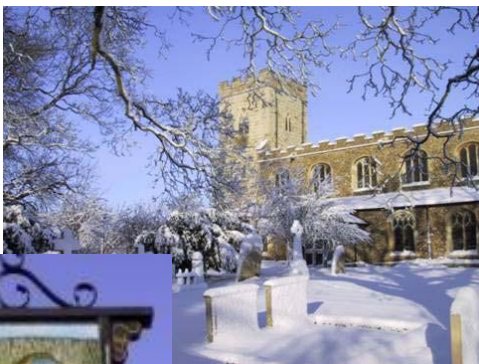


# COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Report 2016



## Chairman's Report

Every year I start my report with the sentence "is it really a year since I wrote the last one of these". So much seems to have happened (You can read more about our interesting year through the various reports in this booklet), and I really am getting another year older.

We welcome three new members of the Parish Council, Anna Barford, Caragh Urquhart and Lynn Tatnell.

The Recreation Ground and Recreation Ground Extension is being used although we have had vandalism done to the pavilion etc and this I find very upsetting that a few people are spoiling it for many people, The Playground Equipment for the Recreation Ground is very successful and it is regularly used by many members of the village

The Connections Youth Bus continues to visit on the Recreation Ground Car Park although there **is still come anti-social behaviour occurring but this is being investigated.**

The annual Christmas lights switch on event took place in December and again was very well supported with a good number of adults and children turning out on, if my memory is correct, not a bad night. The Salvation Army were in attendance and for me that is when Christmas really starts.

The Parish Council continues to support a number of village groups and activities through the Section 137 grants.

As last year Balfour Beatty and the light improve has not finished in my opinion and it has not gone smoothly. They did send out a survey which I hope many of you filled in and sent back so they will learn for the next time.

Regarding The South Cambridgeshire District Councils Local Development Framework is still going through the stages and we wait to see the results

My thanks go to my fellow Councillors who give up their time voluntarily, the Clerk Mrs Gail Stoehr without whom the Parish Council could not manage, and most of all I thank you the residents of Comberton for your input and feedback which is helpful.

As a final comment I have decided to step down as Chairman and as a Parish Councillor in May and I look forward to the next person picking up the baton and running with it.

*Amanda Bacon, Chairman*

## **RECREATION GROUND WORKING GROUP ( RWG)**

The recreation ground (rec) continues to be well used. The play area is a pleasing asset for the village and the hard work of the playground project is to be congratulated.

Additions to the rec this year include the adult fitness equipment and table tennis table. These have been very well received and one resident commented, *'I tried out the new fitness equipment today with my husband. It was brilliant! Added entertainment provided by a cricket match and a game of tennis being played on the court. So good to see the facilities being well used'*.

An additional bench has been installed in memory of Peter Baker who passed away last year. Peter enjoyed sport very much and the bench is sited on the rec with views of the football pitch and tennis courts.

The sports pitch area on the extension has also been well used by Comberton Crusaders.

The jubilee wood area and the boundaries of the extension are also regularly used by parishioners and the fitness walking group.

Rabbits continue to cause damage but the Crusaders are continually filling the holes with sand, soil and grass seed provided by the council.

Sadly there have been repeated acts of vandalism to the pavilion and graffiti to the skateboard park and play equipment. As a result the windows of the pavilion and the electricity supply are now boarded up and we have asked for increased police patrols of the area.

There was also fire damage to the cricket square in June...

This type of mindless activity on the recreation ground is not only costly to the village but extremely wearing for the volunteers who seek to make the area a pleasant place for all

## **FOCUS GROUP**

The usual Christmas Lights event took place in early December, with good numbers turning out on a cold evening to enjoy the Salvation Army band, festive punch, chestnuts and mince pies.

The group is responsible for community events and enhancements. The council was pleased to support the Pudding in the Park event and plans are taking shape for the next event to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

All public rights of way (PRoW) have numbers and different definitions, Footpath, Bridleway and Byway. Annual maintenance and trimming has taken place on all paths. This work has enhanced this ancient right of way in the centre of the conservation area and protected village amenity. Annual maintenance of The Causeway (Footpath 8), an ancient cobbled pathway that leads to the church, has taken place. More work is planned and it is hoped to sow some grass seed and repair the worn areas. The permissive pathways linking The Drift (Byway 7) with The Causeway (Footpath 8.) continue to be well used. We are grateful to the landowner and this does indeed make a delightful edition to the areas for walking and enjoyment. As with all rights of way and permissive paths walkers are reminded to show consideration for nature and wildlife and to ensure they do not leave litter and clean up after their dogs. The last stretch of this link path crosses the new church yard, walkers are asked to respect this area and keep dogs on leads.

The drift continues to suffer from flooding and rutting in low places. 4 x 4 users are reminded not to use the full width and to leave the western side for use by others. The deep ruts will hopefully receive some attention when the drier weather arrives. The scheme to install drainage at the wettest points was completed a couple of years ago. This was successful for only a short time and clearly the drains have been damaged by vehicles. Advice is being sought on drainage and vehicle restrictions.

## **WHO AND WHAT IS THE PARISH COUNCIL?**

The Parish Council comprises of 13 councillors who serve for a term of 4 years and represent an electorate of approx. 2227.

The Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month except August with additional Planning Committee meetings being held as necessary. The agenda is displayed on notice board in South Street.

All meetings of the Parish Council are open to the public and at the beginning of the meeting there is a short period on the agenda when residents may speak with the Council. During the rest of the meeting however members of the public may listen to but not take part in the discussion of the Council's business. Meetings take place in the Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month (except August) usually starting at 7.30 pm and finishing by approximately 9.30 pm. Planning Committee meetings are advertised on the parish notice board.

Anyone wishing to raise a matter for consideration by the Council should write to the Clerk. Any letter received by the day before a Parish Council meeting will be reported to that meeting. If information is readily available the Council may decide its action right away. If not then the item will be dealt with at the next meeting. Members will be available in the Village Hall for a short period before the start of the meetings to talk to residents about any Comberton Parish Council related matters.

The Parish Council has representatives on other bodies outside the Parish Council and Councillors attend meetings on the Council's behalf.

Each member of the Council either serves on a committee or working group or has an area of responsibility. Many members have multiple responsibilities

### **Draft Bank Reconciliation (R&P)**

#### BROUGHT FORWARD

NS&I	83461.99
SANTANDER	93205.58
O/S at bank	<u>-3127.23</u>
	173540.34

RECEIPTS	102001.19
	<u><u>275541.53</u></u>

#### CARRY FORWARD

NS&I	84087.96
SANTANDER	103118.84
O/S at bank	<u>-3749.39</u>
	183457.41

PAYMENTS	92084.12
	<u><u>275541.53</u></u>

## Draft Receipts and Payments v Budget for FY 2016 & 2017 (R&P)

<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>Budget 2016</b>	<b>Actual Mar-16</b>	<b>Budget 2017</b>
Advertising	550	87.60	550
Agency Services (Parish Paths & CCC Verges)	1216	959.90	1529
General Admin	16029	14390.81	14559
Salaries	3900	3702.44	5960
S137 Grants/Donations	1250		1000
St Mary's Churchyard Maintenance		750.00	
Village & Assets Maintenance	23400	20282.19	26054.10
Special Projects			
Village Events (Christmas lights)	100	41.52	100
TWG – Permissive path	5600	3420.00	6000
Youth Projects	11495	8950.00	10352.50
Footway Lighting	250		300
Contingency Fund	10500	330.00	3000
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>74290</b>	<b>52914.46</b>	<b>69404.60</b>

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Budget 2016</b>	<b>Actual Mar-16</b>	<b>Budget 2017</b>
Precept	58370	58370.00	59400
Interest	600	625.97	600
Agency Services (CCC Verges)		964.66	964
Lands, Rec Ground & Pavilion Income	3000	1517.89	800
Reserves Release	11627		7640.60
Misc Receipts		275.51	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>73597</b>	<b>61754.03</b>	<b>69404.60</b>

NB the budget figures above do not include VAT

<b>Money in reserves (B/F from last year R&amp;P)</b>	<b>balance b/f</b>	<b>payments</b>	<b>receipts</b>	<b>balance in fund</b>
P3 grant	0.00			0.00
Recreation ground preparation fund	-5000.00	<b>1975.08</b>	5000.00	-1975.08
Village Hall insurance	-916.85	983.84	1900.69	0.00
Leach Homes / Thornbury (S106 funds)	41207.83	168.75		41039.08
65-67 Long Road S106 (recreation ground)	0.00			0.00
Normandy Close S106	11999.25	858.00		11141.25
3 Long Road S106 (indoor facilities)	712.92			712.92
Northfield Farm S106 (indoors facilities)	703.84			703.84
25 Green End S106 (off-site provision)	2.64	2.64		0.00
Play Equipment P2	1104.16	686.86		417.30
Play Equipment P3	9903.29	13050.30	4733.87	1586.86
Comberton - Coton Cycle Path	675.00	250.00		425.00
36 West Street S106 (outdoor facilities)	4509.42	4509.42		0.00
36 West Street S106 (indoor facilities)	745.24			745.24
Swaynes Lane S106 (outdoor facilities)	0.00	952.15	3229.55	3229.55
Swaynes Lane S106 (Indoor facilities)	0.00		533.73	533.73
5 Long Road S106	0.00	2564.28	5502.62	2938.34
Benches	0.00	270.00	270.00	0.00
Village Sign Refurb	1000.00	1000.00		0.00
TWG				2180.00
General fund	106893.60			119779.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>£173,540.34</b>	<b>£27,271.32</b>	<b>£21,170.46</b>	<b>£183,457.41</b>
<b>TOTAL payments (inc reserves)</b>		<b>£80,185.78</b>		
<b>TOTAL receipts (inc reserves)</b>			<b>£82,924.49</b>	

NB Any overspend in funds is offset by the general reserves.

## Contact Details

Miss Amanda Bacon (Chairman)	92B Swaynes Lane	264711
Mr Hywel Griffiths (Vice Chairman)	18 Barrons Way	263390
Dr Anna Barford	82 Green End	
Ms Sophie Higman	7 West Street	264624
Mr Andrew Hollick	73 Swaynes Lane	263089
Dr Janet McCabe	3 Westcroft	263387
Mr Simon Moffat	86 Swaynes Lane	
Mrs Jill Preston	45 Long Road	262445
Mr Tim Scott	65 Green End	263077
Ms Lynn Tatnell	89 Barons Way	263460
Mr Nick Taylor	41 West Street	263419
Ms Caragh Urquhart	22 South Street	
Miss Chris Westgarth	85 Barton Road	263242

Email: initial followed by surname @comberton.org.uk, eg abacon@comberton.org.uk.

### Parish Clerk

Mrs Gail Stoehr, 30 West Drive, Highfields Caldecote, CB23 7NY  
Tel: 01954 210241 Email: parishclerk@comberton.org.uk

# The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

will be held on

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016**  
**in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

In addition to reports from the Parish Council and various groups and organisations there will be a presentation by Mr Jon Crisp from Amey Waste Treatment.

**This meeting is open to all residents and electors of Comberton who may by Law discuss all parish affairs, ask questions, put forward views and pass resolutions at the meeting.**

**All residents are urged to attend.**