



**COMBERTON
PARISH COUNCIL**

COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the June 2026, annual meeting of the Parish Council, held at the Comberton Village Hall, Wednesday 10th June 2026, at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Miles, Cllr Moffat, Cllr Banks, Cllr Evanson, Cllr Bottrill, Cllr Michel, Cllr Martin

Clerk – Jessie Brewer

Cllr Ariel Cahn

Meeting opened at: 7:32pm

Members of the public: 5

Jessie Brewer - Clerk and Proper Officer

Jessie Brewer

MINUTES

26-27/ 35 Chairs welcome – (1 minute)

26-27/ 36 To receive apologies for absence – (1 minute)

Cllr Page, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Marshall and Cllr Harfoot all sent their apologies. Cllr Martin proposed that these were accepted. Cllr Michel seconded and all were in favour.

26-27/ 37 To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda – (2 minutes)

None received.

26-27/ 38 County and District Councillor reports – (5 minutes)

Councillor Cahn attended the meeting and went through several items in the monthly report, which is available on the Comberton Parish Council website.

26-27/ 39 Public participation – (15 minutes)

At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairperson. This is limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

Vice-Chair from Hardwick Parish Council attended regarding permission to replace some posts on Millenium Way, which connects Comberton to Hardwick. The council couldn't see a

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problem with this in theory, however they will officially take a vote on this during July's meeting.

Two residents attended to discuss the works at 64 Barton Road and the serious breach of PVAA land. It was noted that the Parish Council would write to the District Councillor, to ensure they are aware of the situation and to express the Council's support for the residents. Cllr Cahn will assist the residents in representing their views. The Clerk was tasked with documenting the matter by sending a letter to the resident at 64 Barton Road, ensuring there is a formal record.

Another resident attended to express their views on EWR and their lack of support for ~~consultation on a~~ potential station. Cllr Martin reiterated that the Parish Council's position remains unchanged: it does not support EWR and will continue to oppose the project. *Another resident agreed with the resident statement.*

However, should the project proceed, the Council recognises the need to take a balanced approach by also working to mitigate its impact and ensure that the village gains some benefit from an otherwise undesirable situation, such as through the provision of a station.

They also raised concerns regarding the Parish Council's consideration of potential lighting for the MUGA. Separately, they expressed the view that agenda items should contain more detail. Cllr Martin noted both concerns.

26-27/ 40 Approve minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13th May 2026 - (2 minutes)

Cllr Martin proposed that the minutes were approved. Cllr Bottrill seconded this and all were in favour.

26-27/ 41 Matters arising (for information only) - (5 minutes)

Councillor Martin confirmed that progress on the MUGA is continuing well. It was also noted that the response to the statutory consultation for East West Rail has been submitted.

26-27/ 42 Planning matters - (5 minutes)

It was noted that the planning meeting will be rescheduled due to Cllr Marshall's absence.

26-27/ 43 Finance, procedure and administration – (5 minutes)

43.1. To review the internal audit

It was noted that the Council expressed thanks to the Clerk for their extensive work in preparing the audit. Members acknowledged the significant effort involved and were pleased with the overall outcome.

43.2. To review and approve Section 1 'Annual Governance Statement 25/26' of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

Cllr Martin read these statements and proposed that they were approved. Cllr Michel seconded and all were in favour.

43.3. To review and approve Section 2 'Annual Governance Statement 26/26' of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

Cllr Martin read these statements and proposed that they were approved. Cllr Michel seconded and all were in favour.

43.4. 27.7. To confirm the dates of the period for the exercise of public rights 2025/26

a) 12/06/26 – 23/07/26

Cllr Martin proposed that these are approved. Cllr Michel seconded and all were in favour.

JESSIE BREWER

Cllr

43.5. To approve payments as listed:

Cllr Martin proposed that these were approved. Cllr Michel seconded and all were in favour.

Recipient	Description	Total (incl. VAT)
Staff salaries	June 26	£1,878.68
PAYE, NI & Pensions	June 26	£409.26
Three	May phone bill	£10.00
Simple Solutions	May 26 payroll	£26.25
Scribe	Monthly finance package	£42.00
Canva	May 26 subscription	£13.00
Instantprint	Posters for Bands in Park	£85.51
Microshade	Monthly invoice - May	£75.11
CAPALC	Internal audit	£306.54
County Broadband	May 26 internet pavilion	£28.99
Foxcotte	Topsoil	£448.32
Dan Edwards	Cables for Bands in the Park	£111.97
Parish Council Website	Email storage	£18.00
Baptist Church	Half term to May 26	£838.80
Briar Security	Alarm maintenance	£570.00
Lloyds	Multipay monthly fee	£3.00
Oakes and Watson	Wootens Close work	£348.00
Top Garden Services	Feb 26 grass cutting	£728.00
Top Garden Services	March 26 grass cutting	£728.00
Top Garden Services	April 26 grass cutting	£728.00
Rick Mister	Fuel reimbursement - 37 miles	£20.35
Oakes and Watson	Elderberry tree removal	£120.00
E.ON	Pavilion electricity	£76.33
E.ON	Pavilion electricity	£64.77

43.6. To approve and sign the bank reconciliation May 2026 (Cllr Page and Cllr Edwards)

It was noted that this was signed and approved by Cllrs Martin and Michel.

26-27/ 44 To consider the narrow path opposite the post office, near the playgroup – (5 minutes)

The Clerk was instructed to follow up with Cambridgeshire County Council Highways. This was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Michel, and carried unanimously.

26-27/ 45 To discuss the mower and identify possible courses of action – (5 minutes)

Cllr Bottrill provided an update to the Council regarding the mower, advising that it has developed a significant electrical fault. Cllr Martin proposed that Cllr Bottrill take the lead on arranging the sale of the mower and obtaining quotations for a replacement.

26-27/ 46 To receive reports, updates and proposals from working groups and liaison managers for information:

a) EWR Working Group – (5 minutes)

Cllr Evanson reported that the group met with Patrick Vallance, Peter Henerdy, and the CEO of East West Railway Company. The main points discussed were that EWR is keen to learn from the experiences of High Speed 2 and to build a positive working relationship should construction proceed. Pippa Heylings made a similar point, stating that efforts should continue both to oppose the railway proceeding and, if it does go ahead, to ensure measures are in place to mitigate its impact.

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- b) Transport Working Group – (3 minutes)
It was noted that the MVAS (mobile vehicle activated sign) has been collected. Cllr Michel has resent the agreed locations to Highways. The Clerk was tasked with confirming where the batteries will be charged, with the pavilion being the likely location.
- c) Recreation Working Group – (5 minutes)
Tarmac installation is expected to be completed this week. It was noted that lighting for the MUGA is currently being investigated.
- d) Pavilion Working Group – (5 minutes)
No update.
- e) Finance Working Group – (2 minutes)
No update.
- f) Sewage – (2 minutes)
It was noted that Cllr Moffat will attend the next flooding group meeting. Cllr Banks will try and attend this too.
- g) Comberton Village College – (2 minutes)
No update.
- h) Meridian Primary School – (2 minutes)
No update.
- i) Comberton Playgroup – (2 minutes)
No update.
- j) Police Liaison – (2 minutes)
No update.
- k) Comberton Shed (Cllr Banks) – (5 minutes)
No update.
- l) Natural Environment Committee – (5 minutes)
46.1.l.1. To discuss the drift and Watts Woods
It was noted that the Clerk, Cllr Miles, and Cllr Evanson met with the County Council. It was discussed that limiting access using the current gate along the drift is very unlikely to be approved with County Council. The Parish Council is therefore exploring the installation of bollards or a staggered gate as possible solutions, at the entrance to Watts Wood.
- m) Motion to Exclude Public and Press
In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item(s) of business, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.
- n) HR Working Group – (10 minutes)
46.1.n.1. Propose and approve an increase in Grounds people hours on a temporary basis
Cllr Martin proposed authorising a budget for overtime for the grounds staff. It was noted that the additional hours were intended to support reseeding work;



however, councillors understood that this effort would be ineffective until the grass has been treated by Mr Groundsman for the leatherjacket infestation.

It was therefore agreed that the proposal was not approved and this decision was carried unanimously.

46.1.n.2. To propose and approve the clerks pay increase

Cllr Martin proposed this was approved. Cllr Moffat seconded this and all were in favour.

46.1.n.3. To approve the clerks working from home allowance

Cllr Martin proposed this was approved. Cllr Moffat seconded this and all were in favour.

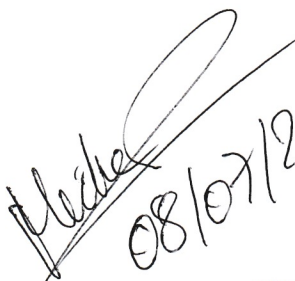
46.1.n.4. To confirm the Maintenance Officer's appraisal

It was agreed that this date is still to be decided, when the Maintenance Officer is available.

o) Motion to Re-Admit Public and Press

26-27/ 47 Date of next meeting: 8th July 2026

Meeting closed at 9:37pm


08/07/2026

JESSIE BREWER

CHM