



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Notice of Parish Council meeting

Local government Act 1972

Minutes of a meeting of Compton Parish Council, held on

Wednesday 20th September 2017 at 7.00pm

In **Pucks Oak Barn** for the transaction of the under mentioned business

Present: Cllrs P Graham, K Patel, R Nagaty, C Sharples
2 Members of the public

In attendance: Mr K Miller, CVA, CPC Traffic Committee
The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

The following items were raised during the public question time:

- *Footpaths and bridleways:* it was noted that a number of footpaths and bridleways in the parish and the adjoining parishes are in a poor state of repair, but acknowledged that SCC does not currently have the financial resources to deal with them. The Clerk will write to the owners of the adjoining houses, where relevant, to ask them to cut back their hedges.
- *Village projects list:* Mr Miller is awaiting information on equipment for an average speed zone through the village.
- *New Councillor:* Andrea Bradley was welcomed to the meeting. Ms Bradley wished to explore the prospect of taking on the role of parish councillor. She and the Clerk will meet during the next week to discuss this further.

97/17 **Election of meeting Chairman:** Cllr Sharples PROPOSED that Cllr Graham chair the meeting, SECONDED by Cllr Patel, with all in favour. Cllr Graham took the Chair.

98/17 **Apologies for Absence:** were received from Cllr Hunt
Apologies were also noted from County Cllr M Furness and Borough Cllr Mike Parsons.

Members **resolved** to invite the new Director of Watts Gallery to attend meetings. Although it would not be possible to co-opt him onto the Council, as he has only worked in the parish for a short period, he is able to act in an advisory capacity. He would be able to take part in debates and act as the vital link between the Parish Council and the Gallery, but would be unable to vote.

99/17 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Nagaty declared a pecuniary interest in the Blackwater Farm development.

100/17 **Minutes of meeting held 19th July 2017** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

101/17 **Matters arising**
No matters were raised in addition to those covered by the agenda

102/17 **Report from County Cllr**
No report had been received

103/17 **Reports from Borough Cllrs**
No reports had been received. The Clerk was asked to express Members' disappointment that neither County nor Borough Cllrs had attended the meeting, nor sent a report.

104/17 **Report on Police and Crime Statistics**
Crimes in Compton reported in June are as follows: 1 criminal damage in Down Lane; 1 burglary and 1 criminal damage in Polsted Lane; 1 vehicle crime in or near Fowlers Croft; 1 criminal damage on the playground.

105/17 Report on Local Plan

Cllr Stevens report had been circulated before the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

Members **resolved** to accept the Local Plan committee's recommendation that the Parish Council agree to allow the committee to prepare a response to the air quality consultation for approval by the Parish Council. This will be based on the Green Balance advice and on local knowledge of the road network and its constraints.

Members **resolved** to accept the Local Plan committee's recommendation that the advice of Green Balance is taken as follows: the impact of the access to Blackwell Farm be considered and that a landscape architect is commissioned to assess this impact. This will allow the Parish Council to understand the impact on its parish north of the Hogs Back and the ridge. The Local Plan committee will obtain a quotation for this work from Land Management Services (LMS), who prepared an earlier report on the quality of the landscape around Blackwell Farm.

106/17 Members report: Highways

Mr Miller reported as follows:

- a) *Down Lane*: nothing to report
- b) *VAS and Speed and Volume checks*:
 - i. There is no date as yet on when the ordered data logger will be delivered.
 - ii. David Haskins has adapted the traffic information available from the VAS so that it is now in a more workable format. A problem with the data is the accurate identification of the type of vehicle. To refine this further he will be running the VAS for an hour with manual traffic identification and compare the results.
 - iii. The VAS unit for westbound traffic will be running constantly for the next 30 days to provide a reliable base to compare with the traffic data for a few years ago at this time of year.
 - iv. Three pairs of traffic tubes were placed across the Street a short while ago, and removed after 6 days. SCC and GBC deny all knowledge but GBC's Environmental Department advises that it might be AMEC as part of the AQMA review. They have promised further information.
- c) *Traffic pollution*: Before declaring an AQMA for the end of the Street, close to the A3, GBC have a duty to consult residents and other interested parties and this is imminent. It appears that they will be seeking residents' views on steps residents would like to see taken. It is clear that GBC themselves do not have a solution. The Traffic Committee will prepare a response to the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.
- d) *Accident – The Street*: a Police report is still awaited on the recent accident near the Harrow, before taking this up with SCC.

107/17 Members report: Allotments and Environmental Projects

Allotments

Ditches: the Clerk was asked to raise the matter of the ditches with our County Cllr, advising him that the previous County Cllr had undertaken to get this work done.

Environmental Projects

- *Polsted Lane*: the trees need to be cut back in order to improve access and sightlines.
- *Priorsfield Road*: the vegetation needs to be cut back.

Action: the Clerk to ascertain what work the vegetation gang is undertaking. The Clerk to speak to the Church Commissioners again about their tenant on the Avenue.

108/17 Members report: Youth and recreation

- a) *Play area safety inspection report*: this had been circulated prior to the meeting and required actions were noted.
- b) *Playground and green*: the area needs to be tidied and the vegetation on the corner of the Green cut down and the tree reduced. The children's fort would benefit from a wash.
- c) *Children*: members were pleased to learn that more children are using the playground and that it has become an area for socialising and making friends.
- d) *Equipment for older children and adults*: the Clerk has submitted an application to GBC for grant aid for a zip wire. She is investigating adult exercise equipment, which it is planned to place around the Green.

109/17 **Members Report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery**

- a) *Volunteer working party*: this will take place on Saturday 7th October, starting at 10am until noon.
- b) *Cemetery Committee*: a meeting will be held on Thursday 28th September, at 2pm
- c) *Chapel grant*: **Action**: the Clerk to ascertain progress on restoring the chapel, following the grant made to the Gallery earlier in the year.

110/17 **War Memorial**

Following the recent condition survey, an application has been submitted to the War Memorial Trust for funding.

111/17 **Members Report: Planning**

- a) *Recent building work*: Cllr Graham advised members of a recent application for an extension, where the applicants had demolished and re-built the house, except for two walls. They had submitted a further application for more work, which had been refused and was now at appeal.
- b) *Broadbridge Cottage*: after a number of applications, the applicants had now submitted one which surrounding residents considered to be more in keeping with the area.
- c) *Monkshatch*: more land clearing had taken place recently. The Borough Council is attempting to take enforcement steps.
- d) *Robertsons Nursing Home*: plans are currently in progress for modernising the home, and the Parish Council will receive a presentation from the owners in due course.
- e) *The Harrow*: the Thai sign is plastic and out of keeping with the area. **Action**: the Clerk to report to Enforcement.

112/17 **Members Report: Village Hall**

- a) The minutes of the recent village hall meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- b) Compton Little Theatre are submitting a planning application to erect a shed in the hall grounds for their props.
- c) The fence between the hall and the Harrow is to be renewed.
- d) The hall management committee are in dispute with Castle Water over a very large water bill.
- e) The hall management committee have put a safeguarding policy in place.

113/17 **Village Sign**

Cllr Sharples reported that the terracotta panels are currently being fired.

114/17 **Finance**

- a) *Management report to 30th August* had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted and approved.
- b) *Schedule of income and expenditure for July and August* had been circulated prior to the meeting and the expenditure of £12116.73 was noted and approved. Members noted that the balance at the bank at the 31st August 2017 was £63283.03.
- c) *External audit*: this has been completed. Members *noted* the issues arising report, that the accounts had been approved after the commencement of the inspection period of the exercise of electors rights and resolved to ensure that the electors rights inspection period commences after the accounting statements are approved.

115/17 **Clerks Report**

Proposal for a new handyman: Members **resolved** to accept the Clerk's recommendation to contract Mr Andrew Holloway, from Witley, on a self-employed basis, to work in the parish for one full day a month. Mr Holloway holds equipment which will enable him to do work such as clearing ditches and cutting back vegetation, in addition to the handyman work expected up to now. Members noted that, as SCC and GBC have very tight budgets and little to spend on highways and byways, parishes will increasingly take over this work, and this appointment will put the parish in a good position to do so. The resolution to contract Mr Holloway for one full day a month was PROPOSED by Cllr Graham, SECONDED by Cllr Sharples, with all in favour. The Clerk asked all members to send her a list of work they would like undertaken.

116/17 **Councillors Business**

No additional matters were raised.

117/17 **Correspondence:** to be noted
Guildford Environmental Forum: newsletter September to November 2017.

118/17 **Dates of Meetings:**
15th November, 17th January.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm