

# **Compton Parish Council**

**Chairman: Dave Aldis**

**Clerk: Ron Palmer**

## **MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (Chair), M Pinfold, L Moss, K Simms, P Shanks, B Evans,  
P Whitworth, M Birtwistle and A Strong

In attendance: R Palmer (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

The meeting started at 7pm

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2259 **Apologies for absence** had been received from District Councillor B Alexander

2260 **Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk**

- KS, as a resident of Yew Tree Stables, declared a personal interest in planning application 10/03121/HOUSE in agenda item 2274
- KS, as a member of the Scouts, declared a personal interest in agenda item 2277, cheque 102116
- AS, as a friend of the applicant, declared a personal interest in planning application 10/03109/HOUSE in agenda item 2274
- MB, as a member of the PCC, declared a personal interest in agenda item 2268, churchyard

2261 **To receive:**

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
- **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**  
Members of the public asked questions at agenda item 2266: Downlands Day Care Centre

2262 **To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 January 2011**

Proposed by KS, seconded by MP and carried, then signed by the Chairman.

2263 **Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 10 January 2011**

2246 The Clerk said that our contractor had confirmed that his charge for cutting the grass around the Scout Hut would be the same as last year.

2264 **Clerk's report**

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

1. Floodlights: The Chairman said that he had authorised the contractors to take down all 3 of the remaining floodlight columns in the car park on health and safety grounds. Two of the 4 were currently being replaced, although they were not working yet because of water damage in the football pavilion. He asked the Clerk to put the replacement of the other 2 floodlights as an item on the next Council meeting agenda.
2. Dog waste bin: The Clerk was asked to arrange for the new bin in Wilson Close to be relocated by West Berkshire Council to the position originally requested
9. Compilations Adverts: The Clerk said it was taking him considerable time to ascertain the details of some of the advertisers and prepare and send out 72 individual invoices for 2010. KS suggested that it would be better if advertisers paid in advance; the Clerk was asked, with the help of the Compilations Editor, to prepare a proposal for the next meeting.

2265 **To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

LM said she had nothing to report and that there had been no NAG meetings recently. DA said that police had apprehended hare coursers last week.

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Chairman

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- 2266 **To consider how best to ensure the continuance of service provision at the Downlands Day Care Centre after it closes in September**  
 Following discussion and comments / questions from members of the public, DA proposed that a meeting be convened of interested parties in the near future. This was seconded by BE and was carried. DA proposed Wednesday 16 February at 7pm and asked the Clerk to confirm the availability of the Welstead Room and then send out a calling notice. A list of interested parties was drawn up and it was agreed that DA and MP would attend the initial meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 2267 **To receive an update on the redevelopment of Fairfield**  
 The Clerk had been advised that the Planning Application had been temporarily withdrawn to enable a tree report and ecological evaluation (mainly for the presence of bats) to be carried out.
- 2268 **To consider the current churchyard situation and respond to a request from the Parochial Church Council**  
 The Clerk had prepared a 1-page procedural summary on extending burial grounds which had highlighted the need to avoid an area with potential flooding problems or a high water table. He had contacted the Clerks of 2 neighbouring Parish Councils and had also had a meeting with the local Team Rector. He was now awaiting a reply from the owner of nearby land to whom he had written.
- 2269 **To approve expenditure of up to £100 to purchase felt for the roof of an allotment shed from which asbestos has recently been removed**  
 Proposed by DA, seconded by KS and carried.
- 2270 **To receive feedback from the meeting on 27 January to discuss the future of the IAH site and consider and agree actions**  
 BE gave a brief report on the conduct and outcomes of the meeting which was followed by a discussion. AS then proposed that a sub-committee be set up to open discussions with Powis-Hughes on how best the Parish Council can support BBSRC in its withdrawal from the village. The proposal was seconded by KS and was carried. It was agreed that AS, KS, MB and LM should serve on the sub-committee.
- 2271 **To receive an update on the project to erect a possible footway from Lowbury Gardens along the south side of the High Street to the village shop**  
 The Clerk was now in possession of the information concerning which properties were owned by A2Dominion Homes. He would now write to all owners of the affected properties asking for their views of the proposed project.
- 2272 **To receive an update on the application for Village Green status for the green area in Gordon Crescent and decide whether or not to formulate a proposal to BBSRC to transfer the green space in Gordon Crescent to Parish Council ownership**  
 It was agreed that consideration of this application would not be progressed until the above sub-committee (minute 2270) had completed their deliberations.
- 2273 **To discuss whether to support the Village Hall management committee proposal to site a clothes recycling bin at the village hall**  
 AS was concerned about who would monitor the site to ensure clothes were not strewn around especially when the bin became full. PS understood that the situation would be monitored regularly and the charity would be contacted and requested to empty the bin when it was getting full. DA proposed that the Parish Council support the bin. This was seconded by BE and the Clerk was asked to contact the Village Hall management committee.
- 2274 **Planning Applications**  
 a) **To consider the following new applications and agree that the recommendations be forwarded to West Berkshire Council**

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 Chairman

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App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
10/03044/FUL	The Lodge, High Elms, Aldworth Road, Compton, RG20 6RD	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling, re-submission of 09/02244/FUL	<b>NO OBJECTION</b> Prop/Sec DA/BE Carried
10/03109/HOUSE	8 Shepherds Mount, Compton, RG20 6QZ	Single storey extension and 1 <sup>st</sup> floor side extension	<b>OBJECTION</b> Prop/Sec: MP/BE Carried
Reasons: Members believed this application was overdevelopment of the existing site, with the extension being too close to the existing boundaries			
10/03121/HOUSE	9 Yew Tree Stables, Compton, RG20 6NG	Installation of PV Solar panels to the front roof of the dwelling and rear roof of the garage	<b>SUPPORT</b> Proposed: PS Seconded: MB Carried
10/03122/HOUSE	25 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Conservatory to rear elevation of house	<b>NO OBJECTION</b> Prop/Sec: KS/DA Carried
10/03147/OUTD	Land at The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton, RG20 7PG	Erection of 3 detached dwellings with associated parking	<b>OBJECTION</b> Proposed: BE Seconded: PW Carried
Reasons: Members believed the development would be out of character with the surrounding area and was contrary to policy PPS3 which required particular consideration be given to proposals in gardens of existing dwellings. There was also serious concern about the impact of the northernmost property on neighbouring properties in Churn Road and the impact of traffic exiting the proposed new development onto a busy road very close to crossroads			

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
10/01751/HOUSE	1 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Retrospective – Erection of 1.7m close board fence	No Objection	GRANTED subject to landscaping
10/01889/FUL	1 Great Coombe Cottages, Coombe Road, RG20 6RG	Demolish existing house and replace with new house and barn	No Objection	REFUSED but applicant has lodged appeal
10/02083/OUTD	The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PQ	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 7 detached dwellings	Objection	REFUSED
10/02458/FULMAJ	15-20 Fairfield and land to the rear of 14 -20 Newbury Lane, RG20 6PJ	10 houses and 2 flats together with external works & car parking	No Objection, subject to comments	Withdrawn by applicant
10/02616/FUL 10/02617/LBC	St Mary and St Nicholas Church, Aldworth Road, Compton	Demolition and replacement of existing entrance gates with Lych Gate	No Objection	GRANTED
10/02643/FULD	Garden to the side of 1 Mayfield Villas, Warnham Lane, RG20 7PN	Construction of a 3-bedroom detached dwelling house	Objection	REFUSED

KS proposed that the Council should consider buying a projector; the Chairman asked the Clerk to investigate and put this on the agenda of the next meeting.

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Chairman

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Date

BE proposed that a sub-committee be set up to consider revising the Village Design Statement. This was seconded by DA and was carried. BE, DA, PS and PW agreed to sit on the sub-committee, which would report back at the next meeting. All members were asked to send comments to BE by 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**2275 To receive a report from District Councillor Barbara Alexander**  
No report was given, as Councillor Alexander had sent her apologies

**2276 To receive reports on the following:**

- a) **Recreation Ground:** PS said recent vehicle activity had caused damage. MB was asked to write a short article for Compilations saying permission should be sought from the Parish Council before taking vehicles onto the Recreation Ground.
- b) **Football Pavilion:** MP reported there had been water damage which he was sorting out.
- c) **Rights of Way:** LM was asked to report to the police damage at Browns Firs
- e) **Allotments:** MB reported that he had repaired a burst pipe at School Road allotments
- f) **Downland Sports Centre:** PS/KS gave a brief report on the last meeting

No other reports were presented.

**2277 To approve cheques due for payment**

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
17-Jan	102114	Southern Electric Contracting	£190.26	Street lighting rechargeable repairs for December quarter
17-Jan	102115	Thames Water	£264.46	Newbury Lane allotments bill, 10 Jun '09 to 12 Dec '10
27-Jan	102116	Compton Scout Group	£200.00	S137 donation for 2010/11
30-Dec	102117	R M Weavers	£452.38	Cutting hedges around Recreation Ground
31-Jan	102118	D Moss	£55.00	Litter picking - January
01-Feb	102119	Pang Valley (FWAG)	£75.00	S137 donation for 2010/11
06-Feb	102120	Ron Palmer	£574.52	Clerk's salary etc for 5 weeks to 6th February

The Clerk was asked to contact the Newbury Lane Allotments Manager about the high water bill.

**2278 Correspondence**

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 2. The Clerk was asked to put Compton football pitches and Royal Wedding donation on the agenda of the next meeting.

**2279 Matters for consideration and information**

- PS asked the Clerk to contact WBC Highways again about the collapsing trench on School Road outside the entrance to Lowbury Gardens.
- AS asked the Clerk to contact WBC Highways again about the adverse camber and state of the road from East Ilsley outside the water board premises.
- MB asked the Clerk to report 2 street lights that were not working
- MB said that we were no longer getting early reports of the situation concerning springs and the water table.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**Forthcoming meeting:**

- **Council Meeting: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Village Hall  
All members of the public are welcome to attend

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Chairman

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Date