

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
COOMBE BISSETT AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 8th July 2014 (unconfirmed).

Present: Councillors: D Rattue, D Hobson, C Chelu, S Gledhill and A Bird. Mrs D James (Clerk). Mr G Bundy, Mr C Baughan, Mrs G Baughan, Ms S Dyer, Mr T Hayter, Mr D Germain, Mr P Alfry and Mr J Wardroper.

24 Apologies for absence: Mrs P Pratt, Unitary Cllr J Johnson, Mr R Maycock and Cllr P Crosthwaite.

25 Public question time: James Wardroper who has recently moved to Coombe Bissett and works for Ordnance Survey explained he would offer to make available to the parish, free of charge a detailed digital mapping programme. This goes down to individual property level, includes parish boundaries and post codes. It can also be used to show planning application information. All councillors were in favour of accepting this offer and gave their thanks.

David Germain questioned the decision to install the new fibre optic cabinet on the public footpath rather than site it on BT land. The Parish Council had lodged an objection to the planning department earlier in the year. David Germain stated he will pursue his objective to have the cabinet moved on to BT land adjacent to the footpath.

Gerald Bundy announced he plans to organise a “CHAV” group. This acronym stands for Coombe Bissett and Homington Active Volunteers. It is proposed willing parishioners will join together and carry out certain jobs in the villages which will benefit the community.

26 Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes were then proposed by S Gledhill, seconded by C Chelu and agreed by all as a correct record.

27 Declarations of interest: D Rattue declared an interest in Stocksbridge Lane repairs and A Bird declared an interest in planning application 14/05616/FUL. Therefore they will not take part in any Parish Council considerations. There were no additional declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

28 Matters arising:

Community Speedwatch: David Germain was asked to give an update. He reported CSW is working well in Wiltshire and the Police are pleased with reduced speed results. Both he and Philip Alfry, the Homington CSW co-ordinator are looking for volunteers. D Rattue gave thanks to all the CSW volunteers for their dedication and hard work. David Germain informed the meeting that free A4 sized CSW signs had been offered to Coombe Bissett which can be installed on existing sign posts. Following discussion, A Bird proposed and C Chelu seconded that the signs which would be sited on either side of the village, be accepted. The majority of the Parish Council agreed.

Council housing in Coombe Bissett: Plans for the council houses to be built on the old chalk pit site have been submitted to Wiltshire Council. Following discussion and examination of the plans the Parish Council will approve the application with conditions.

Flooding: The “flooding first aid kit” has been ordered and it is planned that the existing sand stored in the village pound be positioned in a tidier manner and then both new and old sand sacks covered with a new tarpaulin. There has been no contact from Wiltshire Council following the drainage engineer’s visit to Coombe Bissett in the spring. A list of tasks has been identified and the Clerk will make enquiries. In Homington, two pipes situated under the Causeway along Town Path are choked with silt. The Clerk will report to Highways and request this is cleared before the winter.

The War Memorial: The grant application has been assessed and a decision will be made by The War Memorials Trust in mid July. A £1000 grant towards conservation and repairs has been requested.

Homington Triangle seat: This has been repaired by Vince Ryalls and Jim Webb. Materials only have been invoiced for. Thanks from the Parish Council who are very appreciative. It is proposed that wild flower seeds will be sown in the area.

Donated bench: The seat kindly donated by the Plymouth Brethren will be situated overlooking the tennis courts in Pennings Drove. Tennis club associates will fix the seat.

Village defibrillator: Following the Coombe Bissett Village Shop Directors meeting and discussion with Charles May, one of the defibrillators will be sited outside Coombe Bissett Stores. Confirmation of the second Coombe Bissett defibrillator location and the Homington location is awaited.

Proposed solar park on land at Bake Farm: There has been no further information from the planning department since notification that amended plans and a visual impact assessment is likely to follow. C Chelu proposed and D Hobson seconded and all agreed that the Clerk write to the planning officer to request copies of the new lay out and photomontages for discussion.

Kick wall in the play area: The boards have been cut to size, preserved and painted. It will be fixed soon by C Chelu and Robin Maycock.

Grit bin for Barbers Lane Homington: D Hobson and S Gledhill have canvassed opinion with parishioners in the locality and the majority feel it is not a cost effective investment.

Shutts Lane embankment: There has been a report that some of the trees on the school embankment in Shutts Lane need attention due to crown decline and significant decay. The Wiltshire Council Tree and Woodland Officer has inspected the trees and reported that he has been to look at the trees on this stretch and in his opinion none of the trees pose an imminent safety concern to persons or property. The School have been informed of this finding. Land ownership remains unclear and is not known.

20mph in Coombe Bissett: Wiltshire Council assessment results are awaited following the Community Area Traffic Group meeting in which Coombe Bissett received consideration as only one of the two areas in Southern Wiltshire for a 20 mph speed limit. It is likely that Highways will stipulate that other traffic calming measures will be incorporated in order for it to be legal. These could include street lighting speed bumps and build outs (chicanes). In view of these additional measures the Parish Council will wait for results of the assessment before making a decision.

Improvements to FP 2 (footpath to Stratford Tony): Plans for improvements are under way which are recorded in item 44 (A Bird's representative report).

29 Protection of the Plague Stone: C Chelu stated that Coombe Bissett's Plague Stone was recently disturbed and lifted off of the ground by BT Openreach. It is not listed so as a valued, historic village asset the Clerk will aim to have it listed.

30 Repairs to Stocksbridge Lane: Tony Hayter explained that he considers radical re-surfacing is needed in Stocksbridge Lane. The Parish Council have been given a copy of a letter received from Wiltshire Council Highways Department in 2010, indicating that improvements to the surface and drainage could be a possibility. The Clerk will contact Highways with a request to investigate drainage improvements and a safer road surface. Discussion about costs included possibly applying for a Wiltshire Council Area Board grant, Parish Council contribution and householder contribution.

31 Improvements to FP 7 in Homington: D Hobson has submitted a provisional application with the Wiltshire Council path improvement grant scheme for £1000. Land owner consent has been received and quotes will be acquired. The Clerk will liaise with the Wiltshire Council Rights of Way Officer for guidance. A full grant application will be submitted.

32 New seat adjacent to the tennis courts: The seat which overlooks the tennis courts in Pennings Drove has fallen into disrepair. This seat is used frequently, particularly during tennis club sessions

when there are often spectators watching games. After discussion it was decided that the bench generously donated by the Plymouth Brethren should be installed.

33 Condition of the Donkey Field: Chris Baughan has observed that the appearance of the Donkey Field every winter is not good and is not useable for parking for many months. He suggested several solutions to resolve the problem. D Rattue informed the meeting that following Wiltshire Council's drainage engineer's visit a few weeks ago, the Donkey Field was an area to be investigated. He suggested the engineers report should be awaited and inspected. The Clerk will contact the engineer with a view to expediting his opinion or advice.

34 Donkey Field access markings: Chris Baughan requested that the white lines indicating vehicular access to the Donkey Field be refreshed. He explained that the markings are worn and now go unnoticed so that parked vehicles block the entrance to the Lych Gate and the Church. It was decided by the Parish Council that volunteers will be asked to repaint the lines and the Parish Council will pay for the paint.

35 Meet and Greet team: The new Meet and Greet Team who visit and welcome new parishioners is now operational for Coombe Bissett. Ruth Morgan is representing the Church and Debbie James is representing the Parish Council. A new welcome information pack has been put together. The Parish Council agreed to pay for any stationery costs.

36 Charity donation policy: S Gledhill has drafted a charity donation guidance policy. It will enable the Parish Council to be consistent with how much is donated. D Hobson proposed and A Bird seconded that the policy is adopted. All were in favour.

37 Post box at the top of Stocksbridge Lane: C Chelu would like the post box at the top of Stocksbridge Lane to be reinstated following its accidental demolition a few weeks ago. It is not known if the original box is still in existence or intact but C Chelu has contacted Royal Mail and has now appealed to a higher authority for its return. If the post box is returned and permission for its re-establishment is granted, a skilled volunteer would be needed to rebuild the brick enclosure.

38 Parish Councillor vacancy: With his regret Richard Cox has resigned. Notices advertising a vacancy will be displayed during the second half of July.

39 Parking on Recreation Field:

10-07-14: Phoenix
11-07-14: School fete
12-07-14: Private event
16-07-14: School event
18-07-14: Wedding reception
19-07-14: Private event
20-07-14: Cricket
21-07-14: Garden Club
25-07-14: Cricket
27-07-14: Cricket
03-08-14: Cricket
10-08-14: Cricket
14-08-14: Phoenix
17-08-14: Cricket
24-08-14: Cricket
31-08-14: Cricket
07-09-14: Cricket
11-09-14: Phoenix
12-09-14: Garden Club (pm)
13-09-14: Garden Club
14-09-14: Cricket

40 Parking on Donkey Field:

26-07-14: Wedding

41 Notices on Donkey Field/Beech Tree:

19-08-14: Drama club auditions

13-09-14: Garden Show

42 Correspondence received:

Letter of thanks for cricket nets from the Cricket Club Captain.

Notification of amendments to application 14/03708/FUL.

Request for donation to the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.

Request for donation to Community First.

Letter from Chesterton Humberts offering assistance in defending or promoting land for new housing.

43 Planning:

Planning received:

13/06336/FUL – Land to the west of Bake Farm Buildings, Salisbury Road, Coombe Bissett. The erection of solar photovoltaic panels and associated works and infrastructure, including switchgear, inverter stations, access tracks, security fencing, security cameras and grid connection. Objection by Parish Council.

14/03708/FUL – Middle Farm, Homington. Demolition of existing rear extension and outhouse and erect 2 storey rear extension. Support subject to conditions.

14/04949/FUL - Coombe Bissett School, Shutts Lane, Coombe Bissett. Classroom extension to south elevation and associated works. Supported by Parish Council. Supported.

14/05616/FUL – Former Local Authority Depot Site, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett. Erection of a terrace of 2 x 2 bed dwellings and 2 x 1 bed flats with associated on-site parking and vehicular turning area. Under review.

14/05323/FUL – Homington Farm, Homington. Proposal for a single storey sun room with a flat roof and roof lantern to the side (west) of the existing farmhouse. Supported.

Planning approved by Wiltshire Council:

14/03801/FUL – The Paddocks (plot B), Lower Road, Homington. Loft conversion with 3 x loft windows and new conservatory.

13/01037/ADV – Coombe Down Farm, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett. Retrospective application for the erection of 6 non-illuminated signs (related to the business) situated near vehicular access to site.

14/04304/FUL – Staddle Barn, Shepherds Close, Coombe Bissett. Demolish existing conservatory and erect sunroom.

44 Reports from representatives:

Police report: D Rattue reported that Bourne Hill police station is now operational. The custody suite has been moved to Melksham for the next eighteen months. There is a new sergeant for southern Wiltshire NPT, Sgt. Dave Whitby. There is a new Salisbury sector inspector, Insp. Dave Minty.

Recreation Field and Playground report: A Bird reported that replacement dog fouling signs have been put up on the entrances to the field. A new supply of plastic bags to help people clean up after their dogs is attached to the fence by the steps. There was one occasion recently where a significant amount of rubbish was left around the picnic tables, despite the rubbish bin only being half full. The rubbish was cleared by a member of the cricket club.

Rights of Way Report: A Bird reported that Peter Hartgill has been in touch with Nick Cowen from Wiltshire Council in regards to Footpath 2. The Parish Council are able to use some of the tarmac currently being stored in the chalk pit site. Peter can arrange to transport this to the entrance to the footpath but we will need a team of volunteers, possibly at fairly short notice, to lay it on the footpath.

Highways and Street Scene: C Chelu reported that road repairs to both the A354 and C12 are evident, especially near the Drove Lane - Stratford Tony Road junction. The C12 will be closed to through traffic for resurfacing and minor repairs from Coombe Bissett to Fyfield Bavant on 9th, 10th, 11th, 20th and 21st of July. Wiltshire Council has agreed to complete the cutting back of two overgrown pavements on the A354 to their full width on the next Community Day.

45 Finance:

Income:

Wiltshire Council 106 fund

£1650.00

Outgoings:

371 Bawden Landscapes – April account	£125.45
372 Chris Brown Day Centre – Donation	£50.00
373 Bawden Landscapes – May account	£125.45
374 Bawden Landscapes – June account	£125.45
375 Grant Thornton – Audit fee	£120.00
376 Office expenses	£393.80
377 Wiltshire Council – Annual fee for Cemetery bin	£91.00
378 V Ryalls – Re-imburement for Homington Triangle seat materials	£75.23

Balance on accounts:

The balance on the reserve account is £12000.94

The balance on the current account is £16842.63

The total of the two accounts is therefore: £28843.57

D Hobson proposed, S Gledhill seconded and everyone agreed that cheques 371 – 378 be paid.

46 Date of next meeting: 9th September 2014 at 7 pm.

47 The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed: _____ **Dated:** _____