

Compton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 7:30pm in the Wilkins Centre, Compton

Councillors present: Councillors David Aldis (Chair), Mark Birtwistle, Dan Neate, Keith Simms, Alison Strong and Ian Tong.

Councillors not present: Councillors Peter McGeehin, Linda Moss and Rebecca Pinfold.

In attendance: Sarah Marshman (Clerk).

- 19/20-261** | **To receive apologies for absence from members of the Council**
Apologies were received from Councillors Peter McGeehin, Linda Moss and Rebecca Pinfold
- 19/20-262** | **To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or non-registerable interests by members or the Clerk and to consider any requests for dispensation**
It was resolved by the Council to provide a dispensation to all Councillors present at the meeting to discuss the matters covered in 19/20-266 as it was believed that this affected all residents of the parish.
- 19/20-263** | **To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public**
Representations from any member who has declared a personal interest
A brief discussion took place between Members of the Council regarding the effects of the coronavirus, or Covid-19, which is currently spreading throughout the world. It may be required to cancel forthcoming meetings to meet the requirements of social isolation in order to slow the spread of the virus. The Council will seek to follow guidance from the Government and NALC going forward.
- 19/20-264** | **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2020**
It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record. They were then signed by the Chairman.
- 19/20-265** | **To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 2nd March 2020**
There were none.
- 19/20-266** | **To consider making a response to West Berkshire Council regarding the following:**
- a) **To review the current settlement boundary and consider providing suggestions of how this should be redrawn;**
The Council resolved that no further changes to the settlement boundary should be made. The recent changes to the settlement boundary, to incorporate the former site of the Pirbright Institute, is believed to be adequate provision for the development required within Compton at this time.
 - b) **To complete the audit of current provision of service and facilities in settlements and accessibility to them;**
The audit was completed and will be returned to West Berkshire Council.

- c) **To provide comments on the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) sites in Compton Parish.**

It was resolved to provide the response as in Attachment 1.

Meeting closed 9:12pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

Parish Council Meeting: Monday 6th April 2020 at 7pm, to be confirmed.

Chairman:

Date:

Attachment 1:

**Comments on the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment
(HELAA) sites in Compton Parish**

(a) Preferences for sites / general comments on sites

Development on the western side of Compton is preferable as it is easily accessible from East Ilsley and Hampstead Norreys, minimising traffic moving through the village.

If further development beyond the Institute site was required in the village, COM3 would be the best place for it to occur, but only IF further development was required.

Access to the COM3 site is currently indicated to be from Mayfields which is a single-track road. If building were allowed on this site, access to the site should be provided from the opposite side of the site, off Newbury Road, with the necessary traffic calming features that would be required.

It is noted that the land in this area is owned by one landowner. The Council believes it would be more aesthetically pleasing to have any development in this area run along Newbury Road, which is currently only developed on one side of the road, rather than stretching across this area.

The Council agrees with the suitability conclusions for COM1.

(b) Information on local issues that we should be aware of

There is significant concern in the community regarding the impact that the development of the Institute site will have. Other local issues relate to flooding, parking, speeding, green open spaces and local public transport links.

There are issues with flooding in the field in which COM3 is situated, although it is noted the area has been marked to exclude the northern part of the field which suffers from flooding. Images 1 and 2 show the site on 17th February 2014, whilst image 3 shows the site on 3rd March 2020.

It should be noted that in 2014, the flooding on the site stretched south past the entrance to Fairfield Road, and COM3 encompasses some of this land.





(c) Community aspirations

Sporting opportunities – improving the ability for sports clubs to form and have availability in a facility to run these from.

Village Hall – refresh or renewal. Improvement of disabled facilities. More flexibility and versatility is required.

Pre-school – possible need for a new or larger facility.

Community Business Hub – facility for workers to use/meet in.

Employment opportunities.

Homes for people with a local connection.