

**Compton Parish Council**

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Sarah Marshman

**MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

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

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

The meeting started at 7pm.

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**3690 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. L. Moss and M. Birtwistle.

**3691 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk**

RP and MP declared an interest in planning application 15/03052/FUL.

**3692 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public**

**Representations from any member who has declared a pecuniary interest**

There were none.

**3693 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015**

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

**3694 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2015**

There were none.

**3695 To approve the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2015**

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

**3696 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2015**

There were none.

**3697 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing**

VvC raised the budget proposals for 2016/17 that West Berkshire Council (WBC) is currently consulting on. Among other aspects, the council discussed that the 6/6A bus service is likely to be affected, as is the mobile library service. The council agreed they should respond to this consultation and requested the Chair and the Clerk go through each aspect of the proposal and make any comments they felt relevant on behalf of the council.

VvC will contact the planning and countryside department to check whether these proposals are likely to affect the maintenance of Byway 2.

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Chairman

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The council requested VvC call in planning application 12/02349/OUTD Land Adjacent To 4 Ilsley Gardens, Ilsley Road, Compton, as this planning application is due to be consulted on again soon. The new documentation for this application has not yet been received from WBC.

The council also requested VvC call in planning application 15/02921/MDOPO Tithe Barn Close (AKA Greens Yard), Compton, as the council believe that even shared ownership housing can be too costly for key workers, farm workers etc and the council need to do all they can to help residents stay in Compton. DA will speak to Arlene Kearsley about carrying out another housing needs survey in the village.

The IT issues at the Compton surgery were discussed. VvC will contact the CCG for assistance.

**3698 Clerk's report**

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

**3699 To discuss the draft budget for 2016/17**

Some alterations were suggested to the draft budget which will be revised and considered at the next meeting.

**3700 To consider the council's response to West Berkshire Council's Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document**

There were no comments.

**3701 To consider the council's response to West Berkshire Council's Winter Maintenance Proposals**

WBC propose to stop refilling the salt bins and instead charge parish councils for doing so from winter 2016/17 onwards. Parish councils do not have a power under which they can pay for this service to be provided and therefore the council resolved that a response that states this and requests that WBC offers residents the opportunity to pay for this service themselves.

**3702 To consider the specifications for a laptop and to select one**

This was deferred to the next meeting.

**3703 To consider activities commemorating World War I**

The two wreaths were laid on Remembrance Sunday by Peter Whitworth.

**3704 To consider suggestions for the enhancement programme**

KS had looked at the possible costs of purchasing a dish swing. The Clerk was requested to obtain formal quotes.

**3705 To receive an update on the Cemetery**

The Clerk has sent out five letters inviting quotes to produce the plans and oversee the construction work. So far two rejections and one letter of interest have been received.

**3706 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

A van had been stolen from a driveway opposite Church Road the previous evening .

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Chairman

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3707 **Planning Applications**

a) **To consider the following new applications:**

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
12/02349/ OUTD	Land Adjacent To 4 Ilsley Gardens, Ilsley Road, Compton, RG20 7PF	Outline application for Erection of 1 No. detached dwelling with associated parking. Matters to be considered Access and Layout.	-
<b>Further Information:</b> The Parish Council had been notified that this application will be open for consultation again and so had placed this item on the agenda, however the consultation has not yet begun and no documentation had been received so this discussion was deferred.			
15/03052/ FUL	Institute For Animal Health, High Street, Compton, RG20 7NN	Installation of a new HV transformer including ancillary plant and secure enclosure fence.	<b>NO OBJECTIONS</b>

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

VvC has been requested to call in planning applications 12/02349/OUTD Land Adjacent To 4 Ilsley Gardens, Ilsley Road, Compton and 15/02921/MDOPO Tithe Barn Close (AKA Greens Yard), Compton.

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

There were none.

3708 **To receive reports on the following:**

c) **Rights of Ways**

AS has contacted WBC about the Ridgeway signage.

h) **Groundwater**

The following report was received from Peter McGeehin, Flood Warden for Compton:  
As of 6<sup>th</sup> December the groundwater level at Compton is just below average for the time of year, and appears to be approaching its annual minimum. At Frilsham the River Pang is still flowing, but similarly the water depth is below the seasonal norm. We would need 2-3 times normal rainfall in at least three of the coming winter months for flow to be observed in Compton later in the season . There has been only modest progress on the works in hand. The watercourse leaving the culvert under the NE fork of Newbury Lane has been cleared and the entrance to the culvert under Wallingford Road located in the garden of Merrywood House has been improved by the installation of a trash screen designed to contemporary standards. The trash screen at Fairfield/Ilsley Road has still not been installed and I continue to press for this to be done. I have had a site meeting with WBC engineers regarding commencing the work on the Aldworth Road field entrances and am assured that the reductions in revenue expenditure recently announced will not apply, as they fall under the capital expenditure budget that is not subject to similar cuts.

3709 **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.

3710 **Correspondence**

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 3.

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Chairman

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Date

3711 **Matters for consideration and information**

AS, KS and IT had attended planning training. They highlighted that under CIL, the council should receive 15% of the developer contributions to spend, however, this would increase to 25% if a neighbourhood plan were produced. They will look at the costs of obtaining a company to devise an initial strategy.

AS wanted to congratulate East Ilsley on the beautiful Christmas scene by the pond. She suggested that Compton could be providing some form of Xmas decorations, possibly on the grass area in the car park of The Swan.

The church floodlights are broken. The council suggested the church obtains quotes so the council could consider whether to pay to fix or replace them.

The Christmas dinner for those in need of company of Christmas Day will be taking place again at the Wilkins Centre.

The hobbies club/Autumn Group are receiving help from the Downs School including running a computer course and providing a Christmas dinner for the group.

An email had been received regarding the external audit. The Government has enabled NALC and partners to form a Sector Led Body to procure audit services. Parish Councils are able to opt out of this service by the end of Jan 2016 if they wish to set up their own independent audit panel. The council agreed they did not wish to opt out of this service.

Meeting closed 9pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

➤ **Parish Council Meeting:** **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 at 7pm** in the Village Hall

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Chairman

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Date