

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
COOMBE BISSETT AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013 (unconfirmed).**

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

**84 Apologies for absence:** Mrs Pauline Pratt, Cllr. Julian Johnson.

**85 Public question time:** Gerald Bundy asked if there were any news on the prospect of painting the white railings opposite the Fox and Goose. He was informed by D Rattue that Wiltshire Council have been approached who indicate there is no funding at present. A further obstacle is that the Environment Agency will not agree to preparation and painting of the railings in such close proximity to the water course, because of contamination to the water.

**86 Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes were proposed by W Cole, seconded by J Gregory and agreed by all as a correct record.

**87 Declarations of interest:** J Gregory disclosed an interest in planning application S/2012/1671 but has not taken part in any Parish Council consideration of the application. There were no additional declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

**88 Matters arising:**

**Old Hut Site:** W Cole reported that the site has now been cleared and awaits weed killer. This will be carried out and funded by villagers.

**Old Comrade Hut Plaque proof:** W Cole has sourced a miniature Sarsen Stone for mounting the plaque of approximate size 1 foot x 3 foot and costing approximately £150. Wording for the plaque has been amended. The budget agreed last year of £350 allows for payment of the stone. C Chelu proposed and D Hobson seconded this should be purchased. All agreed.

**Parish Plan update:** D Rattue indicated that a Parish Plan update will be included as an agenda item in the future. A summary of the subcommittee meeting which took place in January has highlighted activities which the Parish Council will undertake and activities which some members of the community will undertake.

**Footpath from Fox and Goose to Marsh Lane:** C Chelu has secured a grant from Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB Sustainable Development Fund for £594.66, towards the cost of the footpath. It was proposed by W Cole and seconded by R Cox that the grant is accepted, the quote by Siteform in Coombe Bissett is accepted and the project is proceeded with. All in agreement.

**Speed Indicator Devices:** The A354 on both sides of Coombe Bissett which qualify for Speed Indicator Devices will be on the agenda of the next Southern Area Board meeting in May. Although police confirmation is still awaited, it is proposed that Community Speedwatch will be undertaken on the Blandford Road side of the A354 in Coombe Bissett. Community Speedwatch has achieved a dramatic reduction in speeding in Homington so it is hoped volunteers can be recruited to participate in training and operation in Coombe Bissett. An advertisement will appear in the Express.

**Homington traffic:** Homington Community Speedwatch which has proved to be so successful still needs volunteers who can be trained at the next opportunity. Traffic calming measures have commenced and further road markings are awaited. As indicated in the Parish Plan a 20 mph limit was requested through Homington village and this has been logged with the Community Area Traffic Group. Wiltshire Council has advised that a 20 mph policy is due to be published this summer.

**Homington Commemorative Trees:** The trees have been planted. Further financial donations have been given. The Homington tree committee have thanked the Parish Council and are appreciative of the support received. D Hobson reported that Jim Webb and Peter Ford worked particularly hard and thanked them. Other parishioners who contributed to working on the project are: Vince Ryalls, Lucy Pleydell-Bouverie, John and Jane White, Will Tozer, Keiron and Sam Yeo, Aileen Webb, Stephen and Gill Gledhill, Eric and Brenda Macey. The Parish Council expressed gratitude and thanks.

**Winter preparations/Snow Warden Scheme:** C Chelu reported that snow clearing in Coombe Bissett worked well because this relied on people doing what they agreed to do. C Chelu was thanked for organising the scheme. Thanks were extended to all Coombe Bissett and Homington residents who participated.

**Village website:** The new web site is in use. Every village organisation has an entry. The village hall calendar is now linked to the web site calendar. The web site is relatively easy to update and “user friendly”. It is predicted that it will cost £50 a year.

**Affordable housing on the Chalk Pit site:** No decision yet but it is hoped that there will be information following the Wiltshire Council capital assets meeting at the end of March.

**89 Footpath on Stratford Tony Road:** C Chelu has researched possibilities as a result of requests identified in the Parish Plan. Financial and land access issues create problems. C Chelu has suggested the use of a white line (1m from the north side of the road) to indicate to motorists that pedestrians and cyclists use this route. This would be sign posted at either end. This proposal will be submitted to the Southern Area Board when Homington traffic calming measures have been completed. C Chelu will seek support from our Wiltshire Council Councillor.

**90 Footpath route between Stratford Tony turnoff to opposite Fox and Goose:** R Cox had observed that during the snowy period there were many footprints along this stretch, indicating this is a well used walk way without a footpath. He enquired if the kerb could be extended along the section of road. It was suggested that C Chelu should carry out some exploratory digging to assess if in fact the kerb did originally extend further, but has been concealed due to the build up of silt, soil and grass growing over. C Chelu agreed to investigate.

**91 Parish Council elections:** If there are enough nominations for councillors an election will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Councillors have been issued with relevant paperwork.

**92 Parking on recreation field – requests:**

14-03-13: Phoenix  
18-03-13: Garden Club  
11-04-13: Phoenix  
13-04-13: Tennis club jumble sale  
07-05-13: Action Medical Research fundraising  
09-05-13: Phoenix  
20-05-13: Garden Club

**93 Notices on Donkey Field/Beech Tree:**

13-04-13: Tennis Club jumble sale

**94 Correspondence received:**

Parish newsletter  
Nat West bank statements  
Consultation on draft police and crime plan  
Iskateparks – mail shot  
Bulletin from Young Enterprise Project Coordinator  
Safe and Sound Playgrounds winter offers  
West Country Tree Services – mail shot  
Go Shelters – mail shot  
Community First newsletter

## **95 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.

### Planning approved by Wiltshire Council:

S/2012/1821 – Shepherds Croft, Shepherds Close, Coombe Bissett. T1-Silver Birch-Crown reduce by 30%.

## **96 Reports from representatives:**

School report: W Cole reported there are 93 pupils on the roll increasing to 95 after the Easter holidays.

Police report: D Rattue reported that the draft Police and Crime Plan for Wiltshire and Swindon is on the Police and Crime Commissioners web site. Publication of the final plan will be on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

Footpaths: J Gregory reported discussion with a Homington land owner regarding a water logged footpath. Wiltshire Council is proposing a site visit with land owners with a view to digging grips in an attempt to alleviate the excess water problems experienced this winter in Homington.

## **97 Finance:**

### **Income:**

Donations from Homington residents towards Commemorative Trees: £120.00

### **Outgoings:**

306 J Wheeler – Village jobs: £48.25

307 Mrs D James – Re-imburement for annual meeting expenses: £105.50

308 Coombe Bissett and Homington Cricket Club – Field maintenance: £475.00

309 Mrs D James – Office expenses: £411.30

310 Mrs D James – Re-imburement for election training day: £42.00

311 S Jackson Contactors Ltd – Hedge cutting equipment hire for Homington trees: £210.00

312 CB&H Village Hall – January hire: £8.00

313 J Webb – Re-imburement for Homington tree top soil: £91.60

### **Balance on accounts:**

The balance on the reserve account is £11,993.76

The balance on the current account is £11,326.16

The total of the two accounts is therefore: £23,319.92.

W Cole proposed, C Chelu seconded and everyone agreed that cheques 306 - 313 be paid.

**98 Date of next meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7pm. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 14th May at 6.45pm.

## **99 The meeting closed at 8.10pm.**

Following closure of the meeting D Rattue announced J Gregory had tendered her resignation as Parish Councillor and would not be standing at the election. He expressed regret and thanked her for all her hard work and her excellent representation of the people of Homington over the past 3 years.