

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Monday 26th September 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (chair), P Shanks, M Pinfold, L Moss, A Strong, K Simms, T Kent and P Whitworth

In attendance: Arlene Kersley (Berkshire Rural Housing Enabler) and the Parish Clerk

The meeting started at 7.00pm

2484 Apologies for absence

- Councillor M Birtwistle, because he was abroad on business
- District Councillor Virginia von Celsing, because she had to attend another meeting

2485 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

LM declared a personal interest in the Downs School planning applications – item 2504

2486 To receive:

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

There were none.

2487 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5 September 2011

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

2488 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 5 September 2011

There were none

2489 To receive a report from Arlene Kersley, Rural Housing Enabler for Berkshire

Arlene had attended the IAH SPD Consultation day on September 13th. She gave a brief update on the existing housing situation, including the current West Berkshire housing list figures which showed there were 21 families with a local connection – This report is at Attachment 1.

She said that, previously, housing on rural exception sites had been funded through grants from the Housing Communities Agency, but this was not now available. So any Rural Housing for local families may have to be funded in future from selling off 2 or 3 properties on the site on the open market. The next step was to advertise the importance for local people in need of housing to complete and return Registry of Interest forms, which are available from the Parish Clerk.

In referring to our progress with West Berkshire Council (WBC) on a Local Lettings Plan at the Fairfields redevelopment, DA said he was disappointed to learn that legally any new social housing had to be made available to anyone on the Council housing list. Clearly there was an opportunity to include affordable housing as part of the IAH redevelopment and he asked the Clerk to invite the WBC planners working on the IAH SPD to the next Council meeting.

2490 To consider the Clerk's report

The Clerk went through his report, which is at Attachment 2.

7: Audit: The external audit had been completed successfully, with no actions for the Clerk or Councillors. DA thanked the Clerk for his work on the audit documentation.

9: Fairfields redevelopment: The probable date for the WBC planning committee meeting to consider this application (ref. 11/00586/FULMAJ) is 19 October. AS and KS hope to attend. The Clerk will prepare a draft poster to notify interested villagers.

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Chairman

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- 2491 **To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**
TK had reported the graffiti, the damage to the MUGA gates and the destruction of the MUGA disclaimer sign. LM said it was vital that all such incidents were reported and that she was also advised. DA asked the Clerk to reissue the list of Councillor's roles and responsibilities; he asked members to contact the responsible councillor first concerning issues relating to their area.
- 2492 **To receive a report from the sub-committee set up to open discussions with Powis-Hughes on how best the Parish Council can support BBSRC in its withdrawal from the village**
AS said there was nothing to report this month.
- 2493 **To receive an update on West Berkshire Council (WBC) planning for the future of the IAH site, including the production of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**
DA said the Open Day at the Compton Swan on 13th September had been well attended. He asked the Clerk to obtain from WBC planners a copy of the consultation questionnaire which he would put on the notice board, with copies in the surgery, local shop etc.
- 2494 **To receive an update on the current churchyard situation**
The Clerk said he was meeting a local landowner and the team minister for Compton and East Ilsley on Thursday 29th September at 2pm at the church to discuss possible options.
- 2495 **To receive from the sub-committee set up to consider use of the Recreation Ground football pitches a report recommending charging principles and setting out specific proposals for the groups that are using the Recreation Ground this season**
PW said that the sub-committee had met and recommended the following charging policy:
- Compton FC: No charge
 - Lions FC (playing Sunday mornings): £10 per match for use of the pavilion, payable to M Pinfold at the end of the season
 - CSA juniors (playing Sunday mornings on the small pitches): £5 for use of the pavilion, irrespective of the number of games
 - CSA U11 (playing Sundays on main pitch): £10 per match for use of pavilion and Compton FC equipment.
- M Pinfold - who would be the Football Facilities Co-ordinator for Compton Parish Council – would be responsible for booking the pitches and cleaning the pavilion. He should receive booking requests at the beginning of each season. This would be included in the contracts which AS was drawing up for each team to agree and sign. The above was proposed by PW, seconded by KS and was carried.
- DA thanked MP for all the hard work he puts in to the football club and pavilion and asked him to consider claiming for cleaning materials etc. using the Councillor's Expense Form.
- DA asked the Clerk to obtain quotes for 2 x 2 extra 13amp sockets in the pavilion.
- 2496 **To consider possible celebrations / events in Compton to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen in 2012**
Postponed to the next meeting.
- 2497 **To agree to spend up to £50 to purchase a wreath for Remembrance Sunday**
AS proposed that the maximum sum be increased to **£100**; this was seconded by DA and was carried. PW agreed to organise the purchase of the wreath.
- 2498 **To consider quotes to clean the war memorial and renovate the lettering**
The Clerk said one quote had been received and he was expecting another. MP said he would make enquiries about a local craftsperson that might be interested in this work and would let the Clerk know. DA proposed that a cap of £700 + VAT be put on this work and asked the Clerk to select a contractor who would be able to complete it before the next Remembrance Day service. This was seconded by KS and was carried.

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2499 **To consider quotes to a) clear the bed and banks of the section of the River Pang that runs alongside the Recreation Ground and B) cut the north side of the hedge between the Recreation Ground and School Road. If quotes are not received by the meeting date, to set aside a sum of £400 for this purpose**

The Clerk said that 2 quotes had been received and he was expecting another one from a contractor who had just returned from holiday. One of the quotes did not meet the part of the specification that required the cut vegetation to be cleared away. AS proposed that a maximum figure of £600 + VAT be set for this work and that the Clerk be authorised to select the preferred contractor. This was seconded by PS and was carried.

2500 **To agree to arrange a regular schedule for clearance of the River Pang**

It was agreed to postpone consideration of this item to the meeting at which the budget for 2012/13 (including grounds maintenance) would be discussed.

2501 **To agree to include the following 2 areas in our grass cutting schedule next year: a) the edges to the fence lines to the left of the main entrance to the Recreation Ground with the adjoining property up to the Day Centre, b) the triangular area at the rear of the playgroup and village hall**

It was agreed to postpone consideration of this item to the meeting at which budget for 2012/13 (including grounds maintenance) would be discussed.

2502 **To purchase 2 ‘Disclaimer’ signs for the MUGA at a cost not exceeding £150**

The Clerk said he had received a quote of £24.50 + VAT for one aluminium disclaimer sign. PS proposed that this be purchased. This was seconded by AS and was carried.

2503 **To consider quotes from SSE Contracting concerning column 3 at the junction of Fairfields with Ilsley Road**

a) **To replace the lighting column at a cost of £434.54 + VAT**

b) **To transfer the single phase supply at a cost of £339.17 + VAT**

Members asked the Clerk to find out more about these quotes from SSE Contracting and advise them at the next meeting.

2504 **Planning Applications**

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/01766/COMIND	The Downs School, Manor Crescent, Compton RG20 6NU	New 12 laboratory science block and associated spaces, including an LPG tank, sprinkler tank and pump room.	OBJECTION Proposer: DA Secunder: PS Carried
11/01867/FUL	The Downs School, Manor Crescent, Compton RG20 6NU	Extension and refurbishment to the sports hall including an additional badminton court, new male and female change block with a second floor dance studio, and extended refurbished gym.	OBJECTION Proposed: AS Secunder: PW Carried

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
11/00389/CERTE	Land at High Elms South, Aldworth Road, Compton RG20 6RD	Stationing of 1 heavy goods vehicle in accordance with an operator’s licence expiring on 26 Aug. 2012	NO OBSERVATIONS	IS LAWFUL

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11/00391/CERTE	Land at High Elms South, Aldworth Road, Compton RG20 6RD	Use of warehouse for the storage of mainly commercial and partly domestic goods. Use of commercial access road.	NO OBSERVATIONS	IS LAWFUL
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2505 **To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing**
No report was given as District Councillor was unable to attend the meeting.

2506 **To receive reports on the following:**

- a) **Recreation Ground:** PS said the new 'No Unauthorised Vehicles' sign had been defaced. He had been able to clean it and had re-positioned it higher up. The MUGA gates and hinges had been vandalised – the Clerk was asked to contact the manufacturers for a quote to repair. There had recently been lots of litter deposited on Saturday and Sunday mornings.
- e) **Allotments:** The Clerk said there appeared to be a leak underground near the tap on School Road allotments nearest the gate. He was asked to investigate.
- g) **Patient Representation:** AS gave a report on the last meeting she had attended on 15 Sept.

2507 **To approve cheques due for payment**

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
07-Sep	102147	Thames Water	£143.60	Newbury Lane allotments water bill: 20 June to 5 September
07-Sep	102148	Thames Water	£92.94	School Road allotments water bill: 20 June to 5 September
09-Sep	102149	R M Weavers	£519.60	Grass cutting etc - August
13-Sep	102150	SSE Contracting	£1,116.16	Removing 1 & installing 2 new floodlights (See cheque 102106)
13-Sep	102176	SSE Contracting	£698.47	Installing 2 new floodlights (See also cheque 102126)
26-Sep	102177	Kingdom Signs	£29.40	New 'Disclaimer' notice for the MUGA
26-Sep	102178	D Moss	£55.00	Litter picking - September
26-Sep	102179	Ron Palmer	£452.62	Clerk's salary etc for 4 weeks to 2nd October
20-Sep	102180	Mazars	£480.00	External auditor fees for year ending 31 March 2011

2508 **To agree that cheques and other payments from our HSBC bank account be authorised by any 2 of the following: Councillors David Aldis, Mark Birtwistle, Toni Kent, Linda Moss, Michael Pinfold, Peter Shanks, Keith Simms, Alison Strong, Peter Whitworth, Parish Clerk Ron Palmer.**

Proposed by MP, seconded by PW and carried.

2509 **Correspondence**

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 3.

2510 **Matters for consideration and information**

- MP gave members a copy of the Income and Expenditure Summary for the Village Hall as at 31 January 2011
- AS advised members that an 80ft Wych Elm tree in her garden was dying and needed major surgery.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Next meeting, in the Welstead Room, Village Hall, Burrell Road, Compton:

- **Council Meeting Monday 7th November at 7pm**

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Chairman

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Date