

COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 1st March 2017**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Dean Ruddle (SCC, SSDC), Stephen Page (SSDC)

There was one member of the general public present.

Public Participation – None at this stage

155.1 Apologies for Absence – None required

155.2 Declarations of Interest – None at this stage

155.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 1st February 2017 and Cllr Greg Jones signed the minutes as a true record.

155.4 Planning

(a) Notifications of district council planning determinations - None received

(b) Planning consultations

1. 17/00423/OUT: Mr. J. Godden. Land Adjoining Woodland View, Ham Lane. Outline planning permission sought for a detached dwelling with associated driveway access, parking and garage.

► *At this stage Cllr. Greg Jones declared a personal interest in the application*

Councillors discussed the application and generally agreed that a 3 bedroomed property would better fit the plot size and meet Parish needs for affordable housing. It was **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL** with the above observation. Cllr Jones abstained from voting.

2. 17/00590/FUL: Mr Masson, 5 Hayes Lane, TA11 6PB. Single storey extension to the front of the property. The Council concluded that the proposal was for a modest extension and unanimously **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

(c) Other planning issues

1. Section 106 agreement re: Shepards Close/Robins Way – Cllr Greg Jones described the terms of the proposed Sect. 106 agreement and these were unanimously accepted by councillors.

155.5 Accounts.

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 1 st March 2017	3,392.50
Less - Unpresented cheques:	0
Plus - Uncleared lodgements:	0
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 1 st March 2017	3,392.50
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 1 st March 2017	32,848.23
Overall Bank Balance	36,240.73
Overall Ledger Book Balance	36,240.73

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

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recover
Parish Magazine inv.1824 (Feb Newsletter)	001039	121.00	0	N/A
Somerset Wildlife subscription	001040	30.00	0	N/A
J Osborne Xmas tree	001041	130.00	21.67	Y
SSDC Parish Ranger work in January	001042	150.96	25.16	Y
Tailored Wealth Fin. Mgt – auto enrolment	001043	418.80	69.80	Y
PC World (PC, printer, software) - reserves	001044	633.96	105.65	Y
Clerk salary & expenses CD145	001045	257.84	0	N/A
HMRC – Paye month 11/2016-17	001046	58.40	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		1,800.96		222.28

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

155.6 (a) Report from the County Councillor

Cllr Dean Ruddle reported that a full SCC meeting had been held and the budget approved with a 1.98% increase. Tense discussions are taking place on “Devolution” and personally he is not in agreement with the current proposals. He had been approached by SSDC officials with regard to the Bus Shelter project and responded positively.

(b) Report from District Councillors

Cllr Stephen Page reported that SSDC had also had a full council meeting which approved a 3.28% increase in budget. Following Government budget policy SSDC would in future be even more reliant on council tax and business rates. The “Transformation Project” is expected to generate £5 million in savings but “Devolution” is on the back burner since many of the incentives are being withdrawn. He reported on a consultation meeting regarding the A303 (Sparkford to Ilchester) and a meeting with the new Chief of Police who amongst other matters referred to a trend for London and Birmingham criminals’ to focus on soft rural communities.

(c) Report of the Chairman

Cllr Greg Jones briefly spoke about the SSDC Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment report; the Office for National Statistics plan to carry out a pre-census test in South Somerset on 9 April and the upcoming final date for using the CDS vouchers. He asked councilors to consider what works should be included in the 2017-18 Parish Ranger contract and to help Alan Dean, the incoming Newsletter editor with information gathering since he is relatively new to the Parish.

(d) Report from the Police – Noted

(e) Rights of Way report – The parish volunteers met on 12th February and removed the broken wooden kissing gate on Footpath L7/22 “Church Path” west of Brookview Farm. They erected a metal self-closing gate where the enclosed path joins the field.

(f) Report of the Village Hall Committee – February minutes noted. There was a brief discussion of the request to locate a mast for Vodafone/Telefonica at Meadway Hall.

155.7 Highways Report

- (a) General Status – The list of open items has been reduced to six following recent work by Highways.
- (b) Ashcott road closure – the night closures were noted

155.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- a. Revised Financial Regulations – Cllr Geoff Walker reported that he had reviewed the full regulations and proposed a minor amendment that had been circulated to all councilors. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the amendment and the revised Financial Regulations were formally adopted.
- b. Yeovil Shop Mobility grant request - Noted
- c. Grass cutting contract – The Clerk reported that the current contractor had executed the work satisfactorily. There had been one minor complaint which had been resolved. Following Council’s policy the Clerk recommended that the contract be renewed at the same rate but that a formal tender process would be initiated next year. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to renew the contract for a third and final time.
- d. Bus Shelter Project update – Cllr. Geoff Walker reported on a meeting with SSDC Area North Development Office to discuss the project and various funding options available. The Clerk needs to liaise with the Defibrillator Society for transfer of ownership of the telephone box and its dismantling to enable the shelter to be located as per discussions with Highways. Cllr Walker advised he would obtain a quotation from a third supplier and that he is discussing power issues and options with electricians.

155.9 Correspondence for information

The following correspondence was received and circulated to councilors in February: Wessex Water response to Ham Lane pumping station letter; Citizens Advice thank you letter; Area North Committee Agenda 22/2/17; Surviving Winter update; Somerset Waste Partnership February letter; NFU Better Farming circular; Somerset Wildlife News; PSMA Update; Western Gazette business awards notice; SPARK Training notice; Fields in Trust update; Stocksigns circular; Rural Services Network – various regular newsletters and briefings.

155.10 Councillors’ requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting

- Annual Parish Meeting

155.11 Date of the next normal meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 7pm, 5th April 2017.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 20:04.

Signed as a true record
Cllr. Stephen King (Vice Chairman)

Date: 5th April 2017