



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH OF COMPTON
NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of **THE ANNUAL MEETING** of Compton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 16th May 2012 at 7.00pm
In the **Village Hall** for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

Present: Cllr F Curtis (in the chair), Cllrs M Bills, D Haskins, P Parsons, M Williams
Borough Cllr J Palmer
County Cllr S Gimson
4 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

- 42/12 **Election of Chairman:** Cllr Curtis, PROPOSED by Cllr Parsons, SECONDED by Cllr Bills, with all in favour. There were no other nominations. Cllr Curtis signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 43/12 **Apologies for Absence:** none had been received.
- 44/12 **Declarations of interest:** none were made.
- 45/12 **Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr Haskins, PROPOSED by Cllr Curtis, SECONDED by Cllr Bills, with all in favour. There were no other nominations.
- 46/12 **Appointment of Member's responsibilities:**
Highways – to be appointed
Allotments and Environmental Projects: Cllr Haskins
Recreation Ground and Playground: Cllr Patel
Watts Chapel and Cemetery: Cllr Bills
Planning: Cllr Parsons
Village Hall: Cllr Curtis
- 47/12 **Dates of future meetings:**
18th July, 19th September, 21st November, 15th January, 20th March
Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 24th April.
Annual Meeting 15th May.
- 48/12 **Minutes of Meeting held 21st March 2012:** these were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
- 49/12 **Matters Arising:**
25/12:18/12: mayors award for community service: John Dobson had received the Mayor's Award for Community Service, which had been presented to him by the Mayor at the Guildhall. A celebratory party had been held in his honour at Watts Gallery shortly afterwards.
27/12: land at Spiceall: a quotation is awaited from Paul Monks for the posts to be installed around the Green.
30/12a: Spiceall: S106 payment: Mr Bugbird had advised that the S106 monies received from the RBL at the time of the building of the Club had been expected to be used for car parking and had instead been used for recreation. The Clerk clarified that S106 agreements are usually drawn up with the requirement that the proceeds be used for recreational purposes only, as the intention is that the money provides recompense for an amenity taken away from the Parish. In this case, as the amenity had been a bowls club and green, the S106 agreement would have stipulated replacement recreational facilities.
30/12b: Street lights: It was understood that these had now been repaired.
33/12: trees at Polsted Lane end of common: Paul Monks had undertaken to clear this area of brambles and fallen branches. He estimated that this would take in the region of 4 hours, at his usual hourly rate, and it was **agreed** that he should be asked to undertake this work.

38/12 Annual litter pick: This had gone well and there had been a good turnout of volunteers, despite the rain, and a considerable amount of rubbish had been collected. However, the Borough Council had sent someone around to do a litter pick two days later. It was agreed that it would be helpful to know when the Borough intended to send someone around to do this sort of work, or to collect fly tipping. Cllr Curtis emphasised the lack of communication between the Borough, County and Parish Councils. Cllr Gimson agreed, citing the problems caused over Down Lane by lack of communication. He believed that the problem was made worse by people not doing what they were supposed to do and a meeting had been promised to address this.

50/12 **Councillor Co-option:**

Paul Burzio introduced himself and explained that he had lived in the village for 4 years and takes an active interest in what goes on. He has twin sons and works for BT Retail as Head of Sales. His nomination as Councillor was PROPOSED by Cllr Curtis, SECONDED by Cllr Haskins, with all in favour.

Cllr Burzio will take on the Traffic portfolio. Mr Miller would send him the dates of Traffic Meetings.

51/12 **Chairman's Report:**

- a) *Planning Policy Framework:* information has not yet come down from central government, so it is not possible to gain any further understanding on this at present. Officers are, however, working on new policy whilst waiting for information. The new policy for travellers requires the local authority to have a plan for adequate pitches, but the problem Guildford BC has is the lack of brown field sites. The pitches that the 2006 survey estimated needed to be provided have not been provided, it was probably now going to be necessary to find double that amount.
- b) *Change of use at Monkshatch:* nothing further had been heard at present.

52/12 **Reports from Borough and County Cllrs:**

Borough Cllr:

- a) Cllr Palmer reported that the Task group reviewing Enforcement would deliver their final report in July. Their recommendation would be that there should be regular updates on enforcement cases on the Council website. There will be a number of other recommendations as well.
- b) Cllr Palmer mentioned the *Love Where you Live* Campaign which had been highlighted in the 'round and about' magazine.
- c) Local Plan: it is expected that this will be adopted in the Spring of 2014. There will be a draft issued this autumn for consultation purposes.

County Cllr: Cllr Gimson advised that he had some funds available from his allowance and asked for applications soon. There are also funds available from the community improvement fund.

53/12 **Report from the Police:**

PC Matt Taylor had sent his apologies and promised to send a report for future meetings.

54/12 **Public Forum:**

No matters were raised.

55/12 **Members Report: Highways**

Mr Miller reported as follows:

- a) *Street surface:* the committee were working towards trying to understand the process by which street surfacing is decided.
- b) *SCC:* Dave Ellis, who has taken on Kaz Banisaied's workload, is being very pro-active and replies to e-mails promptly. He is also taking action on issues, particularly with regarding to Priorsfield Road. The committee want to get a VAS unit in this position, Mr Ellis is considering putting in additional poles for repeater signs.
- c) *New signs:* Kaz had agreed to a number of new signs, and these had been erected, including a Pedestrians in road sign in Down Lane and an Unsuitable for HGVs sign,
- d) *VAS:* Cllr Haskins reported that two new volunteers had not received VAS training as there were currently no courses. The Clerk would check with Matt Redfern to establish if any were planned.
- e) *Traffic:* Members discussed the increased traffic flow since the opening of the Hindhead tunnel, and were advised that the Highways Agency would not do a survey until the tunnel has

been open for 12 months. There are plans for a new Park and Ride near the Sports Centre with hoped for funding from the DoT. The Council would find out in June whether their application had succeeded.

56/12 **Members Report: Allotments and Environmental Projects**

Allotments: Continue to be successful. There are two people on the waiting list. All fees for the current year have been paid.

Environmental Projects: a second work party to clear the pond had taken place, a third one is planned in the winter to open up a circular walk in the woods. There had been a fantastic community response to the pond clearing party, with a number of people turning out to help. Cllr Gimson offered to pay half of the costs of this project, up to a limit of £500.00.

57/12 **Members Report: Recreation ground and playground**

No report had been received.

58/12 **Members Report: Watts Chapel and Cemetery**

- a) *Watts Chapel:* Cllr Bills reminded members that the Parish Council and Watts Gallery are in negotiations about the future of Watts Chapel. A survey of the Chapel has been commissioned as part of these negotiations, and it is hoped that this will be available by the end of the week, when it will be circulated.
- b) *Watts Gallery: Pottery classes:* the Gallery would like to offer pottery lessons to local people, as Mary Watts used to do, and plan to hold these once a month for a year.
- c) *Limnerslease:* Cllr Bills hopes to be able to show the plans at the next meeting.
- d) *Museum of the Year:* Watts Gallery has been shortlisted for this award, reaching the last 4 out of 12 entries. The result should be known on the 19th or 20th June.
- e) *War Memorial:* The conservators will work on the facings throughout August.
- f) *Cottage Tool shed:* in urgent need of repair or replacement. Cllr Bills PROPOSED that the shed should be replaced, as it is beyond effective repair, with a maximum total cost of £1,000. This was SECONDED by Cllr Parsons, with all in favour.

59/12 **Members Report: Planning**

Cllr Parsons reported that 3 local applications had been approved since the last meeting, there had been 4 new applications, 3 of which were for tree surgery and the 4th for a house next to the Old Forge. Cllr Parsons could not see any major reasons for objection, as it would be an attractive house in the Arts and Crafts style. The application is currently at the consultation stage. There has been no further information on Monks Hatch.

60/12 **Members Report: Village Hall**

Cllr Bills reported that Village Hall finances are sound, with current account funds of £3,000 and £16,000 on deposit.

The lease between the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council needs to be clarified and completed, preferably before the Parish Council internal audit on the 1st June. Cllr Curtis advised that it had been decided to use the same solicitor as before for this, as he had the full background, but that he had been delayed by personal issues. A meeting had been held the previous week and the solicitor had promised a draft lease within the next week or so.

61/12 **Finance**

- a) Draft final accounts for the year 1/4/11 to 31/3/12 had been circulated and were noted. The Clerk's meeting with the Internal Auditor had been arranged for 1st June, after which the Annual Return would be presented to the Council for approval. As the return has to be approved by the end of June, in accordance with local government legislation, it was agreed to meet on the 6th June at 7pm for this one item of council business.
- b) Schedule in income and payments from 1/4/12 had been circulated and were noted.
- c) *Grant aid projects:* projects to be determined by the July Parish Council meeting, in order that quotations can be obtained by GBC's September deadline, in accordance with new policy. The following were suggested: a village sign; a village map; a noticeboard by the bus stop at Watts Gallery and another in the Street by Mr and Mrs Miller's house. Members discussed the proposal of a cider press at the allotments, to be used by the residents of Compton, but it was agreed that this should not be a parish council initiative and that Cllr Haskins would discuss this with the allotment committee.

- 62/12 **Parking for village events:** It was agreed that it is necessary to first understand what the problem is, as at the moment the problem is more hearsay than fact. It was agreed to look at options, including the piece of land behind the village hall, and to consider how cars could be parked on the road, which would have the advantage of slowing cars down.
- 63/12 **Equipment for future litter picks:** Members **agreed** to the purchase of 10 litter pickers, at an estimated cost of £10 each, and 10 high visibility jackets at an estimated cost of £5 each. These would be stored in the Chapel tool shed when not in use.
- 64/12 **Councillors Business:** *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*
- a) *Village Club:* Cllr Haskins advised that the range of the Club's activities were restricted by their affiliation with the Royal British Legion, and that future prospects for the Club may depend on re-negotiating the terms of the affiliation.
 - b) *Resignation:* Cllr Williams announced her resignation from the Council, as from the close of this meeting. She said how much she had enjoyed serving on the Parish Council, but that she felt it was now time for others to take over. Cllr Curtis said that she would be very much missed, particularly her knowledge of the village and of the cemetery, having chaired the cemetery committee for some time now. Cllr William was presented with flowers from the Council, with very grateful thanks for her enormous contribution.
- 65/12 **Compton News:** Cllr Haskins would send the Clerk some words on the proposed Woodland Walk.
- 66/12 **Dates of meetings:**
18th July, 19th September, 21st November, 15th January, 20th March
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There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm/.