

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Monday 5th December 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors D Aldis (chair), P Shanks, M Pinfold, L Moss, A Strong, K Simms, T Kent and P Whitworth

In attendance: District Councillor Virginia von Celsing, the Parish Clerk and 3 members of the public

The meeting started at 7.00pm

2535 Apologies for absence

- Councillor M Birtwistle, who was abroad on business

2536 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

- LM declared a personal interest in the Downs School planning application – item 2557
- The Clerk declared a personal interest in the renewal of his SLCC membership – item 2554

2537 To receive:

- **Questions or comments from members of the public**
- **Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest**

A member of the public who worked at The Downs School spoke of the need for the new science block, its siting and the design considerations. See agenda item 2556 below.

2538 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 November 2011

Proposed by MP, seconded by PS and carried. They were then signed by the Chairman.

2539 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 7 November 2011

There were none that were not covered by items on this agenda.

2540 To receive an update from the West Berkshire Council Planning Officers who are planning for the future of the IAH site, which includes production of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The chairman welcomed Dawn Reid and Liz Alexander who then gave a brief status report on progress on the SPD since they attended the Annual Parish Meeting last May. Dawn said that a web page had been set up and 2 consultation events had been held, one with the Downs School Council in July and another at the Compton Swan in September, which had been attended by over 100 people, 73 of whom had completed questionnaires. She had also provided brief updates in 3 editions of Compilations; there were now over 150 email addresses on the consultation list.

It was agreed that the first draft of the SPD would be discussed at the February meeting of Compton Parish Council before it was subject to a 6-week consultation exercise. Following updating, West Berkshire Councillors would be asked to approve it.

2541 To receive a report from the sub-committee set up to open discussions with Powis-Hughes on how best the Parish Council can support BBSRC in its withdrawal from the village

AS said there was nothing to report this month. DA felt the sub-committee remit should be widened and asked them to bring to the next meeting draft Terms of Reference which would include producing updated design guidelines (see 2555 below). He believed we should soon start looking at the contents and benefits of a Neighbourhood Development Plan, which is part of the Localism Bill.

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Chairman

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2542 To consider the Clerk's report

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

- 4: Pang clearance: The Clerk said he was in discussions with the Youth Offending Team about a young offender spending time picking up the litter that had been exposed by the recent removal of the vegetation etc.
- 6. Skip: Enquiries had been made concerning a skip and a JCB and these plans now needed to be co-ordinated to agree a suitable date to clear the area behind the football pavilion.
- 7: Floodlights: The Clerk had contacted SSE Contracting who had now redirected the light from the offending floodlight down onto the MUGA
- 10. Pavilion sockets: MP reported that the extra sockets had now been fitted
- 11. Allotment fencing: The Clerk is trying to convene a meeting with interested parties

2543 To receive feedback from a meeting on rural broadband and consider any financial implications

KS and the Clerk had attended a meeting on 29 November and KS summarised the main points of the initiative, which would enable all households in Compton to receive superfast broadband if parish councils agreed to top up the other funding provided by the government and West Berkshire Council (WBC). KS proposed that Compton PC should confirm to WBC that they supported the proposal. This was seconded by TK and was carried.

DA said that members should consider how to fund the £7,213 required from the Parish Council over 3 years, as budget decisions would be taken at the next Council meeting. KS had a number of questions to ask WBC, answers to which he believed would help the decision-making process.

2544 To receive feedback from the last Downlands JAC meeting and consider the Council's financial contribution

KS reported on the extraordinary meeting of the JAC that had been held on 28 November. He said that the role of the committee had changed from a Management to an Advisory one following the decision of West Berkshire Council (WBC) to contract with Parkwood Leisure to run the leisure centre. The JAC had agreed a motion that it would be disbanded upon receipt of a minuted decision by Compton Parish Council (PC) that it would withdraw from its advisory role.

KS proposed that Compton PC withdraw from its advisory role and cease its payments, but invite the new operational group (WBC, Park Leisure and Downs School) to provide a report to the Annual Compton Parish meeting in May. This was seconded by DA and was carried.

2545 To receive an update on the 2011/12 financial position (actuals vs budget)

The Clerk presented the financial update which is at Attachment 2 and answered questions.

2546 To consider the draft Council Budget for 2012/13

The Clerk presented an initial draft Council budget for 2012/13. The Chairman asked members to study it so that financial decision could be made at the next meeting in January and a precept agreed.

2547 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village

LM had nothing to report. DA said there had been an incidence of fly-tipping; MP said he had cleared this up.

2548 To receive from the sub-committee set up to consider use of the Recreation Ground football pitches proposed contracts to be signed by the football clubs

DA thanked the sub-committee for producing 3 contracts between the Parish Council and The Lion (Newbury), CSA Under 11's and CSA 7-8 years old. MP asked for the charge in the contract with CSA 7-8 years old to be changed from £5 per game to £5 per week. KS proposed that the amended contracts, which are included at Attachment 3, be accepted. This was seconded by LM and was carried. MP agreed to sign and issue the contracts to each team for signature and then act as the liaison person between the Council and the football teams.

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2549 To receive an update on the current churchyard situation

The Clerk said there was nothing to report this month.

2550 To consider possible celebrations / events in Compton to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen in 2012

TK said that a number of local people wanted to be involved in the preparations including councillors LM, AS and PS. She had arranged an initial meeting to take place on 15 December. It was thought there were around 130 children at the Primary School and probably around 400 children in total. Commemoration mugs could be purchased for around £1.25 each.

KS said Councillors could perhaps approach local businesses for sponsorship.

2551 To receive feedback on a meeting with Park Leisure and consider their quote of £2,330 + VAT to install ball netting behind the MUGA

KS and the Clerk had attended a meeting with Park Leisure. Their view was that expensive nets behind the MUGA would not be practical; members agreed. Following discussion about the vandalised MUGA gates, PS offered to weld them in the New Year. The chairman thanked him for his kind offer which was accepted by Councillors.

2552 To approve a quote of £687 + VAT to repair the water leak on School Road allotments

Proposed by DA, seconded by TK and carried

2553 To approve the purchase of an extra salt/grit bin at a cost of £192 + VAT (to be located in Whitewalls Close)

Proposed by DA, seconded by KS and carried

2554 To renew the clerk’s membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks - annual cost of £97

Proposed by DA, seconded by MP and carried

2555 To review the updated Design Guidelines, which form part of the Village Design Statement

Consideration of updated design guidelines was postponed until the next meeting.

2556 To consider planning application 11/01766/COMIND to build a new 12 laboratory science block etc at The Downs School, following a site visit on 1 December

Members had already objected to the design of the new science block because it was contrary to the Village Design guidelines, although they appreciated the need for the facility. They decided not to attend the Area Planning Committee meeting on 8 December, but asked District Councillor VvC to ensure their views were represented. AS agreed to produce a statement and circulate to Councillors before forwarding to VvC.

2557 Planning Applications

a) To consider the following planning applications:

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/02224/HOUSE	14 Whitewalls Close, Compton RG20 6QG	Single storey side extension	NO OBJECTION Proposer: DA Seconder: AS Carried
11/02239/HOUSE	14 Whitewalls Close, Compton RG20 6QG	Single storey side extension and two storey front extension	NO OBJECTION Proposed: AS Seconded: KS Carried

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App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/02277/FULD	Pangside, School Road, Compton RG20 6QU	Construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings with associated access, amenity space and parking on the land to the rear of Pangside, School Road	OBJECTION (See Note 1) Proposed: KS Seconded: MP Carried
Note 1: Members believed this would be overdevelopment of this site, which is suitable only for a single dwelling. The buildings are too close to the boundaries with 77 and 79 Burrell Road. Traffic, including a single width drive, would mean that vehicle access / exit would be a problem			

11/02292/OUTD	4 Ilsley Gardens, Ilsley Road, Compton RG20 7PF	Outline application for Erection of 1 detached dwelling with associated parking on land adjacent to 4 Ilsley Gardens. Matters to be considered: Access and Layout	OBJECTION (See Note 2) Proposed: AS Seconded: PW Carried
Note 2: Compton Parish Councillors felt that this application was overdevelopment of this site. They also object to building on land that has previously flooded. Vehicle access arrangements were also unclear			

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Compton PC Recommendation	WBC Decision
11/01789/FUL	The Downs School, Manor Crescent, Compton RG20 6NU	Erect enclosure for existing pool with incorporated male and female changing rooms	NO OBJECTION	GRANTED
11/01850/LBC2	Forge House, 1 Horn Street, Compton RG20 6QS	Removal of garage doors, and addition of new windows, internal improvements etc.	NO OBJECTION	GRANTED

2558 To receive a report from our District Councillor, Virginia von Celsing

Our District Councillor gave a brief report on:

- A recent meeting with Sovereign Housing, at which she obtained National Housing Federation documents on affordable rural housing, which she gave to the Clerk
- A forthcoming meeting with Newbury Weekly News on IAH developments
- The recent meeting on superfast rural broadband

There was also a discussion on a possible rural exception site at the IAH and DA asked VvC to investigate and report back.

2559 To receive reports on the following:

- e) **Allotments:** The Clerk had still to arrange a meeting to discuss Newbury Lane allotment fencing.
- g) **Patient representation:** AS said the local surgery no longer had the capability to take blood samples

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2560 To approve cheques due for payment

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
16-Nov	102188	K P Voller	£320.00	Renovation of Compton war memorial
25-Nov	102189	Society of Local Council Clerks	£97.00	Clerk's membership fees for 2012
29-Nov	102190	R M Weavers	£1,201.20	Grounds maintenance for November 2011 + Pang clearance
30-Nov	102191	D Moss	£55.00	Litter picking - November
04-Dec	102192	Ron Palmer	£468.42	Clerk's salary etc for 4 weeks to 4th December

2561 Correspondence

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 4. The Clerk was asked to send to members the link to the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations consultation on the Department for Communities and Local Government website.

2562 Matters for consideration and information

There were none.

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Next meeting, in the Welstead Room, Village Hall, Burrell Road, Compton:

- **Council Meeting Monday 9th January 2012 at 7pm**

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Chairman

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Date