

COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 3rd February 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Diane Churches, 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 5 members of the general public present.

Public Participation

Doug Wright requested the Council to take action to protect property on Ham Lane from excessive and dangerous speeds of heavy goods and farm vehicles. He drew the Council's attention to the fact that a number of properties including his own barn have little or no verge between themselves and the highway.

142.1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Greg Jones sent his apologies for absence due to other work commitments. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies and the reason for absence.

142.2 Declarations of Interest - None at this stage

142.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th January 2016 and Cllr Hugh Thomas signed the minutes as a true record.

142.4 Planning

(a) Notifications of district council planning determinations

1. Appeal related to 14/04971/PAMB: Beacon Bottom, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon – Prior approval for change of use of agricultural storage building to dwelling. **APPEAL DISMISSED.**

2. Appeal related to 1404975/PAMB: Land OS7314 Street Road, Compton Dundon – Prior approval for change of use of a covered cattle yard into residential. **APPEAL DISMISSED**

(b) Responses to planning and legal consultations

- 1. 16/00178/FUL: Mr Adrian Smith, Manor Farm Barns, Littleton, TA11 6NP. Erection of a polytunnel in a small agricultural field (a smallholding); (GR: 349064/130541)

- Following a brief discussion of the application the Council unanimously **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

- .(c) Other planning related issues

1. 15/05581/REM amended plans received - Cllr Vicki Olivier reported that she had reviewed the amendments and thought they were significant enough to warrant a meeting to reconsider the PC recommendation. It was agreed to call the meeting for 10th February at 19:00.

2. Shepherds Close – Cllr Greg Jones reported in writing that Compton Commercials were to begin clearing the new part for surveys and that building regulations were to be submitted for plot 7-10A this week

3. Enquiries related to the plot next to Clarendon House have been received by the Council and forwarded to the relevant Planning Officers who have confirmed they will be investigating the matter.

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 3 rd February 2016		6,275.26
Less - Unpresented cheques:		0
Plus - Uncleared lodgments:		0
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 3 rd February 2016		6,275.26
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 3 rd February 2016		29,703.50
Overall Bank Balance		35,978.76
Overall Ledger Book Balance		35,978.76

(b) The following cheques and transfers were tabled for approval

Parish Magazine inv 1080	000955	100.20
SSDC Parish Ranger inv 6000026809 December	000956	150.96
St Andrews PCC Churchyard maintenance grant	000957	500.00
Playdale Playgrounds – Deposit on new swing	000958	2,256.01
Somerset Wildlife subscription	000959	30.00
Clerk salary & expenses CD132	000960	302.27
HMRC – Paye month 10	000961	57.80
Total value of cheques		3,397.24

Cllr Tiffany Kearton reported that she had reviewed the reconciliation between ledger and bank statements and that these agreed with the figures above.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments and for the cheques to be signed.

142.6 Reports

(a) Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Dean Ruddle advised that the full Council was meeting on 17 February. It was expected that a significant increase in domestic taxation would generate approximately £8MM in extra revenue but still leave a budget deficit of some £17MM. He reported that the Somerset Council leader was actively pursuing a project to create a University in Somerset. He also commented on changes to the Community Infrastructure Levy which in his opinion unfairly treated rural communities without Neighbourhood Plans.

(b) Reports from District Councillors

Cllr Stephen Page commented on the continuing talks between South Somerset and Sedgemoor Councils to create shared operations. He also advised that the 26 councils covering the "South West" were reviewing the possibility of their inclusion in the government's devolution strategy.

(c) Report of the Chairman – There was nothing to report

(d) Report from the Police – The police report was noted. PCSO Middleditch was present at the meeting and responded to questions from councillors.

(e) Rights of Way report – There was nothing new to report.

(f) Report of the Village Hall Committee – The latest Minutes were noted. It was also reported that due to significant Parish member requests, John Gordon was actively pursuing the creation of a Pétanque Court (French Boules) alongside the proposed MUGA site – the projects are being independently established and financed.

142.7 Highways Report

There were no new issues to be added to the "online" report. The Council discussed the issue raised by Doug Wright and agreed to meet at Brook View Farm to further review action to be taken. The Clerk was asked to invite John Nicholson of Highways to the meeting when arranged.

Cllr Geoff Walker commented on the increase in dog waste on the streets and footpaths and the lack of dog waste bins in the Parish boundaries. The Clerk was requested to contact Streetscene to get the latest information on what is available as signage, particularly related to farm land and the procedure for setting up bins for Streetscene servicing.

142.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- a) To adopt revised Standing Orders - The Clerk presented the changes to existing Standing Orders which resulted from a change in EU procurement Rules lowering levels at which mandatory procedures need to be followed. The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the revised Standing Orders.
- b) To review Compton Dundon's Financial Regulations - Cllr Geoff Walker agreed to independently review the existing regulations in light of the changes to standing orders and any internal control benefits.
- c) To review the PC Risk Assessment - Cllr Geoff Walker described the review process executed and presented the revised Risk Assessment. The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the revised document and Cllr Hugh Thomas and the Clerk signed it.
- d) To review work on the Parish Emergency Plan – Following Cllr Tiffany Kearton's description of the document a brief discussion took place as to the next steps to be taken. The Clerk was requested to check with our Insurer's as to cover and liability issues raised. The Council thanked Cllr Kearton for her initiative and requested her to complete work on the team names and contacts.
- e) To discuss any action with regard to Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday – The Council was advised that the Village Hall Committee was organizing a "Tea Party" on the 23rd April. Following a discussion on other possible initiatives Cllr Diane Churches was requested to ask Mr Napper if he would consider allowing a brazier to be lit on Collard Hill as has been the case on similar occasions in the past.
- f) To review telephone and internet services at Meadway Hall – In light of the expiring contract with BT, the Clerk was requested to investigate other potential service suppliers.
- g) To receive an update on the junior swing project – The Clerk reported that a contract had been signed and notice received that work would begin in the week of 22 February.

142.9 Correspondence for information

The following correspondence was received in December and circulated to Councillors: The Stream-progress update Jan2016; Somerset Equalities Officer Group-editions 7&8; CCS newsletter; Spinal Injuries Association Fish & Chip supper; Somerset Waste Partnership –January briefing; Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising help request; PRT Task force update; Somerset Community Foundation Newsletter; Rural Services Network (Weekly emails, Somerset Levels and Moors Shed; External Audit for Smaller Authorities Notice; Rural Opportunities Bulletin, Rural Economy Spotlight, Fuel Poverty, Planning and Affordable Housing).

142.10 Councillors' requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting

- Queen's 90th Birthday: Shelter at Cross; Refurbish Jubilee Notice Board; June Tea Party

142.11 Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as scheduled for 7pm, 10 Feb 2016.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21:10

Signed as a true record

Cllr. Greg Jones (Chairman)

Date: 2nd March 2016