

# COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 4th February 2015.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Diane Churches, Irene Parsons, John Rowland, and Hugh Thomas.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stanislaw Berkieta (Parish Clerk)

There were 2 members of the general public present

### Public Participation

Mr Chris Higgs raised the issue of Hurst Drove, requesting that the Council consider action to return the section now considered as a footpath to a byway open to all traffic. The entire Drove could then be classified as a "Cycle Way" which would benefit the community.

#### 129.1 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs. Greg Jones, Graham Napper and Sue Solle sent their apologies for absence due to other commitments and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept them and the reasons given. Cllr. Dean Ruddle sent his apologies.

#### 129.2 Declarations of Interest – Cllr John Rowland declared an interest in 129.4 (b)/1

#### 129.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2015 as a true record.

Cllr Hugh Thomas signed the minutes.

#### 129.4 Planning

a) Notifications of district council planning determinations

- 14/05162/FUL: Mr & Mrs King, Linden Lea, Hayes Road, Compton Dundon, TA11 6PF. Erection of an extension to a dwelling house (GR:347954/132752). **PERMISSION GRANTED.**
- 14/04153/REM: Mr & Mrs M Searle, Land adjacent to Laws Farm, Middleway, Compton Street TA11 6PS. Erection of 2 dwellings and the formation of new vehicular and pedestrian access. **PERMISSION GRANTED.**
- 14/04971/PAMB: Mr John Rowland, Beacon Bottom, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon, TA11 6NZ. Prior approval for change of use of agricultural storage building to dwelling. (GR:348315/131860). **PLANNING PERMISSION NECESSARY.**
- 14/04975/PAMB: Mr John Rowland, Land OS7314, Street Road, Compton Dundon. Prior approval for the change of use of a covered cattle yard into residential (GR:348315/131860). **PLANNING PERMISSION NECESSARY**

#### b) Planning and legal consultations

- 15/00170/FUL: Land at Lockyers Farm, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon. The erection of an eco-structure to provide staff accommodation (GR: 347843/132244).  
Following a discussion of the application in relation to the approved long term development plan and the associated conditions, by a majority decision it was **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**  
Cllr Rowland did not participate in the vote.

#### c) Other planning related issues

1. The Clerk reported that following a visit by SSDC Inspectors, work at Coombe Hollow was deemed not to require planning approval.
2. Cllr Rowland advised that Somerton Council had been offered financial compensation by the developers of the solar farm but had taken no decision. Since the only effected residents are in Dundon he recommended that the Clerk clarifies the position.

#### 129.5 Accounts.

a) The Clerk gave the following report on bank account reconciliation:

|  |  |                  |
|--|--|------------------|
| Treasurers A/C Statement at 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2015            |  | <b>3,883.91</b>  |
| Less - Unpresented cheques 000861 and 000875                         |  | <b>200.96</b>    |
| Plus - Uncleared lodgments 500149 M Selwood allotment                |  | <b>10.00</b>     |
| Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2015     |  | <b>3,692.95</b>  |
| Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 |  | <b>23,535.41</b> |
| Overall Bank Balance   |  | <b>27,228.36</b> |
| Overall Ledger Book Balance  |  | <b>27,228.36</b> |

The following cheques and transfers were tabled for approval

|   |        |        |
|---|--------|--------|
| SSDC Parish Ranger Oct inv. no.06000022229x | 000876 | 150.96 |
| Shaw & Sons inv. No 0000242220 Minutes Book | 000877 | 149.69 |
| J Osborne Xmas Tree                         | 000878 | 130.00 |
| Parish Magazine Printing inv. No 0613       | 000879 | 59.30  |
| SALC inv no 447 – Training Seminar          | 000880 | 25.00  |
| Clerk salary & expenses CD120               | 000881 | 368.00 |
| HMRC – Paye month 10                        | 000882 | 72.20  |
| D Shears ROW – wheelbarrow wheel            | 000883 | 19.82  |

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the cheque payments.

b) The Clerks reported that the Precept notification had been submitted to SSDC on schedule.

#### **129.6 Reports**

a) **Report from the County Councillor** – none received.

b) **Reports from District Councillors** – none received

c) **Report of the Chairman** - Cllr Hugh Thomas read out a letter from David Moores who has for many years cut grass and hedges at The Cross and now intends to retire. Councillors unanimously expressed their sincere thanks for the voluntary work and instructed the Clerk to send a letter to Mr Moores and to look for a new volunteer.

d) **Report from the Police** – Beat Manager Toni Lines reported that 57 crimes had been investigated in Area North in January 2015 and 24 arrests made, however none of the crimes were in the Parish.

e) **Rights of Way report**

Parish volunteers met on 11<sup>th</sup> January and removed the Council's Christmas tree at the Cross and will be attending a training course on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

f) **Report of the Village Hall Committee** – January minutes received and noted.

#### **129.7 Highways Report –**

Highways work on gullies on the B3151 was noted. A further pothole item was added to the list

#### **129.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision**

a) May election issues – The Clerk advised that he would have nomination forms for new councilors by 2<sup>nd</sup> March and that any councilor seeking re-election needed to ensure completion of the forms and delivery to the specified Officer. Information regarding the election will be posted on the website, notice boards and included in the newsletter. Since the election is on 7<sup>th</sup> May the Council needs to reconsider the date of the May meetings. It was **RESOLVED** that the Annual Parish Meeting would remain on the 6<sup>th</sup> May but that the May Parish Council meeting would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May

b) The Transparency Code for smaller authorities – The Clerk explained that the Code is likely to be placed before Parliament in March with elements coming into force in July 2015 and April 2016. The main effect was the need to put Agendas on the website and to ensure more financial expenditure information in the Minutes.

c) Community Car schemes – Cllr Hugh Thomas explained the concept and advised that at this stage there was no firm plan being tabled but the Newsletter report has elicited several volunteers.

d) Renewal of Somerset Wildlife subscription – It was **RESOLVED** to pay the £30 annual subscription.

e) Donation to Citizens Advice Bureau – It was **RESOLVED** to grant £50 to CAB.

f) Viewing times and locations for the South Somerset Local Plan – noted.

g) The recent meeting with BT re: poor broadband services – Cllr Hugh Thomas described the results of the meeting and the specific problems the Parish has with regard to the split Exchange connections. Cost sharing is an option for --44 numbers but is expensive. For --27 numbers a BT survey is required but we could be at the back of the queue.

#### **129.9 Correspondence for information**

The following correspondence was received in January and circulated to Councillors: David Heath Somerton meeting 21<sup>st</sup> February, Somerset Waste Partnership briefing, Somerset Community Foundation (disadvantaged community grants), Rural vulnerability service (Broadband); SSDC Rural Lettings Policy; SSDC introduction of 03 number; Microchipping in Yeovil 4/2&20/2; Rural Services Network bulletins; Fields in Trust; Rural Community support funding under threat campaign.

#### **129.10 Councillors' requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting**

- Right of Way document 2

- Financial Regulations review

#### **129.11 Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council.**

The next formal meeting **was confirmed as 7pm, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21:04

Signed as a true record .....

Cllr. Greg Jones (Chairman)

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015