

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Monday 12th April 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 and M Birtwistle

In attendance: District Councillor B Alexander and R Palmer (Clerk)

The meeting opened at 7.05pm.

2034 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Councillors A Strong and P Whitworth

2035 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

P Shanks declared a personal interest in item 2048, Recreation Ground conifers

2036 To receive:

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

2037 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 March 2010

Proposed by MB, seconded by MP and carried

2038 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 1 March 2010

2030 MB said he had written an article on dog fouling for Compilations

2033 The Clerk said that the Millennium funds had been received by the Council

2039 Clerk's report

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

The Chairman said there was a possibility that the container for the gel flood bags could be stored at the Compton Swan; he would pursue and let the Clerk know.

2040 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

LM said that the last NAG meeting had been cancelled: the next was on 22nd April. She had written – and sent to Compilations - an update on what had happened following the NAG identification of the 3 priority areas of speeding, anti-social behaviour and vandalism in Compton. Her report is at Attachment 2

2041 To consider the results of the Young People's Activities Questionnaire

LM referred to her report – which is at Attachment 3 - but not all Councillors had received it, so LM was asked to circulate it. The Clerk was asked to put this item again on the next agenda

2042 To receive an update on the closure of the Institute for Animal Health

There was no further information

2043 To consider quotations received to improve the track that runs from Burrell Road to the Recreation Ground alongside the Village Hall (S106 grant of £11,776 available)

The Clerk said that 3 Parish Councillors (DA, BE and LM), himself and D Morris from the Village Hall and met Darrel Smith of TL Contracting last Friday. They had:

- Reviewed the scope of the quote received to improve the track and the car park and had asked for a new quote to include edging around the car park (except by the MUGA) and a larger area of car park.

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Chairman

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Date

- Requested a separate quote for resurfacing a 3-metre wide track along the back of the Village Hall to the eastern end of the compound and a 2-metre track running from it to the gate used by the playgroup children.

D Morris had contacted the Manager of the Day Centre who had said the Centre would close during the duration of the resurfacing work and they would like 1 month's notice of the dates to enable them to make alternative arrangements.

2044 To consider possible Highway safety improvements in Compton, given that a S106 grant of £23,500 is available

The Clerk said he was still awaiting a reply from WBC Highways concerning the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing and erecting speed signs; he was asked to chase WBC for a response. He was also asked to investigate the ownership of land at the front of Lowbury Gardens adjacent to Raceform, as Councillors were considering constructing a footpath there.

2045 To consider the outline proposals by Sovereign Housing for developments in Fairfields
Councillors DA, BE and LM had attended a meeting at which Sovereign representatives said that they planned to demolish flats and garages in Fairfields and build new flats and 5-7 houses. Sovereign will be holding an open public meeting when their plans are more advanced.

2046 To consider purchasing planters to stand by the new bus shelter and request the Scouts to maintain them

The Clerk was asked to contact AS to obtain her views on structure, design and costs so that a costed proposal could be brought to the next meeting.

2047 To consider an application for a grant from Compton Community First Responders

Councillors considered that this was a worthwhile venture to support and MB proposed a grant of £200. This was seconded by PS and was carried.

2048 To consider recommendations from WBC Tree Officer concerning the conifers on the Recreation Ground and consider a quotation to remove them

The Clerk said that he and DA had reviewed the trees that the WBC Tree Officer had recommended be felled and there were 16 in total. Following discussion, KS proposed that the trees be felled; this was seconded by BE and was carried.

DA had approached one possible contractor who had provided a quote and a specification of work he would carry out. It was agreed that the spec should be enhanced to include 'grinding out all stumps' and the Clerk was asked to seek a re-quote and obtain 2 more quotations.

2049 To consider sending a letter of complaint to West Berkshire Council concerning the state of Byway 2

As AS, who was drafting this letter, had been unable to attend this meeting the item was carried forward to the next meeting.

2050 To consider making an additional grant of £200 to Compton Bananaz to meet special additional expenditure

PS proposed the motion, which was seconded by MP and was carried.

2051 Planning Applications

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

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Chairman

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Date

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
10/00444/OUTD	Land adjacent to Downe Cottage, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Section 73 - Application for removal or variation of condition 11 of application 09/01415/OUTD	OBJECTION (See note 1 below) Proposed: MB Seconded: PS Carried
10/00520/REM	Land adjacent to Downe Cottage, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PG	Erection of dwelling following outline approval 09/01415/OUTD	NO OBJECTION Proposed: BE Seconded: DA Carried
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 Proposed: PS Seconded: BE Carried

Note 1: 10/00444/OUTD: Members believed it was better for condition 11 (complete removal of window overlooking new property) to remain rather than varying it to allow the existing glass to be replaced with opaque glass, as it could easily be changed back to clear glass in the future.

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
10/00171/HOUSE	Hamilton Cottages, Hockham Road, Compton RG20 6QL	Demolition of single storey bathrooms, refurbishment and upgrading of the properties and 2 storey side extensions to 1 and 2 Hamilton Cottages	No Objection	Granted

The Clerk was asked to write to WBC Planning to ascertain whether they notify applicants that Compton has a Village Design Statement and refer them to it on our website.

2052 **To receive a report from District Councillor Barbara Alexander**

As a general election had been called BS said that she did not wish to give a report.

2053 **To receive reports on the following:**

a) **Recreation Ground:**

- PS reported that the Recreation Ground had received its first cut of the year on a very wet day. The grass had cut up but had soon recovered. The Clerk was asked to check that the specification included a 'rough cut' around the perimeter and, if so, to bring this to the attention of our contractor.
- PS had replaced 'Dog exercise area' signs with 'No fouling' signs. The car park disclaimer signs had been received today and he would erect these.
- DA said one of the light columns in the car park was rusting badly at its base and PS agreed to investigate.

b) **Football Pavilion:** Nothing to report.

c) **Rights of Way:** Nothing to report.

d) **Village Hall:** MP said the heating system was defective and was being repaired.

e) **Downland Sports Centre:** PS reported that the rescheduled meeting had again been cancelled.

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

g) **Web site:** KS said he was putting details of local clubs etc onto the website.

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Chairman

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Date

2054 To approve cheques due for payment

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
01-Mar	102038	Greenfingers Trading Ltd	£399.99	Storage box for flood gel bags etc
19-Mar	102039	Southern Electric Contracting	£63.66	Rechargeable repairs, March 2010
18-Mar	102040	Southern Electric	£693.33	Street lighting maintenance charge, Q1 2010
30-Mar	102041	Berkshire Assoc. of Local Councils	£212.16	BALC annual subscription
30-Mar	102042	Community Council for Berkshire	£30.00	CCB annual subscription
29-Mar	102043	Southern Electric	£682.66	Unmetred supply charges, Q4 2009
11-Mar	102044	Thames Water	£26.77	School Road allotments charges to 3 March 2010
11-Mar	102045	Thames Water	£14.33	Newbury Lane allotments charges to 3 March 2010
01-Apr	102046	Ron Palmer	£562.52	Clerk's salary & expenses, 5 weeks to 4 April
31-Mar	102047	Mr D Moss	£55.00	Litter Picking - March
31-Mar	102048	Compton Bananaz	£200.00	Additional grant - minute 2050

The Clerk was asked to request Thames Water to take readings of the water metres at the allotments as recent bills had been based on estimated readings.

2055 Correspondence

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 4. Members were particularly asked to review the West Berkshire proposed Core Strategy (on 2 CDs), which included an updated Local Development Framework

2056 Matters for consideration and information

- The Clerk was asked to write to WBC Highways to request them to straighten the railings at the High Street end of the public footpath next to Compton barbers as it was difficult for wheelchair users to pass
- The Clerk was asked to include the following proposal on the next meeting agenda: ‘To demand that West Berkshire Council resurfaces the section of Churn Road that is currently unsurfaced’.
- MB said that most of the School Road allotment fees for 2010/11 had been received. Also, that a volunteer team from Baxters was shortly to restore an area that was currently unusable as an allotment
- The agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting was discussed. DA asked Councillors to send him a short written report covering the area for which they are responsible. The Clerk was asked to book the main hall for the meeting on May 17th.

The meeting closed at 8.58pm.

Forthcoming meetings:

- ◆ **Council Annual General Meeting:** Monday 10th May 2010 at 7pm
- ◆ **Annual Parish (Electors) Meeting:** Monday 17th May at 7.30pm

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