

# COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dean Ruddle (SCC&SSDC) Stephen Page (SSDC), Stas Berkiet (Clerk)

There were 5 members of the general public present.

**Public Participation** - None at this stage.

**162.1 Apologies for Absence** - None required.

**162.2 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Hugh Thomas declared a personal interest in agenda item 162.4(b)/1.

Cllr. Greg Jones declared a personal interest in agenda item 162.4(b)/3

**162.3 Minutes of the previous Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and the Chairman signed them.

**162.4 Planning**

**(a) Notifications of district council planning determinations**

1. 17/02801/FUL: Mrs A Stacey, Barn at Land OS 5974, Worely Lane, Littleton. Part change of use of barn to mixed use comprising of a dwelling (Bay 4) and a hobby workshop for vintage tractor restoration (Bays 5 7 6) (Part retrospective). **PERMISSION GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS.**

**(b) Responses to planning and legal consultations**

1. 17/03558/FUL: Mr H Thomas, The Beacon, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon TA11 6NZ. Replacement of detached garage and annexe and modification to entrance.

► Cllr. Hugh Thomas left the meeting at this stage

Councillors discussed the modifications to the previously approved application and the reason for them and unanimously **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

► Cllr. Hugh Thomas rejoined the meeting

2. 17/03302/FUL and 17/03303/LBC: Mr D Taylor, Lockyers Farm, Peak Lane, Compton Dundon TA11 6PE. The alteration to and use of building to provide new accommodation and meeting facilities.

Both applications were considered together. Cllr Steve King commented on the application following his site visit, that although there was a slight increase in roof height there was no increase in the footprint. Generally it will improve the look of the site. The Council unanimously **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** of both applications.

3. 17/03501/FUL: Mr & Mrs Witcombe, Decoy Farm, Peak Lane Compton Dundon TA11 6NZ. Partial Demolition of farmyard and erection of 4 No. dwellings associated access, turning, parking, gardens, orchards, visibility splay improvements at Decoy Lane/Peak Lane junction.

► Cllr. Greg Jones left the meeting at this stage

The agent explained the changes from previous consultations with some time spent on the current "permitted parking" by the neighbouring property owners. The Council unanimously **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL** but urged the applicant to resolve the landscaping issues with the neighbour.

► Cllr. Greg Jones rejoined the meeting

**(c) Other planning consultation issues**

Late confirmation: 17/03225/FUL: Mr A Fewings, Land OS 4966, Somerton Road Compton Dundon. Erection of General Purpose Agricultural Building. **Permission Granted.** Councillors expressed their concerns that one of the conditions they had recommended had not been included in the approval although the applicant had indicated he would comply.

**162.5 Accounts.**

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2017		2,281.27
Less - Unpresented cheques:		0.00
Plus - Uncleared lodgements:		0.00
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 3 October 2017		2,281.27
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 3 October 2017		46,571.27
Overall Bank Balance		<b>48,852.54</b>
Overall Ledger Book Balance		<b>48,852.54</b>

The Clerk presented a summary of Year to Date expenses versus Budget and reported no divergence from expectations. On the income side no application for VAT refund had been made in the new financial year.

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

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recover
Parish Magazine inv 2376	001084	122.63	0	N/A
SSDC Parish Ranger August inv 33597	001085	150.96	25.16	Y
Village Hall Hire inv 30/17	001086	48.00	0	N/A
Clerk salary & expenses CD152	001087	304.36	0	N/A
HMRC – Paye month 6/2017-18	001088	59.00	0	N/A
J Parry grass cutting	001089	250.00	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		<b>934.95</b>	<b>25.16</b>	

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

**162.6 (a) Report from the County Councillor**

Cllr. Dean Ruddle reported that the county was experimenting with a “Dragon Patcher” to improve the quality and speed of pot hole repairs. He indicated that the County was predicting a £10 million overspend for the year, mainly as a result of the problems in Child Services. He reported on the status of new school build with a site identified but not yet secured. Somerton is recognized as a growth location and the number of houses now predicted is at 750 which will further impact educational needs locally.

**(b) Report from District Councillors**

Cllr. Stephen Page reported on a recent District meeting at which the Local Plan had been discussed and where it was confirmed that the new home targets are not being met. He advised that in an attempt to improve cash returns the Council is moving to a more commercial investment process and that the Boundaries Commission recommendations will have no effect on Wessex Ward. He briefly commented on Universal Credit programme and the action being taken to overcome hardship caused by payment delays. He noted the ongoing delay on the Shepherds Close development and that he and Dean would be taking action.

**(c) Report of the Chairman**

Cllr. Greg Jones reported that 3 applications had been received for the vacant Clerk position and that interviews would take place on 11<sup>th</sup> October in the main Hall. Cllrs. Jones, Churches and Kearton as members of the Staff sub-committee would be the interview panel and Cllr. Walker volunteered to meet and greet applicants. Cllr Jones advised that the SALC AGM was to be held at Edgar Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October and councillors were invited to attend. An interesting program including guest speaker Cllr. Fothergill (leader of SCC) was planned. He also advised that a quotation for hedge cutting had been received from M Green and since this was the third year and the quote was not increased it had been accepted. Hedgecutting and Grasscutting would be put to general tender next year.

**(d) Report from the Police – Noted**

**(e) Rights of Way report** – It was reported that the Volunteers met and completed various path clearances as well as a review of the foot bridge behind Meadway Hall, which will require some work.

**f) Report of the Village Hall Committee** – No report was received by the Clerk. Cllr Tiffany Kearton advised she would ensure the Council was copied on future reports..

**162.7 Highways Report** – No new items were noted.

**162.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision**

- Discussion on the proposed Compton Dundon PC website redesign – The 4 logo options were discussed and it was agreed that the “Hills” logo was most appropriate. The colours were generally liked but it was recommended that the overall title/logo/scene be as narrow as possible so that the first page was visible on most instruments.
- Update on the Bus Shelter project – Cllr. Geoff Walker reported that SSDC had approved funding of £3,941 for the project and that implementation would begin immediately with the formal application for a licence from SCC Highways. The Council thanked Cllr Walker for the extensive work in getting the various grants for the project.
- Update on broadband services in the Parish – The voucher programme has now ended. There is still no clear indication when GIGACLEAR services might arrive in Compton Dundon.

**162.9 Correspondence for information**

SCC Family support services and Children’s Centres consultation; Countryside Alliance Oscars; Somerset Community Foundation Newsletter – September; Age UK Somerset info sheet; SPARK Fundraising course; Community Council for Somerset Events list; Fields in Trust-UK’s best parks; War Memorial News; Defibrillator News; Rural Services Network (weekly e-mails, newsletters, notices).

**162.10 Councillors’ requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting** – None requested

**162.11 Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 7pm, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 20:12

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

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017