

COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 7th October 2015.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Diane Churches, Greg Jones, Tiffany Kearton, Stephen King, Vicki Olivier, Geoffrey Walker and Hugh Thomas.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dean Ruddle (SCC and SSDC), Stephen Page (SSDC), Stanislaw Berkietta (Parish Clerk)
There were 24 members of the general public present.

Public Participation

Mr. Les Taylor requested that the Council take action to have the 50mph stretch of road B3151 between Littleton and Compton Dundon reduced to a uniform 40mph. There has been a series of accidents on that stretch of road over the past 18 months with cars ending up in the adjacent field. On that stretch of road is a retail operation at Tweenways, an entrance into Millway Farm Caravan Site a bus stop and entrance/exit into Peak Lane.

138.1 Apologies for Absence – not applicable.

138.2 Declarations of Interest –

G Jones declared a prejudicial interest in item 138.4 b) 1 and a personal interest in 138.4 b) 2; V Olivier declared a pecuniary interest in item 138.4 b) 2 and H Thomas declared a personal interest in item 138.4 b) 1.

138.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd September 2015 and Cllr Greg Jones signed the minutes as a true record.

138.4 Planning

a) Notifications of district council planning determinations

1. 15/01319/S73: Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Searle, Land at Laws Farm, Middle Way, Compton Dundon, TA11 6PS. (GR:349207/133310). Section 73 application to vary conditions 1 and 7 of planning approval 14/04153/REM – **PERMISSION GRANTED with conditions.**

2. 15/03476/TPO: Mrs. S. Ray, Land at the Hood Monument, Behind Town, Compton Dundon BA6 8TP. Application to carry out surgery works to one oak tree within SSDC TPO (CODU12(2012, (GR: 349591/133808) – **CONSENT GRANTED.**

b) Responses to planning and legal consultations

1. 15/03900/FUL: Mr. & Mrs. Witcombe, Land at Decoy Farm, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon, TA11 6NZ. Demolition of two agricultural buildings and conversion of remaining buildings to form five dwellings with associated access, turning, parking and gardens (GR: 348540/131622).

► At this point Cllr Jones left the meeting and Cllr Thomas took the Chair

Following lengthy discussion wherein the Council expressed its support for a development on this site, by a majority decision it was **RESOLVED** not to support the application on the grounds that the density of build was too great for the assigned plot and that the conversion of existing structures rather than a stone build would create a development not in sympathy with the remaining older building.

► Cllr Jones rejoined the meeting and assumed the Chair

2. 15/03888/OUT: Mr S Attwell, Land East of 9 Ham Lane, Compton Dundon, TA11 6PQ. Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and formation of associated accesses. Alteration of existing access to 9 Ham Lane. (GR: 348030/132741).

► At this point Cllr Olivier left the meeting

This application had been consulted with the Council on an earlier occasion and discussion was therefore limited. By a majority decision it was **RESOLVED** not to support the application. Specific concerns were the precedent that would be caused for building on the north side of Ham Lane beyond Meadway Hall and the adverse consequences of a residential build next to an important business for the Parish.

► Cllr Olivier rejoined the meeting

c) Other planning related issues

1. Consultation on proposals from Mr. B. Brereton for the completion of the Shepherds Close development. A series of questions from councilors regarding site contamination, housing needs, building regulations, landscaping, eco features, development size etc. had been earlier forwarded to Mr Brereton and Cllr Jones reported the responses. Further questions were raised and discussed regarding the highly dangerous B3151, the narrowness of pavement and the lack of crossing points right through Compton Dundon.

138.5 Accounts.

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 7 October 2015		4,481.47
Less - Unpresented cheques:		0
Plus - Uncleared lodgments: Dep 500157 Allotment Rent		90.00
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 7 October 2015		4,571.47
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 7 October 2015		31,866.20
Overall Bank Balance		36,437.67
Overall Ledger Book Balance		36,437.67

b) The following cheques were tabled for approval

SSDC Directory printing inv 08110008812	000926	35.97
J Parry grass cutting inv 06	000927	129.50
Village Hall inv 44/15	000928	32.00
NALC Local Council Award scheme registration inv13319	000929	15.00
Parish Magazine Printing inv 0941	000930	75.28
SLCC membership renewal 2015/16	000931	88.00
Clerk salary & expenses CD128	000932	330.91
HMRC – Paye month 6	000933	72.20
Total value of cheques		778.86

It was **RESOLVED** that the payments were approved and the cheques to be signed.

138.6 Reports

a) Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Ruddle reported that he had received and signed off on a Health and Well Being grant for the MUGA project. He advised that the SIS Highways project form had been given to the Clerk in relation to the Stock Elm issues. He also advised that SCC had a large funding gap of approx. £30 million which will require attention and may impact child and elderly care issues.

b) Reports from District Councillors

Cllr Page advised of two big issues facing the Council including Westland's future and SSDC involvement as well as potential future partnerships with other Districts – the aim being sharing of services to reduce overall costs.

c) **Report of the Chairman** – nothing specific to report.

d) **Report from the Police** – The report from Terri Lines was noted.

e) Rights of Way report

David Shears reported that The Parish volunteers met on 9th August and cleared paths on Lollover Hil and met on 13th September to plan future work schedules.

f) **Report of the Village Hall Committee** – The September reports was noted and Cllr King apologized for missing the October meeting due to scheduling difficulties.

138.7 Highways Report

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Council would formally apply for a grant under SCC's Highways Small Improvements Scheme to try to resolve the Stock Elms issues.

The "on-line" report of Highways issues was reviewed with no new issues identified.

138.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- Review of the contract for hedge cutting – The Chair reported that in accordance with last year's decision certain annual contracts would be re-tendered each 3 years unless performance was unsatisfactory. In line with this decision he recommended awarding the 2015 contract for hedge cutting to B Green & Sons and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation.
- Review of the requirements for Quality Gold Award accreditation under the Local Council Award scheme – Cllr Jones suggested that a sub-committee be created to complete a gap analysis and recommend action to progress to the Gold Award. Cllrs Kearton and Walker volunteered to participate in the work.
- Update on the Village Hall MUGA project – Mr. Gordon a member of the working party proposing the project outlined the capital cost, annual maintenance issues, insurance requirements, caretaking options and inspection routines. Following a discussion it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Council would initiate action to deliver the project.
- An update on allotments - The Clerk reported that an allotment had been vacated by a tenant and reassigned to the first named on the waiting list. There are currently two other waiting list names. All tenants are up to date with payments.

138.9 Correspondence for information

The following correspondence was received in September and circulated to Councillors: Somerset Waste Partnership September briefings; SLCC Regional Roadshow; Fields in Trust Sept update; SSDC Area North Committee; SSDC new printing costs; OS mapping data; Heart of the Levels Group events schedule; SWT Sept newsletter; DCLG conference invitation; Rural Services Network (Fuel Poverty, Rural policing matters; Email weekly news digests,)

138.10 **Councillors' requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting** – no requests.

138.11 **Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as scheduled for 7pm, 4th Nov 2015.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9:32pm

Signed as a true record
Cllr. Greg Jones (Chairman)

Date: 4th November 2015