

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Sarah Marshman

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 5th March 2018 at 7:00pm in the Wilkins Centre, Burrell Road.

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

In attendance: The Parish Clerk and District Councillor Virginia von Celsing
1 member of the public.

4385 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor A. Strong.

4386 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk

There were none.

**4387 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public
Representations from any member who has declared a pecuniary interest**

A query was raised regarding the 20mph limit proposed for School Road/High Street and the crossing by the school. The Parish Council confirmed that the speed limit review had agreed to implementing the 20mph but that it is subject to traffic calming features being installed and a consultation. Highways have previously assessed the crossing and do not believe changes are required.

The Clerk was requested to write to the Headteacher of the Primary School to suggest the closure of the front pedestrian gate to discourage people from crossing on the other side of the entrance to Burrell Road.

The Clerk was requested to write to Highways for an update on the progress of the implementation of the 20mph speed limit.

4388 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th February 2018

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

4389 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 5th February 2018

There were none.

4390 To receive a report from our District Councillor

VvC had attended a Building Better Communities meeting with Thames Valley Police. Rural crime appears to have decreased, however, fly tipping has increased. Householders should check the permit of anyone they employ to dispose of waste.

The implementation of a £50 charge for garden waste bins will be implemented. The Parish Council raised that this will increase the amount of rubbish being put in black bins and that it is now a 25 mile round trip for those in Compton who cannot pay for the garden waste bin to take garden waste to the Newtown Road Recycling Centre.

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It has been confirmed that West Berkshire will be included in the pilot scheme for business rates to be returned to the area in which they are collected. This will generate up to an additional £2 million.

The Parish Council requested VvC speak to West Berkshire Council regarding their removal of salt bins as the Parish Council do not have a power under which they can be funded. The Parish Council are seeking a formal statement from West Berkshire Council on why they have withdrawn the service and how they believe the Parish Council can pay for it.

4391 Clerk's report

The Clerk's report is at Attachment 1.

It is thought that the dog bag dispensers approved at the last meeting cannot be fitted to the school fence. It is possible that mounting posts will be required for both dispensers.

4392 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following new applications:

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
18/00288/ HOUSE	29 Shepherds Mount, Compton, RG20 6QY	Replacement garage to side of property. Proposed single storey rear extension aligned to Westerly boundary but set back into the property to minimise impact to neighbours. Internal and external alterations	No objections

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

It was resolved not to request any applications be called in.

c) To consider whether to refer any planning applications for further response from our planning consultants

It was resolved not to refer any applications to the planning consultants.

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

There were none.

4393 To consider adopting the revised code of conduct

This item was deferred.

4394 To consider the appointment of an internal auditor and agree the scope for audit

It was resolved to agree the suggested scope for audit and to engage Heelis and Lodge to carry out the internal audit.

4395 To consider the grounds maintenance contract for 2018

This item was deferred.

4396 To consider quotes for a zip wire

This item was deferred.

4397 To consider making an application for a Member's Bid Grant

This item was deferred.

4398 To consider a request for a donation from the Royal British Legion

A request was made to help fund a trip for the Chairman and Standard Bearer of the Compton, Ilsleys and Hampstead Norreys Branch of the RBL to attend a re-enactment of the Grand

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Pilgrimage. It was resolved that the Parish Council is unable to make this donation as it would need to come under s137 which cannot be used to benefit an individual.

4399 To discuss the installation of a village sign

Some possible designs were circulated. Further suggestions were made for the designs and format of the sign. It was suggested a stag may be incorporated into the top of the metal frame, possibly with the word Compton underneath, and the sign designs should incorporate the Institute, a racing scene, the church and possibly a farming scene. The artist will be invited to attend the next meeting.

4400 To consider quotes for the street lighting maintenance contract

This item was deferred.

4401 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

No reports had been received.

4402 To receive reports on the following:

b) Football Pavilion

A legionella risk assessment has recently been completed.

c) Rights of Way

New finger posts pointing to the Ridgeway have been installed at the bottom of Churn Road and the bottom of Wallingford Road. Similar posts have been placed on the Ridgeway to direct people to the facilities available in Compton.

h) Groundwater

The following report was received from the Flood Warden:

The watercourse has been improved by the action of riparian owners in removing obstructions to flow alongside School Road and Aldworth Road. Proposals for reducing the groundwater threat by initiatives immediately downstream of Aldworth Road are under consideration.

At the time of writing the aquifer is ~32% full and rising at the non-threatening rate of ~0.4% a day. As the temperature rises the groundwater risk from heavy rain decreases.

j) Neighbourhood Development Plan

A return rate of ~15% of the questionnaires has currently been received. The steering group will be going house to house and holding a drop-in event to help improve the return rate.

4403 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.

4404 Correspondence

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 3.

The Parish Council agreed the preschool could hold the suggested event to celebrate 50 years on the Recreation Ground and use Gordon Crescent for parking if required.

4405 Matters for future consideration and information

The litter pick was very successful. Another date will be arranged for the end of June.

Meeting closed 8:42pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

- **Annual Parish Meeting:** Monday 19th March 2018 at 7:30pm in the Wilkins Centre
- **Parish Council Meeting:** Monday 16th April 2018 at 7pm in the Wilkins Centre

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