephens-Row, seconded Cllr Reynard, all agreed. Cheque number 022155 was written, and signed by Cllr Scarff and Cllr Thorpe.

- d. Precept – notification of tax base has been received and distributed.

- e. Budget – Cllr Scarff proposed that he, Cllr Whitehead and the clerk meet to discuss the budget for 2018.

**ACTION: Chairman to convene a meeting.**

**11. Church Magazine rebranding**

Councillors were in general agreement to support the suggestion but agreed further details should be obtained. Cllr Scarff will discuss this with Ken Mudd.

**ACTION: Chairman to speak with Ken Mudd**

**12. Coffee Caravan**

Councillors were in general agreement to support the idea and Cllr Scarff will discuss the matter further with Rev Childs.

### 13. Locality Funding

Due to the absence of Cllr D Whybrow this will be discussed further at the next meeting. It was however noted that the idea of a WW1 Commemorative beacon was popular.

### 14. Combs Cemetery

- a. Scattering of Ashes: Cllr Stephens-Row confirmed he will remove the sign that indicated scattering was permitted.
- b. Cemetery maintenance: It was agreed that David Windle be asked to continue maintaining the cemetery. Cllr Stephens-Row confirmed that Mr Windle will start to mow the next cremation area so that it will be ready for use when required.

### 15. St Mary's Churchyard

It was agreed that tenders be sought for maintenance of the churchyard: Cllr Stephens-Row will speak with David Windle and Cllr Scarff will contact Stowmarket Town Council. Once the expected requirements are known a further tender may be sought from Green & Clean (who maintain Model Farm).

**ACTION:**

- *Cllr Stephens-Row to speak with David Windle*
- *Chairman to speak with Stowmarket Town Council*
- *Clerk then to contact Green & Clean*

### 16. Correspondence

None not covered elsewhere.

### 17. Any other business for inclusion on the next agenda

1. Bus Shelter: Cllr Whitehead reported that G Chapman had given the impression he was not interested in tendering for the work. Cllr Thorpe will speak with Clark's Fencing to see if they might be interested.
2. Jack's Lane: Cllr Scarff noted that with the current high usage of the lane as a shortcut to bypass Combs Lane the road is deteriorating and this should be monitored.

### 18. Dates of 2018 Meetings

These have been confirmed and the hall booked. The clerk will distribute the list.

**ACTION:** *Clerk to distribute dates for future meetings.*

### 19. Date and time of next meeting – Monday 8 January 2018 at 7.30pm

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm.