

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
COOMBE BISSETT AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 8th January (unconfirmed).**

Present: Councillors: D Rattue, D Hobson, Rev W Cole, C Chelu, P Crosthwaite and R Cox. Mrs D James (Clerk), Dr Jeffrey Easton, Mr Gerald Bundy.

69 Apologies for absence: Cllr J Gregory, Mrs P Pratt.

70 Public question time: Dr J Easton explained the activity which was carried out over the Christmas period by himself and a team of Homington volunteers to alleviate the risks created by increased rain water to properties and adjacent land in Lower Road. Ditches were cleared and dug, a large tree stump was cleared, residents used ditch cleaners attempting to clear a storm drain and two grips on the north side of the C12 were dug. Following valuable guidance from D Hobson, J Gregory and advice published in the last Express, Southern Highways were contacted and rapid assistance was given. Dr Easton identified remaining issues of increased mud and dirt volumes, grips needed on the south side of the C12 and the requirement of a mini digger. He suggested joint support between Wiltshire Council Flood Working Group, the Parish Council and landowners. Wiltshire Council has already been written to, in order to request an urgent review and work to be carried out on the C12. The Clerk will liaise with Wiltshire Council and D Hobson will communicate with the Rights of Way Officer.

71 Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were proposed by W Cole, seconded by P Crosthwaite and agreed by all as a correct record.

72 Declarations of interest: There were no additional declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

73 Matters arising:

Old Hut Site: W Cole reported that the site has now been cleared and awaits weeding and grass seed sowing. He proposed that an A4 sized plaque be erected at the site which will give a history and include an old photograph of the Old Comrades Hut and a drawing by Graham Oliver. W Cole gave an estimated cost of £97 and will investigate a stone or oak base on which to mount it. All agreed that W Cole should proceed.

Parish Plan: A subcommittee of D Rattue, D Hobson, J Gregory, P Crosthwaite and D James met recently to consider and prioritise proposals, as well as identify what the Parish Council can achieve and what the Community could do. Recommendations will be available by the next Parish Council meeting, indicating the way ahead for the Parish Plan. Quotes for the footpath between the Fox and Goose and Marsh Lane have been obtained and a site meeting will be arranged with the contractor, councillors and the Rights of Way Officer. C Chelu will explore an AONB grant towards the project.

Speed Indicator Devices: Although the Parish Council have assurance that both sides of the A354 qualify for SID's, confirmation of financial support, what type of SID and the exact location is still awaited from the Southern Area Board. Reminders to the Area Board have been sent.

Homington traffic: Community Speedwatch has proved to be successful. Speeding has been reduced. Philip Alfry has taken over as co-ordinator and thanks are conveyed to all the volunteers. Traffic calming measures should be installed in the next couple of months. Community Speedwatch has been requested for Coombe Bissett. Confirmation of risk assessment by the police is awaited. A 30 mile per hour sign on the A354 leading out of Coombe Bissett on the Salisbury side has been requested.

Commemorative Trees: Planting of the Homington trees has been delayed due to the wet weather. More donations have been given by Homington residents. In Coombe Bissett W Cole purchased a Beech tree and an Oak tree which have been planted up on the Recreation Field.

Rights of way: The gate on the footpath leading from Coombe Bissett to Stratford Tony has been installed. Thanks are expressed to John Wheeler who has refurbished 2 finger post signs in Coombe Bissett and Homington.

Winter preparations/Snow Warden Scheme: C Chelu reported that 19 volunteers have been recruited. They have been informed of a plan of action and guidance. D Hobson reported that Homington winter preparations are in place.

Village website: The new website is running parallel with the old one at present which will close when the web master makes the decision. Alastair Lack has kindly agreed to continue as village web master which is very much appreciated by the Parish Council. The cost of the new web site is approximately £50 a year. C Chelu and A Lack have put in a lot of work to produce a web site which promises to be effective and good to operate.

White railings along the A354: No response from Wiltshire Council to carry out painting work despite a reminder. Repair work has been done.

Affordable housing on the Chalk pit site: No further information. D Hobson will continue to pursue Wiltshire Council.

74 Precept – new regulations: There has been a revision of regulations by the Government. A change of the precept setting formula indicated that for the same amount of precept paid to the parish, could result in each household having an increase in their contribution. However a grant subsidy paid by Wiltshire Council is to be applied.

75 Nominations of two Coombe Bissett United Charity trustees: W Cole reported Viv Scammell had resigned and thanked him for his work. W Cole requested nominations. R Cox proposed Sue Dyer and Westley Cole, which was seconded by C Chelu. All in agreement.

76 Parking on recreation field – requests:

10-01-13: Phoenix
21-01-13: Garden Club
14-02-13: Phoenix
18-02-13: Garden Club
23-02-13: Private function
24-02-13: Morris dancing workshop
03-03-13: Benefice meeting

77 Notices on Donkey Field/Beech Tree:

No requests at present

78 Correspondence received:

Parish newsletter
Nat West bank statements
Information on Localisation of Council Tax Support
Advice on Council Tax reduction schemes
Nadder Tourism News
Salisbury and South Wiltshire in danger – letter from CPRE

79 Planning:

Planning received:

S/2012/1671/Full - Middle Farm Homington. Erection of 1 x two bed dwelling and 1 x three bed dwelling with creation of new access and alteration of existing access. Objection by Parish Council.
S/2012/1821 - Shepherds Croft Shepherds Close Coombe Bissett. Silver Birch reduce crown by 30%.

Planning approved by Wiltshire Council:

S/2012/1414/Full - Coombe Farm Buildings, Coombe Bissett: Demolition of former dairy building and erection of replacement buildings for b1a and b8 use. (Variation of S/2009/1771).

S/2012/1434/Full - Land off Homington Road, Homington: Erection of agricultural building together with hard standing and ancillary landscaping. D Hobson reported that objectors views to an earlier application had been taken into account by the applicant.

S/2012/1269/Full - The Old Vicarage, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett: Application for an amendment to approved application S/2009/1694, the erection of a detached three bedroom dwelling (two bedrooms in roof space) and form site access road.

S/2012/1417/TCA - Lime Tree House, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett: T1 - Fell multi stemmed birch. T2 - Fell leaning birch. T3 - Reduce canopy of weeping birch by less than 30%.

S/2012/1389/TCA - Bridge House, Coombe Bissett: T1 Ash – reshape and rid of dead wood away from BTcables, oil tank and pedestrian footpath. Raise canopy to allow for delivery vans. T2 Beech – for safety reasons, would like to thin and reduce also to allow more light. T3 Cherry – has already been mutilated by the SEB, seek to free from power cable and reshape it.

S/2012/1574/TCA- Church Farm House, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett: T1 Yew – 0.5 metre reduction all round. T2 Walnut – 2 metre reduction all round to prevent damage to property. T3 unknown species- remove deadwood.

S/2012/1678 - Redvers Willow Mead Close Coombe Bissett. Removal of 3 sycamore trees and reduce the size of a fourth to balance up.

80 Reports from representatives:

School report: W Cole reported the term had just commenced with 94 pupils on the roll.

Police report: D Rattue reported that a new Chief Constable for Wiltshire, Patrick Geenty has been appointed. The South Wiltshire Neighbourhood Policing Team has a new local Sergeant Dave Lennane. He will replace Dean Garvin who has taken up a new role in the Salisbury Custody unit.

Playground report: C Chelu reported that the RoSPA inspection report had contained photographs which had not been taken this year and were obviously out of date. The Clerk has made several enquiries with RoSPA to explain this with no response.

Village Hall report: C Chelu advised there is a quiz evening on 2nd February.

Parish Steward report: C Chelu reported more erosion on Stratford Tony Road had been reported several times. A dropped drain also along Stratford Tony Road needs raising. The Clerk will report both issues.

81 Finance:

Income:

Donations by Homington residents for Jubilee trees: £60.00

Allotment rent from J Webb: £25.00

VAT refund: £533.41

Outgoings:

296 R Maycock – re-imburement for sandbags £31.36

297 SLCC – membership fee £75.00

298 Landford Trees £560.96

299 C Chelu – re-imburement for tarpaulin £9.00

300 W Cole – re-imburement for top soil £47.40

301 W Cole – re-imburement for trees £101.58

302 CB Village Hall hire £48.00

303 Office expenses £380.60

304 A Lack – re-imburement for website expenses £25.00

305 A Lack – re-imburement for Secret Valley project expenses £106.52

Balance on accounts:

The balance on the reserve account is £11,993.76

The balance on the current account is £12,591.58

The total of the two accounts is therefore: £24,585.34.

W Cole proposed, D Hobson seconded and everyone agreed that cheques 296 - 305 be paid.

82 Date of next meeting: 12th March 2013 at 7pm. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 14th May after the Parish Council election on 2nd May.

83 The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

