

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Sarah Marshman

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 4th December, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Wilkins Centre, Burrell Road.

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

In attendance: District Councillor Virginia von Celsing and the Parish Clerk.

4314 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors D. Aldis and R. Pinfold.

4315 Any declarations of pecuniary interests by members or the Clerk

All members declared an interest in 4301.

**4316 To receive: Questions or comments from members of the public
Representations from any member who has declared a pecuniary interest**

There were none.

4317 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th November, 2017

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

4318 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 6th November, 2017

There were none.

4319 To receive a report from our District Councillor

A planning application for the Sandleford development has been refused by West Berkshire Council which may have an effect on the 5 year land supply being met.

All present felt the presentation by Beeswax Dyson had been well-received.

The offshoot path to Lowbury Gardens from the footpath leading from the High Street to Burrell Road has now been added to the maintenance schedule by West Berkshire Council.

4320 Clerk's report

The Clerk's report is at Attachment 1.

4321 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following new applications:

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
17/02861/FULD and 17/02860/LBC	Manor Barn, Tithe Barn Close, Compton	Demolition of Manor barn and construction of a pair semi-detached dwellings with associated parking, landscaping and amenity space.	No objections
Comments:			

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The developer has tried to include the look and feel of a suitable property. We would expect the inclusion of a condition for the reuse of materials.			
17/02914/FULD	Nielia, Downs Road, Compton, RG20 6RE	Demolition of existing dwelling, erection of replacment dwelling and garage.	No objections
Comments: Please ensure that a condition is added that the existing building should be fully demolished prior to any work on the new building taking place.			
17/03156/HOUSE	The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton, RG20 7PG	Two single storey extensions to rear of existing house with pitched/flat roofs.	No objections
17/03201/HOUSE	9 Westfields, Compton, RG20 6NX	Two storey and single storey rear extension.	No objections
Comments: We would prefer the design to use similar materials to the existing construction.			
17/03194/NON MAT	Old Station Business Park, Wilson Close, Compton, RG20 6NE	Non material amendment to add drawings and reference numbers by way of condition in order to formally list all approved drawings of approved permission 00/00964/FUL for Construction of three two storey light industrial units in one block of three units.	N/A
Further Information: This application will be referred to the planning consultant for advice as to whether a response should be submitted.			

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 of these applications be called in.

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

Planning application 17/03194/NONMAT will be referred in order to ascertain whether the Parish Council should make comment on the application.

A site visit is due to take place for 16/03411/FUL, the parish council's application for a burial ground. The Clerk is to request the architect attends both the site visit and the planning committee meeting. It was resolved to request our planning consultant also attends the planning committee meeting in order to represent the parish council.

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Response from CPC	Decision
17/02396/HOUSE	7 Horn Street, Compton, RG20 6QS	Demolition of existing shed, erection of new two storey side extension, and insertion of two dormer windows to the front of the property.	No objections	Approved

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17/02305/ HOUSE	Downside, Wallingford Road, Compton, RG20 6PS	Erection of single storey extension to front elevation and an extension to create a first floor.	Object	Approved
17/02483/ HOUSE	1 Lowbury Gardens, Compton, RG20 6NN	Formation of habitable room in roof space with front and rear velux roof lights.	No objections	Approved
17/02623/ CERTP	Cedar Bungalow, Wallingford Road, Compton, RG20 6PS	Extension.	N/A	Certificate of lawfulness refused
17/01245/ FULMAJ	Roden Farm, Compton, RG20 7PY	Demolition of existing house except the one and a half storey part of the south-west side of the courtyard range/group of buildings; erection of dwelling, garage, outbuilding, and provision of new driveway and associated works.	No objections	Approved
17/02545/ HOUSE	1 School Road, Compton, RG20 6QU	Demolition of concrete garage and construction of two storey side extension with integral garage and single storey rear extension.	No objections	Approved
17/02650/ FUL	Champ Vert, High Street, Compton, RG20 6NL	Section 73A: Variation of Conditions 2: Approved plans, 3: Materials as specified of planning permission 15/01651/HOUSE.	Object	Approved

4322 To consider ratifying the hedge cutting work in the Recreation Ground

It was resolved to ratify the hedge cutting work.

An enquiry had been received from a resident of Lowbury Gardens suggesting the hedge has damaged the fencing to a neighbouring property. The parish council confirmed they believe the hedge belonged to Lady Wilson and the problem has been caused by the developers placing a fence between the hedge and the properties. The Clerk was requested to contact the resident to provide this information and to suggest they contact the developer.

4323 To consider a request for a donation to the Pang Valley Flood Forum and to consider our Flood Warden acting as a trustee to represent Compton

The Flood Warden had noted he would be acting as a trustee personally but will look after the interests of Compton.

It was resolved to make a donation of £100.

The Parish Council stated that they supported Peter McGeehin being a trustee but noted he would be acting as an individual. They also stated that they were very grateful for the significant expertise that Peter has supplied to the Parish Council.

4324 To consider whether to recruit a litter picker

The Parish Council resolved not to employ a litter picker as they felt there was no power under which they could do this.

Instead the Parish Council agreed to arrange a litter picking event. The kit is available to borrow from West Berkshire Council. The Clerk is to contact WBC and arrange to borrow the kit in February.

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Some members of the Parish Council were willing to provide refreshments as an encouragement to attend.

4325 To consider whether to instruct a quantity surveyor to calculate costings for the burial ground
It was resolved to instruct a quantity surveyor to calculate the costings subject to the planning application being approved at the Western Area Planning Committee meeting.

4326 To consider the purchase of Arnold Baker's Local Council Administration and Local Councils Explained
It was resolved to provide a budget of £130 to purchase the two books.

4327 To discuss the installation of a village sign
This was deferred.

4328 To consider quotes for the street lighting maintenance contract
This was deferred.

4329 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village
Nothing had been reported.

4330 To receive reports on the following:

a) Recreation Ground

An ambulance had had to enter the field and has left some ruts near the entrance. The Clerk is to contact Scofell to request repair of the ruts.

c) Rights of Way

The kissing gate to the field near the sewerage works has been damaged by the donkeys in the field and needs replacing. A new sign is needed for the footpath from Newbury Road through the woods to the field. AS will contact West Berkshire Council regarding both of these.

Although West Berkshire Council are happy with the hand rail down the steps that lead from the old station, the Parish Council still has concerns. It was suggested the landowner should be contacted.

The sign for the right of way on the footpath from Hockham Road to the Gallops is hidden in the hedge. AS will view this and report if necessary.

The ownership of the path from the Railway Bridge by the primary school to the pumping station was discussed. It is believed to be private land.

d) Village Hall

The Village Hall is looking for a new secretary. It was confirmed that the committee had seen the recent report in Compilations prior to its submission.

f) Patient Representation

Three doctors will soon be leaving the practice. Concerns were raised by the Parish Council about the ability to fill these positions given the current doctor shortage.

g) Communications

Concerns were raised regarding articles put in Compilations which was very specific to individuals. It was suggested that it may be worth considering introducing an editorial policy, to allow the editor to discuss with an editorial group whether something should be included if there is any doubt about the content. The Clerk/DA will discuss this suggestion with the editor.

h) Groundwater

The following report was received from the Flood Warden:

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The aquifer is now just 8% full and still falling at the rate of 0.1% each day. I have PVFF meetings with TWU and the EA scheduled for December and January to develop follow-up actions to the Birmingham University/WBGWS study. With these meetings in mind I have reviewed the study report in detail, circulated comments and looked at the technical literature on certain follow-up topics. I have been contacted by a firm of architects with expertise on flooding measures that identifies Beeswax Dyson amongst their clients and I will support their queries if the dialogue develops.

i) Parish Assets & Management

MB will arrange a meeting with the secretary of the Village Hall.

j) Neighbourhood Development Plan

A questionnaire is being drafted to be sent out with the next issue of Compilations. The initial meeting of the steering group will take place soon.

4331 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.

4332 Correspondence

The Correspondence Report was presented and is at Attachment 3.

An email had been received regarding the intention to light beacons to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 next year. Compton used to have a beacon on Lowbury Hill and it was suggested the Parish Council should seek to establish the landowner and request permission for a beacon to be placed there.

4333 Matters for future consideration and information

The draft budget was discussed, and the recommendation is to raise the precept to cover increasing costs. As there are an additional 26 houses in the parish, this will decrease the increase per household. It was suggested that reducing the cost of Compilations is worth investigation. It was requested that two questions should be added to the NDP survey regarding Compilations.

IT and the Clerk attended a course on the GDPR and will send round a copy of the notes.

Meeting closed 9:15pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:

➤ **Parish Council Meeting: Monday 8th January, 2018 at 7pm** in the Wilkins Centre

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Date