

## **Compton Parish Council**

**Chairman: Dave Aldis**

**Clerk: Ron Palmer**

### **MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING**

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

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

In attendance: The outgoing Parish Clerk (R Palmer) and 2 members of the public. The new Parish Clerk (S Marshman) arrived at 7.25pm

The meeting started at 7.00pm.

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2734 **Apologies for absence** had been received from Councillors P Shanks and M Pinfold; also from District Councillor V von Celsing

2735 **Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk**

A prejudicial interest was declared later in the meeting by S Marshman in item 2753: To consider sharing office expenses with East Ilsley Parish Council

2736 **To receive:**

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
- **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**

There were none

2737 **To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 June 2012**

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

2738 **Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 11 June 2012**

There were none

2739 **To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

LM said that the damage to – and removal of – some of the new fence posts between the car park and the Recreation Ground had been reported to the police. Lack of reporting incidents continued to be a serious issue.

2740 **To receive a report from PCSO Paul Smith and ask him questions**

Paul introduced himself and gave details of his previous responsibilities. He summarised the Compton crime figures over the past 3 months and said there had been few incidents reported. He said he was considering setting up public consultation sessions. Following questions, the Chairman thanked Paul for coming to the meeting.

2741 **To receive a report from Chris Jones (Arts and Leisure Services Manager, West Berkshire Council [WBC]) about the Downland Sports Centre and ask him questions**

Chris outlined the activities of the Centre, managed by Parkwood Leisure on behalf of WBC and answered questions from Councillors. He said the Operations meetings were only for The School, Parkwood Leisure and WBC to discuss issues. Parkwood Leisure was working to set up the first User Forum in the Autumn. Following questions, the Chairman thanked Chris for coming to the meeting

The new Clerk, Sarah Marshman, arrived at the meeting here at 7.25pm

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Chairman

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**2742 To consider the Clerk's report**

The Clerk went through his report, which is at Attachment 1. The report is in 2 parts:

- Activities since the last meeting
- Some outstanding issues on handover to the new Clerk

2/6 Church Farm Footpath: MB said the owners of Church Farm had paid for an archaeological survey to be carried out on the site. This had been sent to English Heritage and a reply was awaited

2/7 Riparian ownership: DA asked the Clerk to forward the letter from the resident to the Environment Agency

**2743 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing**

VvC had sent her apologies to the meeting. No report was presented.

**2744 To discuss the funding of Compilations and agree action concerning payment from East Ilsley Parish Council**

DA said he had spoken to the Chairman of East Ilsley Parish Council and he had said that if they were to contribute costs then they would expect to receive a share of the revenue generated. More information is required from the Editor to progress; DA will arrange a meeting to discuss and requested this be added to the next agenda.

**2745 To consider the latest Asset Register (v6) and agree how to revalue the assets as recommended by the Internal Auditor**

Each individual asset on the register needs to be assigned a value. Da requested this be added to the next agenda.

**2746 To appoint 2 councillors to carry out a review of the effectiveness of the Council's internal control procedures later in 2012/12**

MB and DA will do this in the autumn.

**2747 To receive a report on the recent village fete and agree the sale of the remaining Diamond Jubilee mugs**

It was requested the minutes show the Council's recognition to the Committee for their work done in holding the fete in such appalling conditions.

Sale of the mugs will be advertised in Compilations and the shop will be approached. Once all avenues are finished it was suggested they be donated to the village hall/day care centre. This should be added to the next agenda.

**2748 To agree funding for 2 trees to replace those that have died recently**

AS proposed to spend up to £120 and to include the purchase of a Jubilee Tree, seconded by MB and carried. To be paid for from reserves. PW to purchase.

**2749 To consider whether to investigate opportunities under the 'Fields in Trust' initiative**

It was requested this be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**2750 Planning Applications**

**a) To consider the following planning application and agree that recommendations should be sent to West Berkshire Council:**

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
12/01375/FUL	Down House, Ilsley Road, Compton, RG20 7PH	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a new 2-storey dwelling with annexe and garage.	No objections.

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
12/00988/HOUSE	1 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Erection of new conservatory.	No objection.	<b>Granted</b>
12/01019/HOUSE	Uplands Cottage, Downs Road, Compton, RG20 6RE	Single and two storey rear extension to detached dwelling following demolition of rear parts of the house.	No objection.	<b>Granted</b>

**2751 To receive reports on the following:**

**a) Recreation Ground**

This is to be discussed in minute 2752.

**b) Football Pavilion**

Thanks were given to MB for his work in replacing the tiles. MB asked if extra spare tiles should be purchased whilst a source has been located. It was requested this be added to the next agenda.

**c) Rights of Way**

AS will report Crows Foot. A complaint has been received that the Cinder Track replacement footpath is overgrown, this has been passed on to the Farm Manager.

**f) Patient Representation**

AS will meet privately to discuss Compton's concerns.

**2752 To receive an update on the situation regarding the fencing and gates to the recreation ground**

Some fence posts have been pulled out. The holes have now been filled and some of the remaining posts have been sunk lower into the ground. The gate is also not wide enough. The rest of the fence posts should now be sunk to the same depth and the gate post should be moved one gap along. The outgoing Clerk will contact the Grounds Maintenance contractor to do this.

The new Clerk declared an interest and left the room for item 2753.

**2753 To consider the sharing of office expenses with East Ilsley Parish Council for the new clerk**

As proposed the Council should continue to pay £60 per month for office expenses and not to share costs. Seconded by KS and carried.

The new Clerk re-entered the room.

**2754 To approve cheques due for payment**

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

Invoice Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
19 Jun	102251	Thames Water	£15.75	School Road allotments
19 Jun	102252	Thames Water	£139.14	Newbury Lane allotments
22 Jun	103352	R M Weavers	£395.47	Grounds maintenance charge for May 2012
22 Jun	102254	R M Weavers	£1660.54	Supplying & installing fencing & gate on Recreation Ground

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01 Jul	102255	Royal Mail Group Ltd	£60.00	Compton PC post redirection for 3 months
3 Jul	102256	M Birtwistle	£85.96	Materials for repairs to football pavilion.
8 Jul	102257	Ron Palmer	£614.14	Clerk's salary and expenses
28 Jun	102258	Southern Electric	£718.09	Unmetered electricity charge from 27 March to 27 June 2012
26 Jun	102259	SSE Contracting Ltd	£807.20	Street lighting maintenance charge for June quarter
8 Jul	102260	Joli Beattie	£142.82	Diamond Jubilee picnic expenses. Note that previous cheque 102245 was lost and so was cancelled.
1 Jul	102261	D Moss	£70.00	Litter picking - June 2012

### 2755 Correspondence

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 2.

### 2756 Matters for consideration and information

- A complaint has been received from the Barber shop as the road floods outside the door and the water is sprayed in to the shop by passing cars. The section of road between the bus shelter and the unnamed road have had the holes filled rather than the road resurfaced. The Clerk to ask WBC if resurfacing will still take place.
- In the Recreation Ground, one cradle swing is broken and the other is about to break. LM will get these removed and pass to Peter Shanks. Arranging their replacement to be added to the next agenda.
- The leases have been agreed for the Scout Hut for 30 years.
- Revd. Martin Cawte will be leaving the village in September. A replacement is being sought.
- AS met with Andrew Garrett from Highways and John May from Thorne Downe to discuss the section of road where a recent serious accident had occurred. The traffic incident was not registered with Highways. A black box will be placed on the tractor sign. AG agreed that at JM's expense a concealed entrance sign could be put up and a mirror but this could not be on Highways land. A task force meeting will be held at the end of August which someone must attend. AS also discussed getting the verge re-graded from the pumping station to the tractor sign. It was requested this be added to the agenda for the next meeting.
- The verge through the village needs to be cleared. WBC Highways are responsible to the middle of the watercourse. The Clerk is to write to Highways and request they carry out their riparian responsibilities.
- The complaint to WBC with regards to not adhering to their own planning procedures can only be taken further with legal action. KS suggested writing to Eric Pickles and copying in the local MP.
- It was requested that the replacement of the missing bin be added to the next agenda.
- The Newbury Lane allotments water charge is very high. The Clerk to email about this.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Dates and times of next meetings:

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm</b>	In the Wellstead Room, Village Hall
<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 7pm</b>	In the Wellstead Room, Village Hall

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