

## **Compton Parish Council**

**Chairman: Dave Aldis**

**Clerk: Sarah Marshman**

### **MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017 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, A. Strong and I. Tong.

In attendance: The Parish Clerk.

The meeting started at 7:00pm.

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#### **4111 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from District Councillor Virginia von Celsing.

#### **4112 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk**

There were none.

#### **4113 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public**

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

There were none.

#### **4114 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2017**

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

#### **4115 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2017**

There were none.

#### **4116 To receive a report from our District Councillor**

VvC sent a report regarding the following. She highlighted planning application 17/00497/FULC Wyld Court, Hampstead Norreys, may have the impact of additional vehicular movement in the village. North Newbury housing site has received permission in appeal. This replaces Sandleford as a large housing site that is deliverable for Newbury. This means the WBC 5 year land supply is adequate at the moment. The leader of West Berkshire Council, Roger Croft, died the previous week. The consultation on the boundaries of local wards is still under consultation.

#### **4117 Clerk's report**

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

#### **4118 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 no applications requiring call in.

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Chairman

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

<b>App. Ref.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposed Work</b>	<b>Response from CPC</b>	<b>Decision</b>
16/03140/ HOUSE	Oakwood House, Coombe Road, Compton, RG20 6RQ	Convert single garage to an annex, rear aspect. New double bayed garage with secure bay for equipment to side aspect (North).	No objections	Approved
16/03208/ FUL	Units 7 - 9 Old Station Business Park, Compton, RG20 6NE	Retrospective application for first floor labs, office and new external plant including plant room with hit and miss fence enclosure and steel frame with cat ladder to access new duct work to the side elevation.	No objections	Approved
16/03538/ HOUSE	32 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Formation of habitable room in roofspace.	No objections	Approved
16/03623/ HOUSE	17 Whitewalls Close, Compton RG20 6QG	Two storey side extension.	No objections	Approved

There will be another retrospective application for Units 7-9 Old Station Business Park due to changes in the design and issues with sound.

**4119 To discuss the audit of attendance at appointments at the Compton branch of the Downlands Practice**

The results of an audit on attendance at pre-scheduled appointments were given at the recent patient representative meeting. Compton Parish Council had requested evidence to back up a claim from the Downlands Practice that there was a high rate of non-attendance at Compton, which this audit did not cover. The audit showed that there were 7 appointments during the audit period where the patient did not attend their pre-booked appointment. This number is on a par with Chieveley.

The Clerk was requested to write to the practice manager regarding the treatment of the parish council's representative at the meeting.

**4120 To consider quotes for the street lighting maintenance contract**

This was deferred in order to obtain further quotes.

**4121 To consider suggestions for applying for funding under the Member's Bid process**

RP will research ideas for a new piece of equipment in the Recreation Ground.

**4122 To consider the adoption of a graffiti policy**

This item was deferred.

**4123 To consider creating a policy that Compton Parish Council will request prosecution for any damage to its property, or action (verbal or physical) against any of its members, representatives or officers**

This item was deferred, however, it was felt that this and the graffiti policy should be combined in a 'damage restitution policy'.

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**4124 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**

There has been lots of broken glass in the car park at the Recreation Ground.

**4125 To receive reports on the following:**

**a) Recreation Ground**

The pre-school bike ride will be taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

**b) Football Pavilion**

Quotes have been sent to the insurance company and we are waiting to hear which quote has been approved.

**c) Rights of Way**

The bottom post on the handrail leading down the steps from the old station has failed. AS will contact WBC to ascertain whether this is their responsibility. If not, it was agreed that as this was a safety issue, the Clerk should arrange a repair immediately.

The report at the last meeting as to whether a footpath next to a property had been closed had been investigated further. It is believed that this was actually an informal bridleway that ran up the 'old road' for safety reasons. As it is believed this was an informal arrangement and that it is not well-used, the parish council felt this did not need further follow up.

**h) Groundwater**

The following report had been received from the Flood Warden:

The groundwater season is coming to an end with the aquifer just about half full, so it will most likely start next season on the low side.

With the completion of the work by Yew Tree House and Stables, and at the foot of Newbury Lane, it is my belief that all of the roadside gullies that drain into the watercourse are now working correctly (for the first time in about 20 years we should not experience large puddles anywhere in the village). The problems in the High Street were caused by previous poor work of both Thames Water and telecommunication contractors (non BT).

I am attending a PVFF meeting this evening about research and demonstration projects employing natural methods of flood management that might possibly be relevant to Compton (more likely the River Roden).

**i) Parish Assets & Management**

The purchase of the land from the Compton Estate is still ongoing.

**4126 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.

**4127 Correspondence**

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 3.

Mr. Tony Keys had written to the council to offer to fund the land for an alternative site for the burial ground. The Clerk was instructed to write to thank Mr. Keys for his offer and to state they would consider their position at the appropriate time.

A portal has been launched by West Berkshire Council to aid devolution.

**4128 Matters for future consideration and information**

It was highlighted that the library service has introduced a charge to reserve books which the council believed penalises those in rural areas who would prefer to reserve books before making the journey to the library.

The Clerk was requested to write to Peter Whitworth to thank him for planting the bulbs as the council agreed they have enjoyed seeing the flowers.

£761 was raised by the Church for toilet twinning. Vodafone will also match fund this to £350.

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Chairman

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Children have been spotted climbing the small goals that have recently been installed at the Recreation Ground.

IT attended the event for the re-opening of the West Berkshire Museum.

Initial estimates suggest the Foinavon festival raised approximately £2,000. The Autumn Group also raise £160 for the Air Ambulance at the event. The parish council wished to record their thanks and congratulations to the organisers.

Meeting closed 8:20pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

- **Annual Parish Council Meeting:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at 7pm in the Wilkins Centre
- **Annual Parish Meeting:** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at 7:30pm in the Wilkins Centre

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Chairman

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Date