

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Monday 4th July 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (chair), P Shanks, M Pinfold, L Moss, A Strong, M Birtwistle, K Simms and T Kent. P Whitworth arrived at 7.40pm.

In attendance: District Councillor Virginia von Celsing, R Palmer (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

The chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed District Councillor Virginia von Celsing and Parish Councillor Toni Kent to their first parish council meeting.

2410 Apologies for absence

Councillor P Whitworth had notified the Chairman that he would arrive late.

2411 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

KS declared a personal interest in item 2434 (Yew Tree Stables planning application)

2412 Declaration of acceptance of office by co-opted Councillor Mrs T Kent

Councillor Kent signed the declaration, which was then countersigned by the Clerk.

2413 To agree Councillor Kent's specific areas of interest and responsibility

It was agreed that these should be pre-school playgroup and community liaison and, possibly at a later date, Compton Primary School.

2414 To receive:

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
 - **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**
- There were none.

2415 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6 June 2011

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

2416 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 6 June 2011

There were none

2417 Clerk's report

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

2418 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

LM said that no NAG meeting had been held recently because of a lack of priority issues. A lawnmower and roller had been stolen from School Road allotments and the mower had been torched, with some damage to the surface of the Recreation Ground car park – this had been reported to the police. There had also been a fire on the Recreation Ground and windows broken in some greenhouses.

2419 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

Mr D Morris, who is chairing the working group, gave an update on the current situation. This included details of a) the transfer of the lease of the building from WBC b) the proposed use of the Centre by 'Care at Home' and c) possible future costs and revenues.

Councillor P Whitworth arrived at the meeting at this point.

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2420 To understand the existing and proposed arrangements for the Compton Day Care Centre, including the responsibilities of the Village Hall Management Committee and the Parish Council

It was understood that the Day Care Centre building will become part of the buildings within the charity run by the Village Hall Management Committee. KS had some questions concerning the future arrangements, including the responsibilities of the Parish Council and he will document these for the Clerk to forward to Mr Morris.

The Chairman asked the Council to agree that the Clerk should send a letter of thanks to Mr Morris for all the hard work he was putting in to keep the Day Care Centre open. This was agreed by a show of hands.

2421 To receive an update on the redevelopment of Fairfield

The Clerk said that the new planning application had not yet been considered by West Berkshire Council. Cllr von Celsing said she understood that the WBC planners still had concerns about it.

2422 To receive an update on the current churchyard situation

The Clerk had written back to the owner of 2 pieces of land that could possibly be used as an extension to the churchyard. He was awaiting a reply before contacting the Environment Agency to arrange tests when the crops currently on the land had been harvested in September.

2423 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 the sub-committee were trying to schedule another meeting with Powis-Hughes in August. Our District Councillor (VvC) was meeting Powis-Hughes with those WBC planners who were preparing the Supplementary Planning Document for a tour of the main IAH site on 6th July. DA asked VvC for feedback from that meeting.

2424 To receive an update on West Berkshire Council (WBC) planning for the future of the IAH site, including the production of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Clerk had put together an email distribution list of around 50 people who wished to be kept in touch with developments on the future of the IAH site. DA said that Pete Atkinson had taken another 40 names to be added to this list at the recent Village fete. He wished to record thanks to Mr Atkinson who had helped him at the fete, in the absence of any of the WBC planning staff who could not attend as previously agreed, as they were otherwise engaged.

2425 To receive a report from the sub-committee set up to consider use of the Recreation Ground football pitches

PW said that 3 Councillors had met to discuss this subject and gave a brief report. DA asked that the sub-committee should meet again as soon as possible to consider a) Charging for football pitches b) Potential future use of the Recreation Ground c) Funding streams including grants. He asked them to make an early recommendation to the Council, especially concerning charging, so that any new policy could be implemented for the start of the new football season.

2426 To approve and sign the amended Section 1 of the 2010/11 Annual Return and amended 2010/11 Summary Accounts

The Clerk said that the internal auditors had suggested that a sum of £5 be moved from one payment heading to another. DA proposed that he sign these amended documents. This was seconded by MP and was carried.

2427 To approve and sign the Review of Effectiveness of the Internal Audit

DA proposed that the Council should sign this document to agree the effectiveness of our internal auditors, Heelis and Lodge. This was seconded by MB and was carried.

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2428 To receive an update on the position of volunteers offering to help in the village / primary school

The Clerk gave a brief update on potential work. This could include:

- Safety work at the children's play area
- Clearance of a section of the River Pang that runs alongside the Recreation Ground
- Clearance of the grass area behind the football pavilion on the Recreation Ground
- Clearance of a small area on a dog walking route
- Various projects at the Primary School

It was agreed that the 21st July date was now not feasible and we would look for a date in August.

2429 To consider the locations of the dog waste bins and litter bins in the village with a view to relocating some of them

It was decided to monitor the usage of the new dog waste bin on the Recreation Ground and the litter bin near the MUGA before relocating them. The Clerk will continue to investigate the disappearance of the litter bin from the Recreation Ground at the bottom of the footpath from Burrell Road.

KS proposed that we acquire a new dog waste bin to be sited at Wallingford Road bridge and a replacement litter bin for the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that the Clerk would action these requests and put a costed proposal on the next agenda.

2430 To consider how best the Parish Council should be communicating with residents and promoting its activities

Following a brief discussion, KS agreed to investigate the possibility of emails being generated automatically when particular web site events occurred e.g. posting of Agendas or Minutes.

2431 To consider the offer of play equipment to the Parish Council and agree the next actions

In the first instance, TK and PS agreed to investigate what equipment was available and where and how it might be relocated and report back to the next meeting.

2432 To agree that a skip be ordered at a maximum cost of £200 including VAT.

Proposed by KS, seconded by PS and carried

2433 To consider whether to support a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act which would require applicants of major developments to:

- Attend a meeting of the local Town/Parish Council to answer questions on the application for development (if Councillors so wished); and
- Fund the council to commission an independent report on the application and critique of any reports that the applicant has submitted in support of the application for development.

Proposed by PS, seconded by KS and carried

2434 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following new applications and agree that the recommendations be forwarded to West Berkshire Council:

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/00926/HOUSE	9 Yew Tree Stables, Compton RG20 6NG	Installation of a Solar Thermal Array on the roof.	NO OBJECTION Proposer: MB Seconder: LM Carried
11/00971/HOUSE	4 School Road, Compton RG20 6QU	Single storey extension to rear and side extensions	NO OBJECTION Proposed: PS Seconded: LM Carried

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
10/03044/FUL	The Lodge, High Elms, Aldworth Road, Compton RG20 6RD	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling; resubmission of 09/02244/FUL.	NO OBJECTION	GRANTED
10/03147/OUTD	Land at The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Erection of 3 detached dwellings and associated parking	NO OBJECTION but concerned at additional traffic	GRANTED outline planning permission

2435 To receive a report from District Councillor Virginia von Celsing

VvC said that she sat on the Western Area Planning Committee, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission and was deputy to the portfolio holder for Environment, "Cleaner Greener", Public Protection and Customer Services.

2436 To receive reports on the following:

- c) **Rights of Way:** DA said some people were confused about the Ridgeway route and requested AS to approach WBC to ask for improved signage.
- d) **Village Hall:** MP said that a successful annual fete had been held on 2nd July, with a profit of more than £3,000.
- e) **Allotments:** MB asked the Clerk to find out from Thames Water where their meter was at School Road allotments
- h) **Parish Council Web Site:** KS showed usage statistics for the site.

2437 To approve cheques due for payment

KS proposed that the following cheques be approved. This was seconded by MB and was carried.

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
07-Jun	102158	Berkshire Association of Local Councils	£35.00	New councillor training course (Toni Kent)
06-Jun	102159	Heelis and Lodge	£145.00	Internal auditor fee for year 2010/11
17-Jun	102160	West Berkshire Council	£100.00	Legal fees for election in May 2011
21-Jun	102161	Thames Water	£128.71	Water bill for School Road allotments: 4 March to 19 June
22-Jun	102162	Thames Water	£197.92	Water bill for Newbury Lane allotments: 4 March to 19 June
03-Jul	102163	Ron Palmer	£499.92	Clerk's salary etc for 4 weeks to 3rd July
03-Jul	102164	Wicksteed playscapes	£143.22	Wet pour repair kit for play area surface
30-Jun	102165	D Moss	£70.00	Litter picking - June
30-Jun	102166	Electrical Power Specialists	£0.00	Cheque cancelled
30-Jun	102167	SSE Contracting	£670.61	Quarterly lighting maintenance charge for June quarter
29-Jun	102168	Southern Electric	£692.04	Unmetred electricity supply charges: 29 March to 28 June
01-Jul	102169	Electrical Power Specialists	£979.20	Testing & updating electric circuits etc in sports pavilion

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2438 Correspondence

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 2. The Chairman had also received the West Berkshire Volunteer Centre annual report for the year ending 31st March 2011

2439 Matters for consideration and information

- DA asked the Clerk to contact the Rural Housing Officer to request another Rural Housing Survey and also put this topic on the next agenda
- TK asked the Clerk to contact Royal Mail to report a leaning post box by the new bus shelter
- MB asked the Clerk to contact Southern Electric about a faulty street light
- KS asked a question about a speed gun in the High Street; LM was asked to contact our PCSO
- The Clerk said he had still not received a reply from Park Leisure about possible modifications to the MUGA and would continue to chase them.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Next meeting: Council Meeting Monday 1st August at 7pm
In the Welstead Room, Village Hall, Burrell Road, Compton

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Chairman

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Date