

**Minutes of meeting of Comeytrove Parish Council Held at The Walker
Room, Comeytrove Community Hall on
Monday 6th September 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Brian Larcombe – Chairman
Cllr Jean Allgrove Cllr Colin Hogg
Cllr Christine Nicholls Cllr Jenny Robinson
Cllr Anthony Sutcliffe – arrived at 8.15pm
District Cllr John Hunt

Also Present: 1 member of the public present

Public Forum

Cllr Dixie Darch made a presentation on the TACC proposal for a cycle route from Taunton to Wellington. If Parishes support the proposal, there is a possibility of central Government funding. The Chairman, Cllr Larcombe, asked that the group provide more information of the route particularly at the Wellington Road and Taunton town approaches, drawing attention to the ideas for a traffic lane loss and the creation of a bus lane on the stretch from Stonegallows to Compass Hill, and problems this would create for the movement of essential traffic volume. It was also suggested that the financial cost would be viewed as representing a disproportionate expense over the distance between Wellington and Taunton for the numbers likely to use it. It was felt more should first be done and invested in Taunton's town cycle way.

119. Apologies for absence and reasons given

Cllr Valerie Ball – Personal reasons
Cllr Jill Paul – Personal reasons
Cllr Eileen Zoers – Personal reasons
Cllr Keith Woodmason – Medical reasons
Cllr Simon Nicholls – Personal reasons
Helen McGladdery - Clerk to the Council – Medical reasons
District Cllr Farbahi – Medical reasons

120. Declarations of Interest with regard to the meeting agenda items

None.

121.To Agree Minutes of the meeting on Monday 5th July 2021

Following a proposal from Cllr Larcombe and seconded by Cllr Hogg and a unanimous vote, The amended minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate representation and signed by the Chairman.

122.To acknowledge the resignation of Cllr Grant and discuss co-option of a new member

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Hogg, seconded by Cllr Robinson and a unanimous vote, Members resolved to advertise the vacancy in the Galmington & Comeytrove News, on the Council's notice boards and Website.

Action: The Clerk to arrange the adverts.

123. To discuss presentation from Citizens UK Somerset and Taunton Area Cycling Campaign to promote a cycle route adjacent to the A38 between Wellington and Taunton.

Members discussed the proposal set out by Cllr Dixie Darch, concerns were raised that any cycle lane may take up space for road improvements and that the cycle route may not be well used.

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Larcombe and seconded by Cllr Hogg and a unanimous vote it was resolved that the Parish Council supports the health and well-being benefits cycling brings but not at the expense of other necessary investment in Taunton and the areas road infrastructure. It was vitally important to meet the increasing needs of the town, as a consequence of the massive growth in the past three decades. With the substantial present and planned growth that badly needs to be matched, by proper access and traffic facilities for Taunton's increased population and particular demographic needs, - for whom realistically cycling is a limited separate 'parallel initiative' but not a solution.

124. Planning:

a) To receive the Planning Panel report on Planning applications received:

42/21/0046 - Application for approval of reserved matters following outline application 42/14/0069 for a local equipped play area (LEAP), landscaping, drainage and associated engineering operations, referred to as Garden Park, on land at Comeytrowe/Trull.

Resolved: NO OBJECTION

52/21/0029 -Erection of a two-storey extension to the side, single storey extension to the rear and cladding of first floor front elevation at 9 Statham Close, Taunton (resubmission of 52/21/0003).

Resolved: SUPPORT

Action: The Clerk to send responses to SWaT.

b) Orchard Grove update

The Chairman, Cllr Larcombe, gave a verbal update. He advised the meetings held with SWaT Planning Officer (Simon Fox) are now monthly. The Parish Council continues to raise its concerns for the lengthy time taken for the completion of the new spine road across the development, it's link to the Honiton and Wellington roads and the much-needed improved access it will provide across the south west side of Taunton; the timely opening of the new primary school, and the level of GP surgery medical health provision given the new development's numbers and the existing demand on the present provision on the SW side of Taunton. The Parish Council is also keen for Trull Parish Council to commit to planning and pursuing their areas of responsibility within the new development essentially for the new Community Hall, Allotments, Open Spaces and Sports fields etc. Cllr Robinson raised concerns for high the level of construction vehicles and damage she felt was being done to the sides of Comeytrowe Lane. Members still had doubt about the planned concept of

the development's 'park and bus' and its realistic uptake and viability. It was felt the idea of leaving a vehicle to take a bus mid-way on the short journey between Wellington and Taunton when so little remained was felt unrealistic, and for those coming from further afield the Silk Mills Park & Ride was available as currently operating as a free facility as a use incentive.

8.15pm Cllr Sutcliffe joined the meeting

125. Financial Matters:

Detail of Receipts and Payments since previous meeting

Payments

ROSPA - Play inspection	£99.00
H McGladdery expenses	£12.60
HMRC - June NI and Tax	£289.41
SCC Pensions - June	£280.95
Service Charge	£18.00
Mobile phone	£7.65
Parsons - June 2021	£410.35
H McGladdery expenses	£17.50
SCC Pensions - July	£280.95
HMRC - July	£289.41
Mobile phone	£7.65
Parsons - July 20 21	£241.44
SCC Pensions - August	£280.95
HMRC - August	£289.41

The Clerks June, July and August salaries were paid in this period

Receipts

McGrath – Penny's Field Hire	£100.00
McGrath – Penny's Field Hire	£120.00

To agree authorised bank signatories

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Larcombe and seconded by Cllr Hogg with a unanimous vote it was agreed that the following Members would be signatories:

Cllr Hogg, Cllr Paul, Cllr Christine Nicholls and Cllr Sutcliffe

Action: The Clerk to arrange the paperwork

To approve renewal of SALC Annual membership at a cost of £1064.35

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Allgrove, seconded by Cllr Sutcliffe and a unanimous vote, Members resolved to renew the membership

Action: The Clerk to arrange payment

126. Chromebook update and User Agreement

All Chromebooks are now set up and in the process of being distributed to Members. The Clerk will arrange purchase and installation of the projector in the Walker room. The Chairman, Cllr Larcombe, wished to record his thanks to Cllr Sutcliffe for his setting up of the Members laptops, and to the Clerk for the purchase and arranging for the upcoming ceiling projector.

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Larcombe and seconded by Cllr Hogg and a unanimous vote Members approved the drafted user agreement.

Action:

1. The Clerk to distribute user agreement to all Members for signing.
2. The Clerk to arrange purchase and installation of projector

127. To agree Members for advisory panels

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Hogg and seconded by Cllr Sutcliffe with a unanimous vote, Members agreed to the Planning panel of Cllr Larcombe and Cllr Hogg

128. Clerks Report which will include all matters arising from previous minutes and items of interest

The Clerk's report was distributed to Members

129. To receive update from the Chairman on Bus-Back Somerset presentation he attended

Cllr Larcombe advised Members of the meeting he attended, but no actions of any substance came from it. He added that he had raised issues of concern regarding Taunton's absence of a bus station and that there should be raised commitment to public transport and the necessary town centre facilities, joined-up routes and timetables, maintenance of free bus passes and reasonable fares.

130. To discuss future Parish Council Elections and possible change of date

SALC proposed moving the Parish Council elections to May 2022 to align with the Unitary authority. There was some debate about the likely readiness for elections to the new authority within 12 months of it being implemented under a shadow executive, but if it materialised as suggested combining the new council and Parish elections would avoid two sets of elections within a close timescale.

Resolved: Following a proposal from Cllr Allgrove and seconded by Cllr Robinson with a unanimous vote Members agreed to support the SALC proposal.

Action: The Clerk to advise SALC

131. Update on Somerset Unitary Authority

Cllr Hunt gave details of the Unitary plans and advised that boundary changes will take place.

132. To receive Member's suggestions for a community event or Memorial to show appreciation of the Communities efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic

Members suggested approaching the Orchard Grove Developers to plant trees on the new open space and name it Queens Jubilee Park, - the Chairman thought this would fit alongside the Queen's Jubilee 'Green Canopy' invited initiative. Will liaise in discussion with the developer.

Action: The Clerk to add to a future agenda

133. Suggested items from Councillors for inclusion in next meeting

1. Litter problem at Penny's Field

134. Date of next meeting: Monday 4th October 2021 at 7.30pm – Walker Room, Comeytrowe Community Hall

Meeting closed 9.25pm

**Cllr B Larcombe
Chairman**