COMBERTON
PARISH COUNCIL

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Natural Environment Committee meeting which took place on Wednesday 9th September 2026, at Comberton Village Hall, at 6.45pm.

In attendance: Cllr Miles, Cllr Moffat, Cllr Banks and Cllr Page

Members of the public: 0

Meeting opened: 6:51pm

Jessie Brewer

Jessie Brewer - Clerk and Proper Officer

MINUTES

26-27/1 To receive apologies for absence.

None.

26-27/2 To receive declarations of interests on items on the agenda.

None.

26-27/3 Public participation.

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.

None.

26-27/4 Matters arising (for information only).

None.

26-27/5 To approve the minutes from the June 26 meeting.

Cllr Miles proposed that these were approved. Cllr Moffat seconded this and all were in favour.

26-27/6 To consider any tree-related planning applications submitted since the previous meeting or within the last month:

6.1. 26/0891/TTCA 2A South Street Comberton Cambridgeshire CB23 7DZ

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T1- Beech- reduce in height and shape by 2 meters to maintain in its current location. T2- Maple- crown lift to 3 meters removing 2 meters to improve light for Apple trees. T3- Flagpole Cherry- reduce in width by .5m (50cms) to improve form. T4- Liquidambar- remove to prevent further damage to hard scaping.

Cllr Miles proposed that the council supported this. Cllr Page seconded and all were in favour.

26-27/7 To consider Watts Wood:

7.1. Security and installation of retractable post at the entrance

Cllr Miles proposed that this was installed, Cllr Page seconded this and all were in favour.

Cllr Moffat left the meeting at 6:58pm

7.2. Work proposed for Autum and winter

It was noted that general clearance and strimming works are to be carried out during the autumn.

Later in the winter, works to the thorn hedge along the northern boundary adjacent to the meadow, including either laying or coppicing (cutting back to approximately 8 inches above ground level).

26-27/8 Trees:

8.1. To consider tree planting for new sites and replacement of trees lost

It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a thank you to the residents who have been caring for the Covid memorial tree. It was also agreed that any new tree planting should take place in autumn/winter rather than spring, and that residents living nearby should be encouraged to act as tree buddies to help care for newly planted trees during their formative years.

8.2. To note tree losses in 2026

The following tree losses were noted: two cherry trees on South Street, one cherry tree by the pond, two alder trees in Jubilee Wood, and one to three fruit trees in the mini-orchard (Green Canopy).

8.3. To consider tree adjacent to South Street/Swaynes Lane on Hawks Farm land

It was noted that the owners had not undertaken work and some trees are of great age and potentially at risk. It was agreed that an appropriate approach to the owners of the land should be made.

8.4. To consider the handling of residents' comments and complaints

It was noted that Cllr Miles and Cllr Page would work with the Clerk to come up with a procedure. Also, to add more details to the website regarding tree issues.

26-27/9 To consider the encouragement of use of private gardens to enhance bio-diversity

Cllr Miles and Page to come up with a proposal for this.

Meeting closed: 7:30pm

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