

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
COOMBE BISSETT AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY 9th September 2014 (unconfirmed).**

Present: Councillors: D Rattue, D Hobson, C Chelu, P Crosthwaite S Gledhill and A Bird. Mrs D James (Clerk). Unitary Councillor J Johnson. Mr G Bundy, Mrs P Hayter, Mr T Mynott, Mr S James and Mr D Germain.

48 Apologies for absence: Mrs P Pratt.

49 Co-option of a new councillor: Following the recent parish council vacancy Gerald Bundy was co-opted and welcomed on to the Parish Council. He will take on the role as rights of way officer and cemetery officer. A Bird will continue as recreation field officer and be included on the planning team.

50 Public question time: No questions submitted.

51 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.

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

53 Matters arising:

Community Speedwatch: G Bundy reported that CSW is working well. Two new volunteers are needed. It is hoped that training will take place within the local area. He commented that vehicles travel at slower speeds when high visibility jackets are seen in the vicinity.

Council housing in Coombe Bissett: Plans for the council houses to be built on the old chalk pit site were submitted to Wiltshire Council in June. The Parish Council approved the application with conditions. A decision by the Southern Area Planning committee will be made on 25th September 2014.

Flooding: P Crosthwaite reported that there are higher than normal ground water levels for this time of the year. She has attempted to communicate with the Environment Agency without success. The Clerk has reminded Wiltshire Council several times of their assurance to carry out a number of village tasks to alleviate the risks of flooding. Photos taken on 14th August illustrating the effect of a short episode of heavy rain have been sent. The “flooding first aid kit” has been ordered and not yet received. The Clerk will re-contact Wiltshire Council emphasising the importance of treating Coombe Bissett as a priority and requesting the support of our Unitary Councillor. J Johnson recommended that the work is also reported through the Southern Area Board which the Clerk will do. In Homington, two pipes situated under the Causeway along Town Path are choked with silt. This has been reported to Highways and assurance has been given that it will be cleared soon.

The War Memorial: The grant application was been assessed by The War Memorial Trust and rejected because the specialist stone mason’s methods were considered too abrasive. A further application using conservators has been submitted. Although a decision has been made, notification of this will not be announced until mid October. A £1000 grant towards conservation and repairs has been requested.

Donated bench: The seat kindly donated by the Plymouth Brethren has been installed on the Recreation Field.

Village defibrillator: The first defibrillator has been installed outside Coombe Bissett Stores. Confirmation of the second Coombe Bissett defibrillator site outside the Village Hall and the

Homington location is awaited. Some basic resuscitation and use of community defibrillators training is being planned.

Proposed solar park on land at Bake Farm: A public meeting to discuss the revised application took place prior to the Parish Council meeting. The developer BSR, has recently offered a cash benefit of £1000 per MW, per year, index linked for 20 years if the Solar Park is developed. £14,300 per annum would be the first year's payment. This is available to spend for the benefit of the community. The Parish Councillors considered public opinion and proposed to make a decision before the end of the meeting.

Grit bin for Barbers Lane Homington: Will Tozer, on behalf of some of his neighbours has approached the Parish Council and asked for a grit bin. He is willing to site it on his land and arrange for it to be filled. S Gledhill has indicated he will purchase it. It will be funded by the Parish Council.

20mph in Coombe Bissett: There have been no further developments since Wiltshire Council reported Coombe Bissett will be assessed for a 20 mph speed limit. Coombe Bissett received consideration as only one of the two areas in Southern Wiltshire. It is likely that Highways will stipulate that other traffic calming measures will be incorporated. 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): The work organised by Peter Hartgill and Gerald Bundy has been kindly completed by the CHAV's.

Protection of the Plague Stone: A request to English Heritage to have the stone listed was rejected. A further request to have it recorded on the schedule was also turned down. C Chelu arranged for it to be flagged up with Wiltshire Council on its sites and monuments record if it should be affected by a planning application. A letter drafted by David Germain will be sent by the Parish Council to BT Openreach expressing their criticism of the work carried out along the Packhorse Bridge footpath.

Repairs to Stocks Bridge Lane: Philippa Hayter was asked to explain problems encountered so she reported the lane acts as a drain thus causing increasing damage to the surface. Wiltshire Highways have responded to a recent email and have offered to install tarmac bunds across Pennings Drove to deflect more water into the grips, to regularly clean the grips and request the drainage engineer make suggestions for drainage improvements. D Hobson recommended these suggestions are accepted and the situation is then monitored. C Chelu proposed and S Gledhill seconded this plan. D Rattue will canvass resident's views.

Improvements to FP 7 in Homington: A Path Improvement Grant Scheme (PIG'S) grant for £1500 has been awarded to fund improvements to footpath 7. The contractors have liaised with the landowners and work will commence before the bad weather sets in. D Hobson has reported a broken gate on FP7.

New seat adjacent to the tennis courts: The seat which overlooks the tennis courts in Pennings Drove needs renewing. The Clerk will research a sturdy replacement. The cost was discussed and a limit of £500 was suggested. D Hobson proposed and P Crosthwaite seconded that this be approved. All agreed.

Condition of the Donkey Field: Wiltshire Council's drainage engineer's report is awaited and will be inspected. The Clerk will be contacting the engineer to expedite his opinion or advice.

Donkey Field access markings: Under review by the Parish Council.

Post box at the top of Stocksbridge Lane: C Chelu reported that he has been unable to achieve to have the brick pillar replaced.

54 Improvements to FP 6: A parishioner has reported that there are safety issues on a stretch of footpath 6. The Clerk will contact to the landowner and the Wiltshire Council Rights of Way Officer. It may be possible to apply for a PIG'S grant.

55 Telephone cables along Stratford Tony Road: C Chelu reported that cables hang very low along some of the driveways and across the road. He will follow up the problem.

56 Damage to bus shelter in Coombe Bissett: Following hit and run damage in August, Wiltshire Council has assessed the shelter as not suitable for repair so needs replacement. The Clerk has been in contact with the parish insurance company and Wiltshire Council. She will pursue the best route for replacement.

57 Parking on Recreation Field:

07-09-14: Cricket

11-09-14: Phoenix

12-09-14: Garden Club (pm)

13-09-14: Garden Club

14-09-14: Cricket

09-10-14: Phoenix

20-10-14: Garden Club

13-11-14: Phoenix

58 Parking on Donkey Field:

59 Notices on Donkey Field/Beech Tree:

13-09-14: Garden Show

04-10-14: Harvest Supper

60 Correspondence received:

Public consultation on Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

Draft proposals for revised settlement boundaries

Request for Harvest Festival contribution

61 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. Withdrawn.

14/06864/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, grid connection, together with temporary construction access, compound and unloading area. Objection by Parish Council

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.

14/07463/VAR – Lower Farm, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett. Remove condition 1 of planning permission 414/1502 granted in 1950 relating to the occupancy of the dwelling.

14/08019/FUL – Hillview, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett. 2 storey rear extension.

Planning approved by Wiltshire Council:

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

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.

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

62 Reports from representatives:

Recreation Field and Playground report: A Bird reported that The Plymouth Brethren bench is now in place on the recreation field. Many thanks to Gerald Bundy and Ian Morrell for organising this. The Cricket Club would like to cut back tree branches over hanging the boundary, pavilion and public benches. This will be carried out subject to Parish Council approval. Broken palings around the playground have been replaced. Weeds are growing up through the wood chippings on the playground. This has been treated with weed-killer, but the corners nearest the main road will need digging out and new chippings laid. The kick wall is now back in situ. A team of CHAV's have cut back growth along Shutts Lane, the Village Hall and the village hall end of the recreation field.

Rights of Way Report: A Bird reported that the CHAVs have completed repairs to Footpath 2. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered.

Highways Street Scene and Planning: C Chelu reported that 3 large telecommunications boxes have been installed in readiness for the upgrade to Broadband. The Parish Council were not able to influence their positions on the footpath leading to the Pack Horse Bridge, despite comments and enquiries by the P C and a member of the public. The Parish Council are pursuing the matter with BT Openreach.

During the recent Community Day Balfour Beatty's parish stewards have cut back two footpaths adjacent to the A354 to their original width. Repairs to the beginning of Stratford Toney Road appear to be complete.

School: C Chelu reported that at the beginning of the autumn Term 2014 there are 100 children on the role at Coombe Bissett School, of which 27 are from our catchment area.

Ash class (Year 5/6): 27 Boys: 15 Girls: 12

Fir class (Year 3/4): 28 Boys: 16 Girls: 12

Elm class (Year 1/2): 26 Boys: 11 Girls: 15

Oak class (Year Reception/1): 19 Boys: 7 Girls: 12

63 Finance:

Income:

HMRC VAT refund £483.41

Outgoings:

379 A Bird – Reimbursement for recreation field notices £10.47

380 S James – Reimbursement for defibrillator cabinet £485.00

381 Bawden Landscapes July account £125.45

382 S James – Reimbursement for Shutts Lane notice board glass £44.63

383 I Morrell – materials and labour for recreation field seat £51.83

384 Bourne Valley Electrics – defibrillator work at CB Stores £137.29

385 Office expenses £431.90

386 Bawden Landscapes cemetery hedge reduction £397.92

Balance on accounts:

The balance on the reserve account is £12000.94

The balance on the current account is £16219.66

The total of the two accounts is therefore: £28220.60

D Hobson proposed, S Gledhill seconded and everyone agreed that cheques 379 – 386 be paid.

64 Date of next meeting: 4th November 2014 at 7 pm.

65 The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Signed:-----Dated:-----

