

# **Compton Parish Council**

**Chairman: Dave Aldis**

**Clerk: Ron Palmer**

## **MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (chair), M Pinfold, L Moss, K Simms, M Birtwistle and P Whitworth

In attendance: The Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public

The meeting started at 7.00pm. The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year and then announced the resignation of Councillor T Kent. He asked the Clerk to send her a letter of thanks and post a notice of the vacancy on the notice board.

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**2563 Apologies for absence**

- Councillors A Strong (business) and P Shanks (sick); District Councillor V von Celsing

**2564 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk**

- LM declared a personal interest in the Downs School planning application – item 2580

**2565 To receive:**

➤ **Questions or comments from members of the public**

➤ **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**

A member of the public spoke about planning application 11/02502/HOUSE at 1 Westfields

**2566 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5 December 2011**

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

**2567 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 5 December 2011**

There were none that were not covered by items on this agenda.

**2568 To consider the Clerk's report**

The Clerk went through his report, which is at Attachment 1.

4: Skip: The Chairman said he would progress this item and advise the Clerk

7: Padlocks: The Clerk will purchase 2 combination padlocks for School Road allotments

**2569 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing**

No report was available; our District Councillor had sent her apologies

**2570 To consider and approve the specification for grounds maintenance**

The Clerk said he had updated the specification following comments from Councillors. The specification – v8, January 2012, is at Attachment 2. DA proposed the specification be approved. This was seconded by MP and was carried.

**2571 To consider renewing the contract for grounds maintenance with our current contractor at an annual cost in 2012 of £4,212 + VAT**

The Clerk said he had been unable to meet our grounds maintenance contractor before the meeting because the latter had a family bereavement. The Clerk had received a quote for the work performed last year and had estimated the costs of the extra work in the 2012 specification as £4,212 + VAT – see Attachment 3. Members said they had been happy with the work done over the last 2 years by the contractor and KS proposed the Clerk be authorised to contract with him again for 2 years as long as the final quote was within 5% of the above figure. This was seconded by LM and was carried.

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Chairman

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**2572 To receive a report from the group set up to consider possible celebrations / events in Compton to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen in 2012**

A report had been received from the then Councillor T Kent of the initial meeting held on 13 December. She had now said she did not wish to continue to lead this group. Councillors L Moss and P Shanks were also on the group and DA asked them to try to move the group forward. KS asked the Clerk to contact a possible local supplier for commemorative mugs. MB thought that the Council should set aside £1,000 for commemorative items and £500 for other things. Members thought this was reasonable and asked the Clerk to include this on the next agenda.

**2573 To receive an update on the current churchyard situation**

The Clerk said he had at last received a reply from the Environment Agency (EA), which included an application form for consent for works affecting water courses and a number of other relevant documents. MB asked the Clerk to make a change to the completed application form to show that the site was in an AONB. He suggested the Clerk did not send off the form to the EA, but that he contact local architects to ascertain if they could prepare a plan of the cemetery and carry out a risk assessment etc and represent the Council in discussions with the EA and West Berkshire Council. MB offered to send the Clerk names of companies he had approached about the design and construction of the new Lych Gate at the church.

**2574 To consider and approve the Council Budget for 2012/13**

The proposed 2012/13 budget was presented by the Clerk. This showed an excess of normal expenditure over income of £25,635, assuming zero precept. Exceptional expenditure such as rural superfast broadband charges and Diamond Jubilee expenses would be taken out of Reserves. KS proposed this budget be approved. This was seconded by MB and was carried.

**2575 To agree the Precept for 2012/13**

DA proposed that the 2011/12 precept of £25,135 be increased by 2% to £25,638 to ensure a balanced budget on normal income and expenditure. This was seconded by KS and was carried. The approved budget (including the precept) is at Attachment 4.

**2576 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

LM had nothing to report.

**2577 To consider and approve the updated Risk Register – v5 dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

DA proposed that the updated Risk Register – at Attachment 5 - be approved. This was seconded by LM and was carried.

**2578 To consider the proposed terms of reference for – and membership of - a planning sub-committee to:**

- a) **Discuss with Powis-Hughes how best the Parish Council can support BBSRC in its withdrawal from the village**
- b) **Review the updated Design Guidelines, which form part of the Village Design Statement**
- c) **Consider what is involved in producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan**

These had not been prepared, so the Chairman asked for them to be presented to the next meeting in February.

**2579 To consider requesting changes to the existing pattern of double yellow lines on the road outside The Downs School**

KS said the Western Area Planning Committee had expressed concerns about traffic problems outside the school during their recent site visit. Members did not agree that there was a case to make changes to the yellow lines but asked the Clerk to contact the School Bursar for her views.

**2580 To consider any actions following the approval by West Berkshire Council of planning application 11/01766/COMIND to build a new 12 laboratory science block etc at The Downs School**

The Chairman believed that discussion of this item required more time and said he would call an extraordinary meeting in 2 weeks to do so.

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2581 **Planning Applications**

a) **To consider the following planning applications and send recommendations to West Berkshire Council:**

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/02438/FUL	1 Great Coombe Cottages, Coombe Road, Compton RG20 6RG	Demolish existing house and erect new replacement detached house. New facing brick wall to old party wall to No. 2.	<b>NO OBJECTION</b> Proposer: DA Seconder: MB Carried
11/02462/HOUSE	Downe Cottage, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Erection of detached car port with store.	<b>OBJECTION</b> Proposed: KS Seconded: PW Carried
11/02502/HOUSE	1 Westfields, Compton RG20 6NX	Two storey side extension and single storey rear extensions, including demolition of existing single storey garage and rear structures.	<b>NO OBJECTION</b> Proposed: LM Seconded: KS Carried

b) **To receive a report on West Berkshire Council recent planning decisions**

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
11/00586/FULMAJ	15-20 Fairfield and land to the rear of 14 -20 Newbury Lane, RG20 6PJ	4 x 3 bedroom houses, 6 x 2 bedroom houses and 2 x 1 bed flats together with external works, etc.	<b>OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/01766/COMIND	The Downs School, Compton RG20 6NU	New 12 laboratory science block etc	<b>OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/01867/FUL	The Downs School, Compton RG20 6NU	Extension and refurbishment to the sports hall.	<b>OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/02155/REM	The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Approval of reserved matters following outline permission for erection of 3 detached dwellings	<b>NO OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/02224/HOUSE	14 Whitewalls Close, Compton RG20 6QG	Single storey side extension	<b>NO OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/02239/HOUSE	14 Whitewalls Close, Compton RG20 6QG	Single storey side extension and two storey front extension	<b>NO OBJECTION</b>	<b>GRANTED</b>
11/02292/OUTD	4 Ilsley Gardens, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PF	Outline application for erection of 1 detached dwelling etc	<b>OBJECTION</b>	<b>WITHDRAWN</b>

2582 **To receive reports on the following:**

- d) **Village Hall:** MP reported that there had been a good response to the Father Christmas collection for charity around the village+
- e) **Allotments:** MB said that a number of allotment holders at School Road had resigned but there were people on the waiting list

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**2583 To approve cheques due for payment**

DA proposed that the following cheques be approved. This was seconded by PW and was carried.

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
06-Dec	102193	The Scout Association	£1,080.00	Renewal of Scout Hut leases
05-Dec	102194	Electrical Power Specialists Ltd	£193.69	Two extra socket outlets in football pavilion kitchen
07-Dec	102195	Compton Bananaz	£200.00	S137 Donation
09-Dec	102196	Compton Pre-School playgroup	£400.00	S137 Donation
09-Dec	102197	West Berkshire Council	£592.68	Dog bin emptying 2011/12
12-Dec	102198	Thames Water	£63.48	Newbury Lane allotments water bill 6 Sept to 8 Dec 2011
12-Dec	102199	Thames Water	£279.09	School Road allotments water bill 6 Sept to 8 Dec 2011
28-Dec	102200	Southern Electric	£701.52	Unmetred electricity charges 24 Sept to 23 Dec 2011
22-Dec	102201	Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00	S137 Donation
31-Dec	102202	D Moss	£55.00	Litter picking - December
08-Jan	102203	R Palmer	£556.48	Clerk's salary etc for 5 weeks to 8th January
04-Jan	102204	SSE Contracting Ltd	£670.61	Street lighting maintenance charge for December 2011 quarter
09-Jan	102205	Environment Agency	£50.00	Fee for application for consent for churchyard extension works

**2584 Correspondence**

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 6. The Clerk said he had booked himself on the Planning Seminar on 20 February at Newbury Rugby Club.

**2585 Matters for consideration and information**

- DA said he would let LM have keys to our container in The Compton Swan car park
- LM reported defective street lights in Wallingford Road
- LM asked the Clerk to investigate refuse and recycling lorries frequently going up and down Wallingford Road
- MB asked the Clerk to report a smashed waste pipe from the BT exchange, which was discharging into the River Pang, rather than the foul water drain
- MB asked the Clerk to write to the owner of High Elms asking him to remove a tree that had fallen into the River Pang
- MB asked the Clerk to report a defective street light on Aldworth Road
- The Clerk said he had received reports of the bridle way which ran south from the Wallingford Road railway bridge being blocked by a fallen tree. He was asked to contact West Berkshire Council

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

**Next meetings**, in the Welstead Room, Village Hall, Burrell Road, Compton:

- **Council Meeting Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 7pm**
- **Council Meeting Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm**

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Date