

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING (AGM)

Held on **Monday 10th May 2010 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

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

In attendance: R Palmer (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

2057 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from District Councillor B Alexander and Parish Councillor P Whitworth

2058 Election of Chairman of Council for the year 2010/11

MP proposed DA, this was seconded by BE and was carried unanimously.

2059 Election of Vice-Chairman of Council for the year 2010/11

MB proposed BE, this was seconded by DA and was carried unanimously.

2060 Declarations of acceptance of office of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Councillors D Aldis and B Evans signed the declarations of acceptance of office of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council respectively – these are at Attachment 1.

2061 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

D Aldis declared a prejudicial interest in item 2067 (Chairman's allowance) and a personal interest in 2080 (Churn Road resurfacing)

2062 To receive:

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
 - **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**
- There were none

2063 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 April 2010

Proposed by LM, seconded by MP and carried

2064 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 12 April 2010

2044 The Clerk had written to West Berks Council about ownership of the land over which a possible footway from Lowbury Gardens to the High Street would pass.

2065 To provide feedback from Compton residents to a Director of David Wilson homes concerning their performance when building Lowbury Gardens

The Clerk said that the Director of David Wilson Homes had asked for this item to be postponed until the July meeting, as he was now unable this evening.

2066 To agree Parish Council representation and areas of responsibility for members

The following were confirmed as representatives of the Council:

- Downlands Leisure Centre JMC: MB, PS and KS
- Village Hall Committee: MP
- Neighbourhood Action Group: LM

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Members agreed to accept responsibilities in the following areas

- DA: Football Pavilion & Primary School
- MB: Football Pavilion, Compilations & Allotments
- BE: Planning
- LM: Footpaths
- KS: Parish Council web site
- MP: Recreation Ground & Football
- PS: Recreation Ground & Footpaths
- AS: Patient Rep. & Footpaths
- PW: Trees etc & Primary School

Having declared a prejudicial interest in the next item, DA left the meeting and BE took the chair.

2067 To agree that the Chairman be given an allowance of £80 for 2010/11

MB proposed that the allowance be increased to £100; this was seconded by BE and was carried

DA returned to the meeting and took the chair.

2068 To agree dates of forthcoming meetings

The following dates were agreed:

- 2010: June 7, July 5, September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6
- 2011: January 10, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 9 (AGM), May 16 (APM)

An additional meeting would be held on August 2, 2010 if business warranted it.

2069 Clerk's report

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

Members asked the Clerk to contact the Village Hall Management Committee to advise that they gave their permission for the Village Fete to be held on the Recreation Ground on 3rd July.

2070 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

LM reported that the last NAG meeting took place on 21st April. The NAG group is looking for more members and also a new Chairman; PC Jason Murphy will continue for the time being. The next NAG meetings are on 16th June, 18th August and 20th October.

The Clerk had contacted our contractors to ask them to cut back nettles and weeds behind the pavilion. Some graffiti had been reported on the pavilion, on the wall of the hairdressers in the alley and under the playground equipment. The Clerk was asked to contact Streetcare to ask them to remove it.

There has been little anti-social behaviour in the village reported recently. Two drivers were issued fixed penalties following a recent speed check in the village.

2071 To consider the results of the Young People's Activities Questionnaire

The Clerk was asked to carry this item forward to the next meeting. LM had completed and returned a survey to CCB concerning consultation of young people by the Council.

2072 To accept the quotation of £155 for Heelis and Lodge to act as Internal Auditor

DA proposed that this quote be accepted. This was seconded by AS and was carried.

2073 To renew the Council insurance with Aviva via Came and Company from 1 June 2010 at a cost of £1,505.33 or £1,430.06 if we enter into a 3-year agreement

MB proposed that the Council enter into a 3-year agreement at a cost of £1,430.06 this year. This was seconded by BE and was carried.

2074 To comment on the proposal by West Berkshire Council to close permanently the Compton outstation of the Registrar of Births and Deaths from 1 June 2010

Following discussion, MB proposed that this was a natural progression and that no comment was necessary. AS seconded this proposal which was carried.

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2075 To consider and approve the revised quotation of £20,922.45 to improve the track that runs from Burrell Road to the Recreation Ground alongside and behind the Village Hall (S106 grant of £11,776 available)

DA reminded members that this would involve spending over £9K from our reserves. Councillors believed this was a positive move and KS proposed that the quote be accepted. This was seconded by BE and was carried.

2076 To consider the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) to be held on 17 May

The draft agenda was discussed and some changes were agreed. The Clerk was asked to modify the agenda and send it to The Downs School, The Village Hall Management Committee, the Playgroup and the IAH Operations Director.

Members agreed that it would be beneficial to hold a short Council meeting after the APM to agree the approach to be taken by the Council at the Planning Enquiry into footpath 16a.

2077 To consider quotations to fell, remove and grind out the stumps of 16 conifers / spruce trees on the Recreation Ground

The Clerk had summarised the 4 quotations received – these are at Attachment 3.

Following discussion, Councillors favoured 2 of the quotations. MB proposed quotation 2 be accepted; this was seconded by LM. AS proposed that quotation 4 for £2,500 (including VAT) from Almond Arborists be accepted; this was seconded by BE. Following a vote, members instructed the Clerk to contract with Almond Arborists.

The Clerk was asked to put “replacement trees” on the next agenda.

2078 To consider purchasing planters to stand by the new bus shelter and request the Scouts to maintain them

AS had done some research into suitable planters but other possibilities were put forward. DA asked Councillors to investigate these other possibilities and bring forward a costed proposal to the next meeting.

2079 To consider sending a letter of complaint to West Berkshire Council concerning the state of Byway 2

AS gave an update on recent communications by phone and email with West Berkshire Council (WBC) officials. Following discussion, MB proposed that it would be beneficial to hold a site meeting before writing a letter of complaint. This was seconded by AS and was carried.

The Clerk was asked to invite the following to a meeting at 6.15pm on Monday June 7th (before the next Council meeting) at the site of the Superity Dairy: WBC Countryside Manager, IAH Arable / Sheep Manager, District Councillor Barbara Alexander.

Having declared a personal interest, DA asked BE to take the chair for the next item.

2080 To demand that West Berkshire Council resurfaces the section of Churn Road that is currently unsurfaced

It was agreed that WBC Highways were the responsible authority. MB proposed that this issue be included in the above site meeting (see 2079). This was seconded by BE and was carried. The Clerk was asked to write to the WBC Highways Manager to ask him to attend or be represented at the above site meeting.

2081 Planning Applications

- a) To consider the following new applications and agree that the recommendations be forwarded to West Berkshire Council

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App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
10/00767/FUL	Winx, Newbury Lane, Compton RG20 6PB	Section 73. Removal of condition 12, Sustainable Homes (Code 3) of application reference 07/02755/FULD	See note 1 below
10/00919/HOUSE	1 Lansdowne Cottages, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PQ	Single storey and two storey extension to the rear of the existing house	NO OBJECTION Proposed: MB Seconded: PS Carried

Note 1: The Clerk was asked to contact West Berkshire Council to understand the facts behind this application. He ascertained that the BREEAM Code for Sustainable Homes became operational in England in April 2007 and a BREEAM Code rating for new build homes became mandatory from 1st May 2008. However developments where plans were received by a local authority prior to 1st May 2008 were exempt. The applicants were arguing, quite correctly, that their application (07/02755/FULD) was submitted on 21st December 2007 and that they are therefore exempt.

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
10/00520/REM	Land adjacent to Downe Cottage, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Erection of dwelling following outline approval 09/01415/OUTD	No Objection	Granted
10/00574/FULMAJ	Church Farm House, Aldworth Road, Compton RG20 6RD	Erection of stable block consisting of 3 stables, 1 wash down area and 1 tack room	No Objection	Withdrawn

2082 **To receive a report from District Councillor Barbara Alexander**

No report was given as the District Councillor had tendered her apologies for absence

2083 **To receive reports on the following:**

a) **Recreation Ground:**

- PS said that he had put up the Disclaimer signs in the car park. He had also repaired the "Authorised Vehicles Only" sign and had put that back up.
- PS had looked at the deterioration of the 2 lamp columns and suggested a possible approach to repairing them. MB will investigate the possibility of putting a steel jacket around them. The Clerk was asked to put this on the agenda of the next meeting.

b) **Football Pavilion:** More damage to the timber work had been reported and bricks had been thrown on the roof. MB said he would investigate and attempt to repair the woodwork.

c) **Rights of Way:** Footpath 5 - AS said a tentative enquiry about re-routing it had been made to WBC about 18 months ago. If a formal application is made, the Parish Council will be notified immediately, but it could be a lengthy process.

d) **Village Hall:** MP gave an update on recent improvements.

e) **Downland Sports Centre:** PS reported that the AGM had still not been held because it required 2 District Councillors to be present to be quorate and their diaries were full.

f) **Patient Representation:** Nothing to report.

g) **Web site:** KS had compiled some access statistics and had continued to enter details of village organisations.

h) **Allotments:** MB reported that all School Road fees for 2010/11 had been received and handed the Clerk £160 to be banked. He also said that Peter Clark had agreed to be Allotment Manager. The Clerk said he had met the Newbury Lane Allotment Manager.

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2084 **To approve cheques due for payment**

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
12-Apr	102049	East Ilsley & Compton Community First Responders	£200.00	Cheque CANCELLED; incorrect payee - replaced by no. 102050
12-Apr	102050	South Central Ambulance Charitable Trust	£200.00	Grant - see minute 2047
26-Apr	102051	CPRE	£30.00	Annual subscription
22-Apr	102052	Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00	Annual donation
30-Apr	102053	Ron Palmer	£513.86	Clerk's salary & expenses, 4 weeks to 2 May
02-Apr	102054 Note 1	Richard Weavers	£81.08	Grass cutting, March
26-Apr	102054 Note 1	Richard Weavers	£313.73	Grass cutting, April
26-Apr	102054 Note 1	Richard Weavers	£49.35	Grass cutting around Scout Hut, April
30-Apr	102055	Mr D Moss	£55.00	Litter Picking - April

Note 1: One cheque – number 102054 - was written in favour of R M Weavers for £444.16

2085 **Correspondence**

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 4. The Chairman asked the Clerk to put the purchase of 1 copy of “The Parish Councillor’s Guide” at £12.75 from SLCC on the next agenda

2086 **Matters for consideration and information**

- The Chairman said that the editor of Compilations was retiring
- The Clerk was asked to contact WBC Highways:
 - By MB, about 8 or 9 large pot holes in the road outside New Farm, Combe Road
 - By AS, about the camber on the road from East Ilsley by the western end of the pumping station grounds
- The Clerk was asked to contact SEC about a telegraph pole that was leaning in the field opposite the entrance to the Dairy
- MB drew to the attention of all the statements in the recent Local Development Framework that there will be some small scale developments in some of the service villages (e.g. Compton) in the North Wessex Downs AONB. Furthermore, it stated that the site of the Institute of Animal Health at Compton had been identified as becoming vacant during the Core Strategy period and therefore had potential for future development. The Clerk was asked to write to WBC asking that Compton Parish Council be consulted at an early stage and that the Council believed that the opportunity to provide new employment opportunities in the village should not be missed.
- DA asked that the provision of an extra dog waste bin in the village should be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Forthcoming meetings:

- ◆ **Annual Parish (Electors) Meeting:** Monday 17th May at 7.30pm
Followed by a short Council meeting
- ◆ **Council Meeting** Monday 7th June at 7pm

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