

COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 5th October 2016**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Dean Ruddle (SCC, SSDC), Stephen Page (SSDC) and Stanislaw Berkieta (Parish Clerk)

There were 2 members of the general public present.

Public Participation – None at this stage

150.1 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Vicki Olivier sent her apologies and it was **RESOLVED** to accept them and the reason.

150.2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Hugh Thomas declared a financial interest in agenda item 150.4 (b) 1.

Cllr. Greg Jones declared personal interest in agenda items 150.4 (b) 2 and 150.4 (b) 3.

150.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 7th September 2016 and Cllr Greg Jones signed the minutes as a true record.

150.4 Planning

(a) Notifications of district council planning determinations

None received

(b) Planning consultations

1. 16/03592/S73A: Mr H. Thomas, The Beacon, Peak Lane, TA11 6NZ. S73 application to amend condition 2 of approval 13/04759/FUL to allow the substitution of plans for a proposed bio mass boiler.

► Cllr. Hugh Thomas left the meeting at this stage

The Council discussed the change to the 2013 application and **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

► Cllr Hugh Thomas rejoined the meeting

2. 16/03834/FUL: Mr M. Dunthorne, The Shop, Peak Lane, TA11 6NZ. Erection of a first floor extension over existing ground floor extension and new two storey rear extension.

Councillors discussed the application in detail and with one abstention **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL** for the application.

3. 16/03513/FUL: Mr J. Chapman, Barletts Farm, Hayes Road, TA11 6PF. Replacement of existing building with new building for office B1(a) use.

The application was discussed in detail. Concerns were raised regarding the state of Hayes Road in the vicinity of the Farm and the lack of passing places as well as the limited parking places shown in the proposal bearing in mind the proposed B1(a) development and other business activities on the site. Nevertheless, with one abstention, the Council **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

(c) Other planning issues

1. 16/04073/PAMB: Mr C Higgs & Ms V Searle, Lower Hurst Farm, Hurst Drove, Compton Dundon.

Prior approval for the change of use and conversion of agricultural building to dwelling House.

The Council discussed the application, noted access issues had been resolved and raised no new issues.

150.5 Accounts.

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 5 th Oct 2016		5,798.04
Less - Unpresented cheques:		0
Plus - Uncleared lodgments:		0
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 5 th Oct 2016		5,798.04
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 5 th Oct 2016		35,462.63
Overall Bank Balance		41,260.67
Overall Ledger Book Balance		41,260.67

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

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recovery
Parish Magazine inv.1525 (Oct Newsletter)	001008	121.00	0	N/A
J Parry grasscutting Inv 6 – Sept	001009	129.50	0	N/A
SSDC Parish Ranger work in July	001010	150.96	25.16	Y
Epson printer ink – Epson inv. 150050306	001011	87.73	14.62	Y
Compton Dundon Village Hall inv 41/16	001012	48.00	0	N/A
St Andrews PCC – grant towards mower	001003	500.00	0	N/A
Clerk salary & expenses CD1140	001014	265.04	0	N/A
HMRC – Paye month 6/2016-17	001015	58.40	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		1,360.73		39.78

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

(c) External Audit – The Clerk reported that Grant Thornton had completed the external audit for 2015-2016 on 18th September 2016 with no adverse opinion. 3 minor matters raised by the Auditor were noted.

150.6 Reports

(a) Report from the County Councillor

Dean Ruddle advised that a forecasting exercise to 31/3/2017 indicated excess expenditure over budget but felt this could be managed to £4 million. The main problem areas appear to be in the Care sector. The Highways contract is to be renegotiated and will probably be one of the first Somerset-Devon joint projects, following a commencement of joint operations at the end of November.

He also reported on the Stock-Elm consultation which is taking shape. Following the report and consultation phases work should begin in August 2017 and will probably include a new surface to the road.

(b) Reports from District Councillors

Stephen Page reported that the new CEO was in place and implementing the Transformation Plan. He advised that as at County level all Districts are short of cash and looking at ways to limit expenditure.

(c) Report of the Chairman

The Chairman had nothing to report but Cllr. Diane Churches requested permission to give some feedback she had received regarding the Compton Dundon Newsletter. Its presentation and breadth of content was said to be superior to that of many much larger councils. She recommended that the Council should express its thanks to Mr. John Gordon – this was unanimously agreed.

(d) Report from the Police – report noted.

(e) Rights of Way report

The parish volunteers met on the 11th September and replaced a stile with a pedestrian gate at the northern end of path L7/13 on School Lane (unclassified road & partly recorded by SCC as L7/22) and a pedestrian gate at the southern end of Peak Lane off the drive entrance that leads to Cherry Plum Cottage.

(f) Report of the Village Hall Committee - September report noted

150.7 Highways Report

Peak Lane and Ham Lane drainage work w/b 24/10 advised in Newsletter and on website. Hayes Lane storm drainage work required follow-up and this has been completed by G A Doble (Engineering) Ltd.

The On-line report was reviewed and the following comments made: No. 27 – Hayes Lane temporary repairs to potholes made but rain washed some away and these are now filled with still water; No. 56 – Compton Street Ditch clearance will be assigned to the Parish Ranger as will pavement clearance and cut back on Street Road.

150.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- a. Determination of response to capping consultation document – The Council reviewed the questions and following discussion it was **RESOLVED** not to support the proposals to extend council tax referendums to some or all councils. The Clerk was requested to respond to the consultation in this manner.
- b. Decision on a new waste bin at The Cross – Councillors reviewed the options and agreed on a model. The Clerk was asked to obtain the price to include all fixings and to advise councillors.
- c. Update on the Bus Shelter project – Cllr. Geoff Walker advised that he had sent out two RFPs and would be enquiring regarding groundwork costs. Insurance implications were presented for a stone or wood structure and the Clerk was requested to enquire of the NFU the insurance costs for a thatched roof.
- d. Determination of action on broadband issues – Cllr. Hugh Thomas described the current situation and responses received from potential suppliers. It was agreed that a number of villagers still do not understand the issues and it was agreed that an explanatory leaflet with a contact number would be delivered to all households. Additionally it was agreed to organize two open sessions at Meadway Hall for villagers to drop-in for assistance in completing the voucher application and to have questions answered.
- e. Attendance at “Campaign to End Loneliness” meeting 10th October - Noted
- f. Approve of 2016 contract for hedge cutting – It was **RESOLVED** to renew the contract with B Green.
- g. Decision on Clerk subscription to SLCC – It was **RESOLVED** to renew the subscription of £88.00.

150.9 Correspondence for information

The following correspondence received by the Clerk was circulated to councillors: Fire+Fostering event notice; Women’s Sports week notice; Somerset Community Foundation; Hinkley Point newsletter; Fields in Trust newsletters; SWP monthly briefings Sept; Area North Agenda 28/9; GIS mapping info; Summer Play Forum news; Somerset Wildlife Trust; CCS Sept newsletters; SSDC Health & Well-Being sports week; Rural Services Network newsletters and circulars.

150.10 Councillors’ requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting - None

150.11 Date of the next normal meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 7pm, 2nd November 2016.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 20:52

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

Date: 2nd November 2016