

# **Compton Parish Council**

**Chairman: Dave Aldis**

**Clerk: Ron Palmer**

## **MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (Chair), M Pinfold, L Moss, K Simms, P Shanks, B Evans, P Whitworth and M Birtwistle. Councillor A Strong arrived at 7.30pm.

In attendance: R Palmer (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

The meeting started at 7pm

---

2311 **Apologies for absence** had been received from District Councillor B Alexander

2312 **Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk**  
There were none.

2313 **To receive:**

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
- **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**  
Members of the public commented on agenda items 2322 & 2323, Compilations

2314 **To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 March 2011**

Proposed by KS, seconded by LM and carried, then signed by the Chairman.

2315 **Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 7 March 2011**

Clothes recycling bin: The Clerk said the minute number reference should have been 2273 and not 2294. The Chairman said the header board had now been removed.

2316 **Clerk's report**

The Clerk went through his report, which is at Attachment 1. He had also received cheques from the manager of Newbury Lane allotments, who he had contacted about a dripping tap.

2317 **To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

LM said she had nothing to report. The Chairman said there had been a significant increase in fly-tipping recently of which the PCSO was aware. There had also been a successful purge on hare coursers.

2318 **To receive a report on the actions being taken to investigate the possible continuance of service provision at the Downlands Day Care Centre after it closes in September**

DA said that further meetings had been held and there was now some optimism that a way forward could be found.

2319 **To receive an update on the redevelopment of Fairfield**

The Clerk had been advised that the second Planning Application, submitted by Sovereign Housing on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, had still not been registered by West Berkshire Council.

2320 **To receive an update on the current churchyard situation**

The Clerk said he was still awaiting a reply from the owner of nearby land to whom he had written.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**2321 To receive an update on the project to erect a possible footway from Lowbury Gardens along the south side of the High Street to the village shop**

The Clerk and BE said that replies to the letter and short questionnaire had been received from 4 residents of the properties that would be affected and all were against the idea. BE said therefore that the project would not be pursued.

**2322 To review the fees paid by those advertising in ‘Compilations’ and agree when any new fees should commence**

This item and the following agenda item were discussed together. It was agreed that any increase in fees should be considered at the November Council meeting each year, to take effect from the next issue of Compilations in the following January/February.

Councillor A Strong arrived at the meeting here at 7.30pm.

**2323 To consider a proposal that ‘Compilations’ advertisers should pay in advance**

Following discussion MB proposed that the advertising rate for the following year should be agreed by Council in November each year. He proposed that, in November 2011, the Clerk should issue to each advertiser:

- a) An invoice for the current year, 2011
- b) An invoice for the next year (2012) at this year’s rate to be paid in advance
- c) An invoice for the next year (2012) to be paid at the end of 2012 at the new rate.

Advertisers would then choose which of invoices b) or c) they wished to pay. This proposal was seconded by BE and was carried.

**2324 To consider correspondence concerning the state of the electric circuitry in the football pavilion and approve necessary work**

The Clerk had met one contractor and had obtained 2 quotes for an initial inspection to be carried out which would identify the scope of work that needed doing. MB proposed that a quote of £78 + VAT be accepted; this was seconded by AS and was carried.

**2325 To receive feedback from a meeting with West Berkshire Council on the future of the site of the Institute for Animal Health**

The Chairman said a useful meeting had been held with representatives from West Berkshire Council, who said that they were starting a period of consultation with local residents and interested parties about the future of the site, which would take up to 15 months. He said that he had invited them to give a presentation and receive questions at the forthcoming Annual Parish meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**2326 To receive a report from the sub-committee set up to open discussions with Powis-Hughes on how best the Parish Council can support BBSRC in its withdrawal from the village**

AS said that there was nothing to report.

**2327 To review and approve the revised Village Design Guidelines (v3) and agree that they should be forwarded to West Berkshire Council**

AS proposed these guidelines (v3 dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011) be sent to West Berkshire Council as an amendment to the existing Village Design Statement. This was seconded by PW and was carried. A copy of the updated Guidelines is at Attachment 2.

**2328 To discuss the timescale & actions leading up to the Parish Council elections on 5<sup>th</sup> May**

The Clerk said that he had delivered nomination forms to West Berkshire Council on behalf of 8 of the existing Councillors. He would know by Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April whether there were more than 9 nominations which would make a contested election necessary.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**2329 To consider the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May**

The Clerk said that the Village Hall had been double booked on that evening, so he was asked to investigate alternative premises for the meeting. He was asked to contact all who provided reports and ask them to attend to present them. He was also asked to advise IAH management about the main presentation – see minute 2325 above.

**2330 To consider a request from the CSA organiser to use the 11-a-side pitch on Sunday afternoons and add a third mini soccer pitch next season**

KS proposed that:

- In principle CSA should be allowed to use the large pitch on Sunday afternoons next season, but not add a third mini soccer pitch.
- A sub-committee should be set up to consider whether charges should be made for the use of the pitches and whether a more formal agreement should be concluded with users.

This was seconded by MB and was carried. Councillors PS, MB, KS, LM, PW and MP agreed to serve on the sub-committee which would report at the next meeting.

**2331 Planning Applications**

**a) To consider the following new applications.** There were no new applications.

**b) To receive a report on WBC recent planning decisions.**

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
10/02984/HOUSE	Woodrush, Newbury Lane, RG20 6PB	Conservatory to side elevation of property	No Objection	GRANTED
10/03109/HOUSE	8 Shepherds Mount, RG20 6QZ	Single storey extension and 1 <sup>st</sup> floor side extension	Objection	GRANTED
10/03121/HOUSE	9 Yew Tree Stables, RG20 6NG	Installation of PV Solar panels to the front roof of the dwelling and rear roof of the garage	Support	GRANTED
10/03122/HOUSE	25 Lowbury Gardens, RG20 6NN	Conservatory to rear elevation of house	No Objection	GRANTED

**2332 To receive a report from District Councillor Barbara Alexander**

No report was given, as Councillor Alexander had sent her apologies

**2333 To receive reports on the following:**

**a) Recreation Ground:**

The Clerk will put on the agenda of the next meeting a proposal to purchase a new dog waste bin to replace the one removed from the old floodlight column in the car park.

He will also contact our contractor about the possibility of rolling the football pitches.

PS said that there had been an increase in litter recently, which was always a problem at this time of year. The Clerk was asked to put on the next agenda a review of the litter picking contract and the number / positioning of litter bins.

**e) School Road Allotments:** MB said all the plots were now occupied

**h) Website:** KS said this had been attacked by a hacker; he would sort the problem out and then inform Google.

No other reports were presented.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

**2334 To approve cheques due for payment**

KS proposed that the following cheques be approved. This was seconded by BE and was carried. The chairman then signed and dated the list of cheques.

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
07-Mar	102127	Thames Water	£60.21	Newbury Lane allotments bill: 13 December to 3 March'11
28-Mar	102128	West Berkshire Council	£72.00	Installation of 2 new dog waste bins
31-Mar	102129	D Moss	£55.00	Litter picking - March
03-Apr	102130	Ron Palmer	£462.63	Clerk's salary etc for 4 weeks to 3rd April
29-Mar	102131	West Berkshire Council	£395.00	Compilations printing - April / May issue
29-Mar	102132	Thames Water	£38.70	School Road allotments bill for 13 December to 3 March'11
30-Mar	102133	Southern Electric Contracting Ltd	£724.58	Street lighting maintenance charge for March 2011 quarter
29-Mar	102134	Southern Electric	£713.35	Unmetred electricity supply charges quarter 4 2010/11

**2335 Correspondence**

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 3.

DA asked the Clerk to:

- Write to the Village Hall Management Committee Secretary authorising him to seek the removal of vehicles causing an obstruction at the rear of the hall
- Include on the agenda of the next meeting the results of the recent transport review and the possibility of having a vehicle-activated sign
- Chase David Wilson Homes regarding actions they took from a previous meeting
- Advise the person who emailed about bulk oil buying to write an article for Compilations

**2336 Matters for consideration and information**

- BE said that he had old planning applications at his home. DA asked the Clerk to write to the Village Hall Management Committee asking if we could put another filing cabinet in the Welstead Room
- PS said the collapsed road outside Lowbury Gardens had been repaired
- AS asked the Clerk to write again to West Berkshire Council (WBC) asking them to correct the camber on the road from East Ilsley, which could prevent a possible serious accident, as WBC had received additional government funding for road repairs
- MB asked the Clerk to arrange for graffiti on the railway bridges over Aldworth Road and Wallingford Road to be removed.
- The Chairman thanked Councillor Evans (who was not standing for re-election) for the considerable time and effort he had devoted to the village through his work as a Parish Councillor over many years and hoped he would continue to be active, especially in planning matters. All other Councillors concurred with these sentiments.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

**Forthcoming meetings:**

Meeting	Date	Start	Location
<b>Council AGM</b>	Monday 9th May	7pm	Welstead Room, Village Hall
<b>Annual Parish Meeting</b>	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	7.30pm	The Downs School Dining Room

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date