

Compton Parish Council

Chairman: Dave Aldis

Clerk: Ron Palmer

MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING (AGM)

Held on **Monday 9th May 2011 at 7pm** in the Welstead Room, Compton Village Hall.

Those present: Councillors P Shanks, M Pinfold, L Moss, K Simms, M Birtwistle, A Strong and P Whitworth

In attendance: R Palmer (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

The meeting opened at 7.05pm with the Clerk in the Chair.

2337 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from the Parish Council Chairman D Aldis (who was in hospital) and our new District Councillor Virginia van Celsing

2338 Any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest by members or the Clerk

LM declared a prejudicial interest in item 2366 (Litter picker)

2339 Election of Chairman of Council for the year 2011/12

The Clerk said that Dave Aldis had agreed to stand again. MP proposed Dave Aldis be Chairman, this was seconded by PW and was carried unanimously.

2340 Election of Vice-Chairman of Council for the year 2011/12

MP proposed Mark Birtwistle, this was seconded by LM and was carried unanimously. MB then took the Chair.

2341 Declarations of acceptance of office of Chairman for the year 2011/12

The Chairman did not sign a declaration as he was unable to attend this meeting – see agenda item 2337 above.

2342 Declarations of acceptance of office by all Councillors for the period 2011 to 2015

The 7 Councillors present signed their declarations and took away their Register of Interest Forms to complete and return to the Clerk.

2343 To consider co-opting a person to fill the one vacancy on the Council

It was agreed that a notice advertising the vacancy should be put on the notice board and that anyone wishing to become a Councillor should submit a brief statement (preferably by email) to the Clerk and Councillor Birtwistle who would distribute to other members. Candidates would then be invited to attend the Council meeting on 6th June, when existing Councillors would decide who should be co-opted.

2344 To receive:

➤ Questions or comments from members of the public

➤ Representations from any member who has declared a prejudicial interest

A question was asked about the publicity for the talk at the Annual Parish meeting on 16th May. The Clerk said that there was no opportunity to use Compilations as the topic had only recently been selected. A poster had been displayed on the Notice Board in the High Street and he also hoped to get it advertised in this week's Newbury Weekly News.

Questions were also asked about planning application 10/03147/OUTD – see agenda item 2368

2345 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 April 2011

Proposed by AS, seconded by LM and carried. They were then signed by the Vice-Chairman.

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Chairman

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Date

2346 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting on 4 April 2011

There were none.

2347 To consider the need for a Planning Committee and appoint Committee representatives

KS proposed that all Councillors should be members of the Planning Committee; this was seconded by PW and was carried. AS was proposed as the Committee Chairperson by PW; this was seconded by LM and was carried.

Members thanked Mr G Evans for his work as the previous Chairman of the Planning Committee and for his offer to continue as a planning consultant to the Council. PS proposed that Mr Evans be co-opted to the Planning Committee; this was seconded by KS and was carried.

2348 To confirm the Terms of Reference and Delegated Responsibilities (v2 April 2009)

KS proposed that these be approved. This was seconded by AS and was carried.

2349 To agree Parish Council representation and areas of responsibility for members

The following were confirmed as representatives of the Council:

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

Members agreed to accept responsibilities in the following areas

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

2350 To agree dates of forthcoming meetings in 2011/12

The following dates were agreed:

- 2011: June 6, July 4, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5
- 2012: January 9, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 14 (AGM), May 21 (APM)

2351 To agree that the Chairman be given an allowance of £100 for 2011/12

PS proposed that the allowance remains at £100; this was seconded by PW and was carried

2352 To agree an expenses policy for other Councillors

AS proposed that the previous policy, agreed on 11 May 2009 (minute 1800) be ratified, except that the mileage allowance at the HMRC non-taxable rate had recently increased to 45p/mile. This was seconded by PS and was carried.

2353 Clerk's report

The Clerk went through his report, which is at Attachment 1. It was noted that he is on holiday from 22 May to 5 June.

2354 To accept the quotation of £155 for Heelis and Lodge to act as Internal Auditor

Proposed by KS, seconded by MP and carried.

2355 To approve and sign the 2010/11 accounting statements and section 1 of the Annual Return

Members wished to study the figures before approving them, so this item will be carried forward to the extra meeting which will be held on 16th May.

2356 To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement – section 2 of the Annual Return

Members wished to study the figures before approving them, so this item will be carried forward to the extra meeting which will be held on 16th May.

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Chairman

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Date

2357 To renew the Council insurance with Aviva from 1 June 2011 at a cost of £1,412.64 (£1,430.06 in 2010), sign a new 3-year agreement and thus get free insurance for the period 1 June 2012 to 30 September 2012
Proposed by KS, seconded by PS and carried.

2358 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village
LM reported that there had been a few more incidents in the village recently and that the PCSO was making more visits. She said the boat parked on the road that was causing a nuisance had been raised with the police.

2359 To receive a report on the actions being taken to investigate the possible continuance of service provision at the Downlands Day Care Centre after it closes in September
No report was available.

2360 To receive an update on the redevelopment of Fairfield
The Clerk said that a new planning application had now been received and this would be considered at the extra meeting on 16th May.

2361 To receive an update on the current churchyard situation
The Clerk said he had received a letter from the owner of land that could possibly be used as an extension to the existing churchyard. The owner would discuss the situation with his agent and would then contact the Council again.

2362 To consider the Periodic Testing & Inspection Report on the electric circuitry in the football pavilion and approve the necessary work
The Clerk said he had only received the report and quote for the required work over the weekend so could not obtain other quotes for this meeting. Members discussed the report and, because of the safety implications, agreed that the Pavilion should not be used again until the urgent work had been done – MP would communicate this to current users.

Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to discuss with the contractor the cost of carrying out the essential repairs and ascertain when the work could be carried out, bearing in mind that it had to be completed before the village fete on 2nd July.

2363 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 the sub-committee had not met since the last meeting, but she intended to make contact again with Powis-Hughes shortly.

2364 To receive a report from the sub-committee set up to consider use of the Recreation Ground football pitches
The sub-committee had not met since the last meeting; PW agreed to set up a meeting.

2365 To consider the Annual Parish meeting to be held on 16th May
The Clerk asked for outstanding reports to be sent to him as soon as possible as it was the intention to copy reports and make them available to the public, to save time by avoiding the necessity to read out each report at the meeting.

2366 To consider changing the contract of the Village Litter Picker and increasing the number of litter bins and/or changing their locations
Councillors agreed that an excellent job was being done. Before making a decision to change the contract of the Litter Picker, they asked that more details be available of hours currently worked, any seasonal pattern, where he works etc. LM was asked to bring this information to the June meeting.

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Chairman

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Date

2367 **To consider purchasing a new dog waste bin to be located on one of the new floodlight columns at the boundary of the Recreation Ground and car park at a cost of £248 + VAT**
Proposed by PS, seconded by KS and carried.

2368 **Planning Applications**

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

App. Ref.	Location	Proposed Work	Recommendation
11/00430/LBC 11/00431/HOUSE	Old Post Office, Cheap Street, Compton RG20 6NH	Demolition of existing glazed roof and rebuilding at steeper pitch to be covered in natural slate. Alterations to external openings and garden wall and steps. Alterations to internal walls, new glazed screen and alterations to staircase.	NO OBJECTION Proposed: LM Seconded: AS Carried
10/03147/OUTD	Land at The Laurels, Ilsley Road, Compton, RG20 7PG	Erection of 3 detached dwellings with associated parking – additional drawings / amended plans have been received.	See note 1 below

Note 1: Members believed that improvements had been made which met some of their objections to the original application. They were still, however, concerned at the additional traffic entering Ilsley Road which would result from the development

b) To receive a report on West Berkshire Council recent planning decisions
There were none.

2369 **To receive a report from District Councillor Virginia van Celsing**

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

2370 **To receive reports on the following:**

- a) **Recreation Ground:** PS said the grass cutting contractor was continuing to do a good job
- c) **Rights of Way:** Footpath 4a - AS said she had received a number of complaints about the state of this footpath which was badly overgrown and was almost unusable. She asked the Clerk to contact the IAH manager responsible for its maintenance.
- d) **Village Hall:** 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 2nd July.
- e) **Allotments:** MB reported that Mr P Clark would take over as School Road Allotments Manager on 1st June
- h) **Parish Council Web Site:** KS said that the website, which had been attacked by a hacker, was now up again and he would bring the documentation up to date shortly.

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Chairman

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Date

2371 To approve cheques due for payment

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

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Description
26-Apr	102135	Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00	Donation (in 2011/12 budget)
30-Apr	102136	Campaign to protect rural England	£30.00	Annual subscription (in 2011/12 budget)
30-Apr	102137	D Moss	£64.56	Litter picking - April + black bags
30-Apr	102138	Ron Palmer	£465.76	Clerk's salary etc for 4 weeks to 30th April
04-May	102139	CCB	£30.00	Annual subscription (in 2011/12 budget)
18-Apr	102140	Broker Network Ltd	£1,412.64	Aviva insurance from 1 June 2011 to 30 September 2012

2372 Correspondence

The Correspondence list is at Attachment 2.

- MUGA: Following discussion, the Clerk was asked to reply to the email about the MUGA saying the Council was looking into options to reduce the incidence of balls leaving the play area. He was asked to contact the suppliers to seek their views
- Overgrown hedges: The Clerk was asked to reply to the email about overgrown hedges saying that some trees bordering the Council allotments had been cut back and that the others were on private land. There was general agreement that some vans were going too fast up this private road.

2373 Matters for consideration and information

- PW had watered 4 of the trees planted last year on the Recreation Ground during the recent dry weather
- LM asked the Clerk to report a faulty street light in Manor Crescent
- KS asked the Clerk to reply to an email saying that the large football pitch could not be used until mid-August because of remedial work being undertaken on it.

The meeting closed at 9.57pm.

Forthcoming meetings:

- ◆ **Annual Parish (Electors) Meeting:** Monday 16th May at 7.30pm
Followed by a short Council meeting
- ◆ **Council Meeting** Monday 6th June at 7pm

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 Chairman

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 Date