

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
COOMBE BISSETT AT 7.00 PM. ON TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012 (unconfirmed)**

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

**52 Apologies for Absence:** Mrs P Pratt.

PC Matt Holland (Community Beat Manager) of Wiltshire Constabulary presented his report at the beginning of the meeting. He stated that Area Boards encourage police communication with parish councils and he can be contacted via Derrick Rattue or by visiting the Coombe Bissett church coffee morning which he or one of his colleagues attend. He listed recent local crimes and reported that the police are utilising the services of local farmers and gamekeepers to observe and report unknown vehicles seen in isolated areas, particularly at night. He explained that Wiltshire Constabulary liaise with cross border constabularies to improve the service.

The police continue to give their support to Homington speedwatch. This has been successful and well organised. There is the potential to extend community speedwatch to Coombe Bissett on the A354.

There is shortly to be a change of police sergeant for the parish - Sgt. Dave Lennane.

As a reminder: 999 is the number to call for all emergencies and 101 is the contact number for all non-emergencies. The total cost for 101 calls is 15p from a land line or a mobile phone.

**53 Public question time:** Mr Ben Archer outlined his proposal by proposing an amendment to the village housing policy boundary to follow the curtilage boundary of Footes House which would bring his property in line with the rest of the village. D Hobson commented this is a complicated issue which should be dealt with, by Wiltshire Council. D Rattue explained that following advice from Wiltshire Council, Mr Archer would need to submit a planning application and the Parish Council would be consulted in the normal way. Currently the Parish Council do not have the authority or responsibility to change boundaries.

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

**55 Declarations of interest:** The Parish Councillors declared an interest in all the planning applications.

**56 Matters arising:**

**Old Hut Site:** W Cole reported that all the old roots have now been cleared; weed killing will be on-going until spring when it should be ready for grassing. A plaque with a brief history of the Old Hut Site will then be erected. Peter Hartgill, Paul Lumber and one other parishioner were thanked for their hard work in clearing the site.

**Homington Commemorative Trees:** The trees will be planted in a couple of weeks and the hedge on the site will be reduced. There have been several generous donations towards the costs by Homington residents as well as the contribution towards the tree planting scheme by the Parish Council. Two complaints have been received.

**Parish Plan:** W Cole asked if the objectives of the Parish Plan were achievable. D Hobson suggested that objectives should be turned into targets. Work to create a new footpath from the Fox and Goose pub to Marsh Lane has been quoted for. Highways have been consulted but a decision from the Rights of Way Officer is still awaited. Four councillors and the clerk will meet to prioritise the "wish list" of the Parish Plan, following which, publicity and help will be asked for through the Express.

**Speed Indicator Devices:** There is no date for installation of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) on both sides of the village on the A354. The Southern Wiltshire Area Board meets on 29 November which may give information on the type and exact position of the SIDs. R Cox requested a 30 mile per hour sign be installed on the left hand side of the A354 towards Salisbury. He has obtained the land owner's permission. The Clerk will write to Highways.

**Homington junctions and traffic:** The first phase of traffic calming measures is scheduled to commence in January or February 2013. Buses at Wiltshire Council have responded to our complaint of poor service and inaccurate time-tabling by indicating the numbers of inspector checks will increase.

**Archives:** W Cole reported that the Express Committee do not wish the print room in the village hall to be used to store village archives. C Chelu now has withdrawn interest. D Hobson suggested a village archivist should be sought.

**Chalk pit site:** There has been a recent report in the Salisbury Journal. Wiltshire Cllr J Johnson continues to offer his support. D Hobson will continue to update the Parish Council of any further developments.

**Rights of way:** Wiltshire Council are compiling a list of walks for a web site. The Clerk has submitted a walk that includes Coombe Bissett and Homington Churches, the Nature Reserve, Homington Down, The Fox and Goose and Coombe Bissett Stores. One kissing gate on footpath 2 to Stratford Tony has been applied for as part of Southern Wiltshire Area Board's scheme. The project funded by the Path Improvement Grant scheme in which the foot of Homington Down has been filled, is now complete.

**Winter preparations/Snow Warden Scheme:** C Chelu has done a great deal of work towards the preparations in Coombe Bissett. Many villagers have volunteered to help but some areas still need volunteers. C Chelu has researched types and costs of salt containers, quantities of salt that could be supplied in smaller amounts and alternative sites for secure storage. D Hobson reported that Homington winter preparations are in place.

**Allotments:** Discussed.

**Footpath information on village website:** Now on the village web site.

**57 White railings along the A354:** R Cox had written to a company with a view to improvement work on the white railings but they would not give consideration unless traffic management was in place. The Environment Agency confirmed that paint must not be rubbed down so close to a water course and Wiltshire Council confirmed they do not have funds at present. The Clerk was requested to write to Southern Wiltshire Area Board to ask for improvement funding.

**58 Precept:** Councillors were given a breakdown of the suggested precept for next year, compiled by D Rattue and the Clerk. It was proposed there should be no increase in the precept and it should be kept at its present level. Proposed by W Cole and seconded by D Hobson. All in agreement.

**59 Affordable housing in Coombe Bissett:** This was discussed under the Chalk Pit Site item. D Hobson asked Gerald Bundy if he would like to update the Council on his site. He reported that Wiltshire Council needed to make a decision on the Chalk Pit Site first.

**60 Grass cutting contract:** The Clerk had approached several companies to tender for the villages contract and the cemetery contract. Bawden Managed Landscapes gave a competitive quote. The Clerk had obtained a favourable reference from the Parish Clerk in Odstock and Nunton which this company maintain. D Hobson proposed we accept this quote from Bawden Landscapes and seconded by Jane Gregory.

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

25-11-12; Drama Club

02-12-12: Drama Club

04-12-12 -08-12-12: Drama Club

13-12-12: Phoenix

## **62 Notices on Donkey Field/Beech Tree:**

12-11-12 – 08-12-12: Drama Club

## **63 Correspondence received:**

Parish newsletter now electronic  
Nat West bank statements  
Section 106 Parish Fund Statement  
Designer playgrounds from Safe and Sound  
Free play equipment assessment from tkplay.co.uk  
Bus shelter brochure from Go Shelters  
Wiltshire Rural Housing Association Annual Review  
Monster Play Norwell Fitness Equipment  
Action for Wiltshire: Sponsored Jobs

## **64 Planning:**

Planning received:

S/2012/1321/Full - Fernhill, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett: Removal of conservatory and replace with single storey breakfast room. Single storey garden room and double storey extension to provide snug and bedroom. New dormer windows and re-roof and new lean- to roof. Installation of new conservation roof lights.

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/2012/1414/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/2012/1417/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/2012/1434/Full - Land off Homington Road, Homington: Erection of agricultural building together with hard standing and ancillary landscaping. Parish Council has commented. Notes on planning web site.

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.

Planning approved:

S/2012/1160 - The Bungalow, Hillcrest Kennels, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett: Raise roof and construct a loft conversion with two bedrooms and two dormers.

S/2012/1200 - River House, Shepherds Close, Coombe Bissett: Various tree works

S/2012/1321/Full - Fernhill, Homington Road, Coombe Bissett: Removal of conservatory and replace with single storey breakfast room. Single storey garden room and double storey extension to provide snug and bedroom. New dormer windows and re-roof and new lean- to roof. Installation of new conservation roof lights.

## **65 Reports from representatives:**

School report: W Cole reported the school year started very well and last term was excellent. There are now 94 pupils in the school. The school celebrated Harvest Festival in the church, collected food for the Trussell Trust and made boxes which the children delivered to the bungalows next to the church. A group of children attended the opening of the Diocesan Centre in Wilton. The children returned to school on Monday 5 November.

Flood report: P Crosthwaite reported she will be submitting a report to the Express reminding parishioners to test their pumps and to check their drains if safe to do so. The Clerk will write to Highways to request excavation of more ditches and grips along the C12 in Homington to aid the surface water problem.

Playground report: C Chelu reported that the RoSPA inspection had been carried out. Most areas carried a low risk but the muddy area around the goal carried a medium risk. The report contained photographs which had not been taken this year and were obviously out of date. The Clerk will make enquiries with RoSPA.

## **66 Finance:**

### **Income:**

Wiltshire Council Precept - £5500.00

VAT refund - £126.26

Donations by Homington residents for Jubilee trees: £700.00

### **Outgoings:**

289 Mazars - Auditors £162.00

290 The Earl of Radnor - Allotment rent £10.00

291 Bill Imeson - Flood Warden expenses £26.60

292 The Landscape Group – Annual grounds maintenance £2108.34

293 Ian Morrell – Village Jobs £12.00

294 Office expenses - £411.30

295 T.G.Jeary Ltd – fencing materials for Homington trees £499.80

Transfer from current account to business reserve account - £6000.00

### **Balance on accounts:**

The balance on the reserve account is £11992.57

The balance on the current account is £14503.21

The total of the two accounts is therefore: £26495.78

C Chelu proposed, R Cox seconded and everyone agreed that cheques 289 - 295 be paid.

**67 Date of next meeting:** 8<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 7pm.

**68 The meeting closed at 9.00pm.**