

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Sarah Marshman

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 5th October, 2015 at 7pm in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

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

In attendance: The Parish Clerk.

The meeting started at 7pm.

3647 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. P. Burnett and District Cllr. Virginia von Celsing.

3648 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk

There were none.

3649 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public

Representations from any member who has declared a pecuniary interest

There were none.

3650 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th September, 2015

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

3651 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 7th September, 2015

There were none.

3652 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing

VvC sent her apologies.

3653 Clerk's report

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

3654 To consider the response to the response to the groundwater flooding maps developed by West Berks Council

The council resolved to send the response suggested by the Flood Warden which was as follows:

1. The map seems to effectively represent standing surface water and watercourse flows during the 2014 - once in a hundred years - extreme groundwater event in Compton Parish.
2. The map is more convincing than the rather crude groundwater flood risk zones shown on the 'what's in my backyard' website of the Environment Agency.
3. The definition of the groundwater emergence zone on the map needs to be more precise in order to avoid instances where, for example, the ground contours cannot support the zone boundary proposed.
4. The PC would like to encourage WBC to use the map and method on which it is based proactively to better understand flood risk in the Parish, and to take note of it when coming to

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Chairman

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decisions regarding planning applications, having in mind the reservation expressed in respect of point 3 above.

3655 To consider revising the grant policy

This was deferred to the next meeting so Councillors would have more time to assess the possible changes required.

3656 To consider whether the land working party should look at land in the village owned by BBSRC and to formulate instructions to the solicitor acting on these matters

AS declared an interest in the land where the garages are sited. The Parish Council resolved that this would not affect the discussions and so AS should be allowed to continue as part of the working party.

It was resolved that the working party should arrange a meeting with Powis Hughes to begin discussions as to whether the Parish Council could obtain some of the parcels of land in the village owned by BBSRC.

3657 To consider purchasing a projector

The Parish Council has trialled using a projector for three meetings now and all agreed it was a useful addition. It was resolved to set a maximum budget of £250 to purchase a projector.

3658 To consider activities commemorating World War I

The Clerk was requested to contact the secretary of the local branch of the RBL to arrange for two wreaths, one for the parade and one for the memorial in Compton.

3659 To consider suggestions for the enhancement programme

The possibility of installing more laybys in Burrell Road and Manor Crescent like those recently installed in Manor Crescent was discussed. The Clerk was requested to contact Highways at West Berks Council to discuss the possibility to installing further laybys both in these roads and in further areas of the village.

3660 To receive an update on the Cemetery

There was no update. The Clerk was requested to post on the SLCC Clerk's forum for ideas of costings and recommendations of builders and contact local parishes that have recently undergone similar projects.

3661 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

There has been some recent car vandalism and instances of fireworks being set off in the Recreation Ground.

3662 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following new applications:

There were none.

b) To consider whether to request our District Councillor call in any planning applications to the Western Area Planning Committee

There were none to consider.

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Response from CPC	WBC Decision
15/01768/ HOUSE	1 Sidcot Villas, Churn Road, Compton, RG20 6PP	Addition of front porch, two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.	NO OBJECTIONS	Approved

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15/01648/ HOUSE	5 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Single storey rear extension and relocation of fence.	NO OBJECTIONS	Approved
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3663 **To receive reports on the following:**

a) Recreation Ground

The grass cutting schedule needs reviewing. The Parish Council has received comments about dog fouling in the Recreation Ground. The Clerk will contact the dog warden to assess the situation.

d) Village Hall

The AGM was held recently.

e) Allotments

The PC had received a complaint about rats at Newbury Lane allotments. The allotment manager has taken steps to combat this and believes the problem has now been solved.

g) Communications

Compton now has access to superfast broadband. The council thanked KS for all the work he had done in helping ensure the village received it.

h) Groundwater

The following report was received from the flood warden:

The trash screen at Fairfield has not yet been installed, but I am pestering. Preparatory clearance has been undertaken around and through the railway bridge culvert on Aldworth Road. There was some rainfall-induced flooding on Coombe Road and Newbury Road at Floodcross and I have arranged for WBC to clear the roadside grips so it can run off better. Also hopefully the grips on School Road. The water main on Coombe Road bursts regularly and is now scheduled for replacement by Thames Water in 2017-18. I plan to distribute WBC's leaflet on riparian responsibilities to households this week.

3664 **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.

3665 **Correspondence**

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 3.

3666 **Matters for consideration and information**

The Clerk was requested to report the elder tree that is overhanging the footpath between the railway bridge and the Church to West Berks Council for cutting.

The parking outside the Downs School on open evenings is causing visibility issues due to the brow of the hill and not enough gaps being left for cars to pass. The PCSO will be contacted to see if anything can be done e.g. cones.

A councillor attended the village hall management committee AGM (as a resident, not as a representative of the PC). They were advised that they could join the committee but could not become a voting member.

The demolition company working at Greens Yard recently hit the mains electrics cable for a second time. This affects the power supply to Compton Manor.

The Clerk has now received training on the new finance software.

Meeting closed 8:50pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

➤ **Parish Council Meeting:** **Monday 2nd November, 2015 at 7pm** in the Village Hall

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Chairman

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Date