

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Meadway Hall, Ham Lane, Compton Dundon on **Wednesday 4th April 2018**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Dean Ruddle (SSDC) and Helen Richardson (Clerk),

There were 4 members of the general public present.

Public Participation – Revised proposals for the outdoor space outside the Village Hall were put forward for the Parish Council to consider. This included an outdoor table tennis table stood on a hard base, and a basket ball hoop with a hard surface around it. The equipment would appeal to a range of ages and would not require a large team to make use of it.

168.1 Apologies for Absence- Stephen Page (SSDC) sent his apologies which were accepted.

168.2 Declarations of Interest – None

168.3 It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th March 2018 and the Chairman signed them.

168.4 Planning

a) Notifications of district council planning determinations

1. 18/00029/REM. Mr & Mrs Paul Riley. Land East of 9 Ham Lane, Compton Dundon. TA11 6PQ. Application for Reserved Matters following approval of 16/04312/OUT for the erection of 2 No dwellings to include details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. **APPLICATION REFUSED**

The Applicant addressed the Parish Council and stated that he understood the reasons for refusal and would re submit proposals having addressed the points raised in the Committee Report. The Footprint would be reduced, the roofing line would be turned around and reduced in height, the number of rooms on the first floor would be reduced to 3, and he had spoken to the Somerset Drainage Board to address the overflow from the well in the garden and found a satisfactory solution.

The Parish Council said that they had supported proposals in the outline planning permission for 2 three bed, semi-detached affordable homes to meet the needs of the village, and indicated that they appreciated that the applicant had taken the comments into consideration and that the revised plans were more appropriate to the outline permission given.

b) Responses to planning and legal Consultations. None

c) Other planning consultation issues. None

168.5 Accounts

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 31 st March 2018		1594.51
Less - Unpresented cheques: Parish Magazine		122.63
Plus - Uncleared lodgements:		0
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 31 st March 2018		1471.88
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 31 st March 2018		39296.37
Overall Bank Balance		40768.25
Overall Ledger Book Balance		40768.25

Included in Treasurer's balance as stated above are the following debits:

(a) Direct Debit: - 16/3 BT Line/Broadband - £49.92

(b) Direct Debit: – 29/3 Auto-enrolment - £13.20

a) Payments tabled for approval:

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recover
HMRC PAYE month 12	001121	77.80	0	N/A
Parish Magazine Printing April Edition	001122	123.28	0	N/A
SSDC Ranger Labour Nov & Dec	001123	301.92	50.32	Y
SSDC Operational Playground Inspections	001124	127.2	21.2	Y
Compton Dundon & Littleton Village Hall	001125	48.00	0	N/A
Somerset Wildlife Trust	001126	30.00	0	N/A
Clerk salary & expenses CD159	001127	430.35	0	N/A
H Richardson (Reimburse for There but Not There Silhouettes)	001128	56.18	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		1194.73		
Transfer from BIA to Treasurer's Account	-	3000.00		

The above leaves a Treasurer's Account ledger balance of £3399.78 and a Business Instant Access Account balance of £36,296.37 - Overall : £39,696.15 of which £15,800 is ring-fenced.

168.6 Reports

- a) The County Councillor reported that the new school in Somerton had been approved and would be open by 2020 with 14-16 classrooms. There is a major threat to library in Somerton and there may be help available to keep it going, alternatively it may be taken over as a community library.
- b) the District Councilor reported that there would be changes to the planning process for housing developments of over 10 houses and that refusals by committee would be referred to the Regulation Committee.
- c) -The Chairman reported that St Andrews Church had requested a letter of support for a grant application to repair guttering on the Church Building. The Parish Council agreed.
- The Chairman had received notification that the cost of the newsletter would increase by £7 per month.
- It had been noticed that the ditch that runs along the Village Hall land was filled with beer cans and other rubbish. The Rights of Way Volunteers would clear the rubbish, but it was agreed that the Parish Council would fund a litter bin and ask the Village Hall Committee if it could be sited on Village Hall land, near the playground.
- d) The police reported that Compton Dundon had been quiet in relation to Somerton. They were issuing advice about shed safety and that now the warmer weather was approaching, residents should keep their homes locked if out in the garden. They would be happy to visit vulnerable residents to give specific advice. To arrange email Fiona.wilson@avonandsomerset.police.uk.
Dog attacks on sheep should be dealt with by the enforcement officer at Somerset District Council
- d) The Rights of Way Volunteers had repaired a gatepost and inspected the playground for the ditches by the swings. As the ground was so wet they would look again in the summer.
- f) The minutes of the Village Hall Committee meeting on 8th March had been circulated and their AGM was due on the 5th April.

168.7 Highways Issues

- a) A pot hole by the Willows Ham Lane had been fixed, but there was still excess water around it. Following the recent snow, piles of mud had been deposited by the snow plough during the process of scraping the verges clear of snow.
A lack of white lines in Hays Lane, by the Cricket Club had been reported.

168.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

- a) It was agreed that the Emergency Plan adequately covered the incidence of snow and so did not need updating. It was also agreed that it was an internal document and should not be shared on the website.
- b) It was agreed that it was not necessary to respond to the Strategic Housing consultation.
- c) It was agreed that the Parish Council would accept the tender for grass cutting from Jim Parry.
- d) The Parish Council confirmed the appointment of the following contractors for the bus shelter project. Sparkford (Shelter & new noticeboard), Doble (groundworks and shelter install), as John Harvey (electricians) had not responded to recent communication and alternative electrician would be found. Western Power would be giving a date for disconnection so that work could start. It was agreed that the old phone kiosk would be scrapped.
- e) The Parish Council considered a request for a new printer, laptop and necessary software to replace the equipment in the post office to be provided for community use. It was agreed that the request should come in the form of a grant application.

168.9 Report of ongoing projects/issues

- a) **Compton Commercials Development.** The Chief Exec had acknowledged receipt of the letter from the PC and will be pleased to respond & a full reply will follow shortly.
- b) **Home Field Close** -No response had been received from the District Solicitor regarding the allocation of housing. Dean would follow it up.
- c) **Purchase of School Playing Fields.** SCC would be willing to consider a disposal to the Parish and that discussions would continue in May.
- d) Speed Indicator Device (SID) Programme. The PC has registered an interest in joining the combined scheme, waiting for instruction.
- e) Refilling of Grit Bins. Our request to fill Parish Grit bins had been passed to the SCC Contractor who is in the process of filling bins.
- f) Equestrian Trail. Possible routes were being assessed and a group of interested parties had been asked to approach the PC if they wanted the project to be progressed.

168.10 There were no Councillors' requests for agenda items for the next Parish Council meeting at this time. It was reported that an anonymous letter had been received, but it was not PC policy to respond to anonymous communications.

168.11 The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 2nd May 2018 with the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 6pm.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.10pm.

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

Date: 2nd May 2018