

COMPTON DUNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Zoom on **Wednesday 7th October 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Greg Jones, Diane Churches, Tiffany Kearton, Stephen King (Chairman), Christopher Swain, John Rowland & Geoffrey Walker. **Also in attendance:** Helen Richardson (Clerk), Dean Ruddle – (SCC & SSDC) and Tim Kerley (SSDC) and 8 members of public.

Public Participation:

A resident questioned that access rights to the track by Walnut Tree Cottage as it is being used for non-agricultural purposes and he was referred to the County Highways department.

The agent for the proposals of Land at Compton Street & the B3151 (item 202.4ci) presented two possible schemes for development on this plot of land. Scheme 1 was a courtyard style, single storey development of 9 homes backing onto the homes at Compton Street. Scheme 2 was a two storey, cottage inspired scheme of 9 homes adjacent to the B3151. Preliminary meetings with the Highways authority had indicated that satisfactory access arrangements could be achieved.

Residents were concerned about increased traffic on Drove Lane and large vehicles ability to turn onto Compton Street. The need for more houses was questioned as planning permission has been granted for several new developments in recent years. The capacity of the sewerage system in the village was also questioned. It was suggested that the development could be placed in the middle of the field to keep away from the B3151 and away from existing residents.

202.1 Apologies for Absence- None

202.2 Declarations of Interest: None

202.3 Minutes: It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7th September and the Clerk Signed them on behalf of the Chairman, who would sign them at the next available opportunity.

202.4 Planning

a) Notifications of district council planning determinations: None

b) Responses to planning and legal consultations: None

c) Other planning consultation issues:

- i) Pre-application discussion regarding land off Compton Street & the B3151.
Following comments from residents in public participation it was agreed that the main concerns were the access, and the increased traffic and large vehicles on Drove Lane and Compton Street, the demonstration of need for more houses, and the siting of the development within the field. It was noted that smaller dwellings would be welcomed.
- ii) The Parish Council were asked to review the terms of planning permission at Clarendon House as their recent application had been turned down due to the access. Business is still operating and access has not been improved. This has been raised with the District Council and will be followed up next meeting.
- iii) The Parish Council was asked to review the development at 9 Ham Lane. Concern was raised about recent alterations made to the roof. It was concluded that solar panels had been installed and not loft windows as feared, therefore did not contravene planning consent. A red brick wall was also questioned, but as it falls within permitted development it could not be challenged.
- iv) The Parish Council has responded to the NALC consultations on Planning for the future White Paper and changes to the current planning system.

202.5 Accounts

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

Treasurers A/C Statement at 30/9/20			£ 3,378.36
Less - Unpresented cheques:			
HMRC	1291	£ 109.40	
HMRC	1314	109.40	
Will Austin Garden Services	1315	255.00	
Information Commissioner	1316	40.00	
HMRC	1318	87.60	
Geoff Walker	1319	84.00	
Jill Champion ta Compton Dundon Post Office	1320	320.00	
SALC	1321	191.87	
Will Austin Garden Services	1322	390.00	
			£ 1,587.27
Plus - Uncleared lodgements:			£ -
Treasurers A/C Adjusted Balance at 30/9/2020			£ 1,791.09
Business Instant Access A/c Balance at 30/9/2020			£ 75,236.06
Overall Bank Balance			£ 77,027.15
Overall Ledger Book Balance			£ 77,027.15

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

(a) Direct Debit: - 16/9/2020 BT Line/Broadband - £73.80

(b) Direct Debit: - 30/9/2020 Auto enrolment - £13.20

b) The following payments were approved

Purpose for Expense	Chq No.	Amount	VAT	Recover
Clerk salary & Expenses CD189		540.57	0	N/A
HMRC (PAYE month 6)		109.40	0	N/A
Will Austin Garden Services (September)		255.00	0	N/A
SSDC - Parish Ranger (June, July, August)		438.08	82.14	Y
Parish Magazine Printing (September)		141.30	0	N/A
Compton Dundon Village Hall (projector)		914.25	0	N/A
Jill Champion t/a Compton Dundon Post office		80.00	0	N/A
Total value of cheques		2,478.60		
Transfer from BIA to Treasurer's Account		3,000.00		

c) 6 Month Budget Review was reviewed and accepted.

202.6 Reports

a) **Somerset County Council.**

The County Councillor reported that plans were progressing for elections in May for the Unitary Authority although it has not yet been confirmed. He was concerned about some of the contents of the Planning White Paper and would be attending a workshop to learn more about it. Somerset CC has been circulating Covid updates which has been useful.

b) **South Somerset District Council.**

The District Councillor reported that discussions are still ongoing with the plans for a Unitary Authority, but it is unclear how it is going to proceed. District Council is still discussing the planning for the future consultation. A motion for 'stop the badger cull' is being considered.

c) **The Chairman** asked for an update on the stream in Peak Lane and it was reported that some of the growth has grown back but not in need of clearing. A Complaint has been received regarding a car on Peak Lane blocking the Church Path, but the owner of the car was made aware and will move the car once fixed. The quote for hedgecutting was approved.

d) **Police** sent their apologies and would try to attend next month. Adam Potter is no longer our PCSO.

e) **Right of Way Volunteers:** Did not meet this month but would be fixing the Gate post by the Village Hall field.

f) **The Village Hall Committee:** The Draft minutes have been circulated. The Village Hall are planning to apply for a Lottery Grant for a projector for the main hall.

202.7 Highways Issues

a) **The Parish Council are considering a proposal for creating a safe cycling route to Somerton.** A master plan is being developed to give some route options and will soon be ready to be shared for comment.

b) **The Parish Council have been asked to clear ditch on Compton Street.** A request would be sent to the district Council to look at the ditch.

202.8 Correspondence and items requiring discussion/decision

a) The new Financial Regulations were adopted.

b) The Parish Council approved the motion to use Unity Bank for their on-line banking provision.

c) The Parish Council considered expenditure for a mobile camera / microphone system and Computer to be a permanent fixture in the meeting room with a wireless keyboard and mouse. It was agreed to apply to district council Area North for a grant for 50% of the total cost which is likely to be around £2000 including installation.

d) The Parish Council considered projects which would qualify to apply for the Somerset Climate Emergency Community fund it was agreed that the proposal for the safe cycling route would be ideal if it could be prepared in time, as an alternative, a ground source heat pump for the village hall would be investigated,

e) The Parish Council agreed to defer the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to May 2021

f) It was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase two signs for Drove Lane and a sign referring to Peck Lane, the old name for Peak Lane, to protect the historical road names in the Parish.

202.9 Report of ongoing projects/issues

a) **Speed Indicator Device (SID) Programme** – agreement with Somerton TC to be agreed. County Council been contacted for agreement of device.

b) **Community Tree Planting Project** – 1st Batch of trees planted- more trees from Woodland Trust in November.

c) **Defibrillator** – Training on hold

d) **Neighbourhood Plan-** Grant has to be spent within 12 months or returned and so survey for housing analysis survey to be lined up.

e) **Proposed new Bridleway** –Letter has been drafted, proposal of 10% reduction for effected plots was agreed,

f) **Allotments** –Discussions with solicitor continuing. Looking for alternative site.

g) **Electric Charging points** –grants available from SCC & SSDC. – no news

h) **New noticeboard** – Arrived

i) **Digital Archive** – Application rewritten

202.10 Items put forward for the next meeting: Safe cycling route to Somerton, Clarendon House, Draft Budget

202.11 The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 2nd November 2020 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting ended at 21.18pm.

Signed as a true record

Date: 2nd November 2020

Cllr. Steve King (Chairman)