

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Sarah Marshman

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 7th March, 2016 at 7pm in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D. Aldis (Chair), M. Pinfold, R. Pinfold, K. Simms, I. Tong, P. Burnett, L. Moss, M. Birtwistle and A. Strong (from 7:30pm).

In attendance: District Councillor Virginia von Celsing and The Parish Clerk

The meeting started at 7pm.

3771 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. I. Tong.

3772 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk

KS declared a pecuniary interest on 3783, LM declared a personal interest on 3788(a).

**3773 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public
Representations from any member who has declared a pecuniary interest**

There were none.

3774 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th February, 2016

It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

3775 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 15th February, 2016

There were none.

3776 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing

This was delayed until later in the meeting.

3777 Clerk's report

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

The cubs and brownies are interested in holding a 'Clean for the Queen' event and will arrange a date between them.

3778 To consider the allocation of the grant funding for 2015/16 and to consider what should happen to any unallocated funds

No further requests had been received leaving £576.89 unallocated. The council resolved to roll over this money to the next allocation in June.

Revisions to the grant allocation policy were suggested. The Clerk will add these suggestions to the policy for agreement at the next meeting.

3776 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing

West Berks Council agreed the budget last week.

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Chairman

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Date

The council requested the clerk write a letter to Richard Benyon, MP, to protest about the cuts and highlight the impacts on a rural community such as Compton.

The Downland Practice was recently inspected and was rated as good overall. It was noted that the report states they did not visit the Compton branch.

3779 To consider quotes for a company to devise an initial strategy for a neighbourhood plan

No quote had been received. The Clerk was requested to contact the company.

3780 To consider activities to commemorate the Queen's 90th birthday

A sample of a commemorative medal was viewed by the council, however it was agreed they did not want to provide commemorative medals. AS is continuing to obtain quotes for two oak trees for planting in commemoration.

3781 To consider whether to end the contact for supply of the bin at the Wilkins Centre

PB declared an interest in this item.

It was resolved that, as the council no longer employs a litter picker, the bin is no longer needed and the contract should be cancelled.

3782 To consider ensuring that adverts in Compilations are to be prepaid from 1st April

It was resolved that advertising should now be prepaid. The Clerk was requested to implement this as soon as was possible.

3783 To consider the appropriate method of repayment for the loan made for improvements to the Scout Hut toilets

It was agreed that a meeting with the executive committee should be held before deciding the best way to proceed. DA and MB will arrange this.

3784 To consider activities commemorating World War I

There was no update.

3785 To consider suggestions for the enhancement programme

There was no update.

3786 To receive an update on the Cemetery

DA and the Clerk have a meeting with the architect on the 9th March. The parish council has now been invoiced for the BCF grant received towards the work to replace the bridge over the Pang.

3787 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

There have been reports of children knocking on windows and running and also damage done to car. The parish council encourage residents of the village to report all incidents, however small, by phoning 101 (in non-emergency cases only).

3788 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following new applications:

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
16/00261/ HOUSE	14 Newbury Lane, Compton, RG20 6PB	Side and back two storey extension. Single storey granny annexe to the back connected to existing cottage	NO OBJECTIONS
Comments:			
We have no further information about the right of access at the rear of the property but also have concerns as to whether access is permitted.			

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Chairman

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Date

- b) **To consider whether to request our District Councillor call in any planning applications to the Western Area Planning Committee**
No applications were requested to be called in.
- c) **To receive a report on West Berkshire Council recent planning decisions**
There were none.

3789 **To receive reports on the following:**

- c) **Rights of Way**
AS has taken photos of Byway 2 and will send them to Paul Hendry.
- d) **Village Hall**
Work has been carried out in the Wilkins Centre to remove the bath and revise the plumbing, creating more storage space.
- h) **Groundwater**
The following report was received from the Flood Warden:
The trash screen at Ilsley Road/Fairfield has been installed. It will be interesting to see if it has any effect next season on the debris that accumulates at the entrance to the High Street culvert. I will arrange for this season's accumulation outside Bramley Cottage (formerly Towyn) to be removed after Easter. The current threat from groundwater remains slight as the aquifer is just about 50% full, well below previous peaks. Roadside gullies responsible for poor surface water drainage that were reported to Highways have been addressed by WBC's contractor. The obstructed outflow into the watercourse from the gully in the corner of the lay-by at the bottom of Churn Road has been rectified, but in a rather rudimentary manner. In High Street by the sarsen stone and in the vicinity of the sewage pumping station on Aldworth Road, flooding is caused by residual structural/blockage issues. I have been promised an update from Highways Maintenance, and will follow up as necessary.

3790 **To receive the finance report and approve payments due**
It was resolved to approve the payments listed on the finance report, which is at Attachment 2.

3791 **Correspondence**
The Clerk went through her report, which is at Attachment 1.

3792 **Matters for future consideration and information**
IT, KS and MB will meet to discuss document storage.

MB and the Clerk carried out the annual internal audit, everything was found to be generally in order.

The standard of pot hole repair was discussed. The Clerk was requested to contact West Berkshire Council for information on the specifications for these repairs.

The parish assets and management working party highlighted some queries regarding what land and buildings they should approach the BBSRC for in order to attempt to obtain them. A meeting will be arranged with Powis Hughes, the agents, as soon as possible.

Meeting closed 9:20pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

➤ **Parish Council Meeting:** **Monday 11th April, 2016 at 7pm** in the Village Hall

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Chairman

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