



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Compton Parish Council, held on
Wednesday 19th September 2018 at 7.00pm
At Pucks Oak Barn for the transaction of the under mentioned business

1. Graham Riching, resident of Guildford and a member of Save Hogs Back, gave an informal presentation with photographs on the current traffic problems in and around Guildford, and the potential traffic problems arising from the planned development at Blackwell Farm.
2. Mrs Lewis asked if attention could be paid to cutting the grass at the corner of Down Lane at Down Place, as its length currently had a serious impact on sight lines.

Present: Cllrs A Burtenshaw, P Graham R Nagaty, K Patel, C Sharples
Borough Cllr and Mayor M Parsons
5 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

101/18 **Election of meeting Chairman:** Cllr P Graham, proposed by Cllr Nagaty, Seconded by Cllr Sharples, all in agreement.

102/18 **Apologies for absence:**
The Clerk advised that Mrs Emma Terry had that day given her resignation, due to other commitments. Members thanked her for her hard work in the short time she had been a councillor, and regretted her resignation.
Apologies were also noted from County Cllr M Furniss and Mr Ken Miller

103/18 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Nagaty declared a pecuniary interest in the Blackwell Farm development.

104/18 **Minutes of Parish Council meeting July 2018:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
Mr Burtenshaw requested that it be noted that Cllr Sharples had received replies to his emails to the Gallery, contrary to Cllr Sharples' statement in 92/18.

105/18 **Matters Arising**
To consider any matters not dealt with by the agenda

- a) *Compton United Charities:* The Clerk and Mr Foran had not yet had a discussion. Deferred to the November meeting.
- b) *Time Capsule:* Cllr Sharples advised of his intention to talk to a local resident, who may take this on.
- c) *Communications: Facebook:* Cllr Terry had been dealing with this. Mr Burtenshaw agreed to see if any of the Gallery staff would take this on.
- d) *GBC grants in kind:* an application for funding for adult exercise equipment has been made
- e) *Roadside planting:* to be discussed with Mr Jurk, GBC.
- f) *Road closure for Remembrance Sunday:* the Clerk is pursuing this.
- g) *Watts Chapel bell on Remembrance Sunday:* Mr Burtenshaw was happy that the bell be tolled at 11am on the 11th, the Clerk will speak to the Captain of bell ringers.

106/18 **Co-option of Councillor**
Members agreed the co-option of Alistair Burtenshaw, Director of Watts Gallery to the Parish Council. Mr Burtenshaw has served as consultant member for the past year.
Proposed by Cllr Sharples, Seconded by Cllr Graham, all in favour.

107/18 **Report from County Cllr:**
Cllr Furniss had sent the following report:

A31 Maintenance

- A31 maintenance works took place from 23-26th July.
- Works will included litter picking, grass cutting and jetting of drains.
- Any maintenance to drains will be done where possible to maximise use of the lane closures.
- I have had discussions with the senior engineer for the area about signage.
- The contractor who has put up the signs at the Puttenham turning have not been paid and new signs have now been ordered.
- The signs will require more robust foundations to deal with the A31 microclimate and the wind tunnel effect.
- It is planned to do a complete sign revamp along the entire A31 in both directions in October when the next planned closure for grass cutting happens. The signs will be installed then.
- Countryside Maintenance
 - I have maps to provide to the Parish Council indicating the works that have been paid for out of my divisional allowance for path and byway maintenance.
 - This includes sign replacements, repairs to the paths and also clearing vegetation.
 - I will be using a sum from the allowance again to continue the countryside maintenance.
- B3000 Rail Bridge replacement
 - Network Rail completed the works on time and all roads are now open.
 - The bridge is slightly wider in order to comply with modern vehicle standards.
- BT Works on Down Lane
 - A three month road closure order, which comes into effect on the 17th September, allows for the closure of the road for 4 nights, in order to carry out cabling work.

Cllr Burtenshaw expressed concern about continual burst water mains on Down lane, which effectively closed the Gallery tea rooms on each occasion due to lack of water. [Post Script: Thames water announced they will replace this water main very soon]

108/18 **Report from Borough Cllrs:**

Cllr Parsons reported as follows:

- A consultation on the GBC Main Modifications to the Local Plan commenced on the 11th September and will run for 6 weeks. Any responses on this consultation on draft changes should be sent to the Inspector, as GBC had no influence at this stage.
- GBC were investigating alternative courses of action concerning Percy Podgers scrap yard.

109/18 **Report on police and crime statistics:** 9 crimes were reported in Compton in July: 1 anti social behaviour and 1 sexual violence in Priorswood, 1 other theft in Down Lane, 1 sexual violence near the Green, 1 anti social behaviour Priors Hatch Lane.

110/18 **Report on Local Plan: *attached to the Minutes as Annex 1***

Mrs Karen Stevens joined the meeting by conference call.

Members noted the proposal that the Parish Council should set aside a sum of money, recommended at £25,000, in case there is the opportunity for a Judicial Review, as Richard Bate has advised that, in his opinion, there are strong grounds to challenge the Inspectors decision through the High Court. The decision needs to be made now as, if the opportunity arises, it will be necessary to move fast. Mrs Stevens will approach other Parish Councils who will be affected to seek their financial input.

She understands that CPRE will contribute £5,000.

Members considered the expected outlay for the current financial year against budget, and whether it would be possible to ring fence this sum. It was established that it was unlikely that funds would be needed before the next financial year and that it would be feasible to precept for funds to support the judicial review, as a successful challenge would be in the best interests of the parish. If, however, funds were needed in this financial year, it would be possible to find these, but not to support any new projects.

Members also noted that, if the judicial review was not successful, costs would be capped at £10,000, although Cllr Parsons advised that the Dunsfold JR would be a great deal more expensive [have I got this right?].

Members agreed to ring fence the sum of £25,000 for a possible Judicial Review of the Inspectors decision, and noted that the decision to proceed would be taken by the Parish Council.

Proposed by Cllr Sharples, Seconded by Cllr Graham, all in favour.

111/18 **Members report: *highways:***

1. **Down Lane:** SCC have confirmed that they have no budget for any improvements in the current financial year.

2. **AQMA - Traffic Pollution**

2.1 GBC have until mid-2019 to come up with an action plan to reduce the level of pollution in the Air Quality Management Area on the Street.

2.2 They have commissioned various additional traffic studies in the AQMA but have not released any information as yet.

2.3 I reported that the NO2 readings in the AQMA for May (which was while the bridge was shut) were higher than both January and April. This is extraordinary and there is no explanation for this. The June figures are eagerly awaited but they have not yet appeared on the website.

2.4 GBC, their new consultant and SCC are holding regular meetings and GBC will be providing an interim report to those affected in the AQMA. However, this is unlikely to provide us with any clearer information.

2.5 GBC have confirmed that "all solutions are still on the table" and this includes Average Speed Cameras.

3. Cllr Graham reported planned work on Puttenham Heath Road. The road will be open but with temporary traffic-light working from 0930 to 1530 for 10 Days from 21st September, then closed overnight for 15 days (5th to 22nd October) from 8pm to 6am.

The signed diversions will be as follows:

Southbound traffic – Puttenham Hill, Hogs Back, Farnham Road, Bridge Street, Onslow Street, Friary Bridge, Portsmouth Road, Old Portsmouth Road, New Pond Road, The Street.

Northbound traffic – The Street, New Pond Road, Old Portsmouth Road, Portsmouth Road, Friary Bridge, Farnham Road, Hogs Back, Puttenham Hill.

112/18 **Members report: *allotments and environmental projects:***

a) Ditch at allotments: Members agreed to request funding from the County Cllr's personal allowance.

b) Bonfires: members agreed that there should be no bonfires on the allotments between the 1st April and the 30th September.

c) Cllr Sharples reported a dead tree on the common, which the Clerk will report to GBC once the position had been established.

d) Pucks Oak Barn hedge: the Clerk will ask SWT to cut this back, as it currently protrudes over the pavement.

113/18 **Members report: *youth and recreation***

Cllr Patel requested that the tree on the corner of the Green nearest Almsgate be reduced in size, as

it creates loss of light to the adjacent houses.

114/18 Members report: *Watts Gallery and Cemetery*

- a) A meeting of the cemetery committee will be held shortly, once a date is agreed.
- b) Condition report: Watts Cemetery wellhead. The report, by the London Conservation Company, who are undertaking the conservation work to the War memorial, was noted and would be considered at a later date, with the possibility of joint funding between the Gallery and the Parish Council. Cllr Burtenshaw confirmed that the Gallery are fund raising for the Chapel at present. He also confirmed that the Gallery would provide protective covering for the wellhead over the winter, details to be agreed. This approach was endorsed.
- c) Railing: After discussion, it was agreed that the installation of the railing had been a misunderstanding. Members applauded the work done by Matthew Carter in the Cemetery. The following was agreed:
 - i. The railing will stay in place for the time being, and will be discussed and resolved at the cemetery committee meeting.
 - ii. For the avoidance of misunderstanding, all agreements for work that is not routine will be documented and agreed by the Parish Council before action is taken by either the Gallery or the Parish Council.

115/18 War Memorial:

Conservation work on the war memorial started on Monday 17th September and would be completed in about 2 weeks time.

The War Memorial Trust awarded a grant of £4650 towards this work.

116/18 Members report: *planning:*

Cllr Graham reported as follows:

2 Tree applications (1 approved, 1 waiting)

4 Planning Applications inc:

- a) Continuing saga of Land adjoining Woodside, Priorsfield Road. Mr Alexander's agent has submitted a 69-page appeal document to the inspector, which GBC have rebutted. We await Inspector's decision.
- b) An appeal by the Log Store Withies Lane to extend is waiting Inspectorate.
- c) The Old School House has been refused permission for a 3-bay garage and offices over.
- d) Angel Court have re-applied (discussed previous PC meeting)
- e) The Nursery have applied to erect another steel-framed building

1 Prior Notification for Change of Use C1 (offices) to B3 (Residential): Roseberry Farm: Neighbours across the road had not been consulted. In the past, the owners had planning permission for more offices, but had not built them. At present, the land is in the Green belt but land nearby has been taken out of the Green belt. Cllr Graham recommended a letter to GBC planning asking that, if they are minded to approve this application, this should not create a precedent for future residential accommodation on the site. This was agreed.

117/18 Members report: *village hall:*

Minutes of recent village hall meeting had been circulated. Cllr Graham had nothing further to report.

118/18 Parking

Notes from recent meeting had been circulated.

The preferred option of parking at the front of the Green had been rejected by GBC, who own the land, as it is registered common land and would require approval from the Secretary of State.

Cllr Graham will call another meeting to discuss alternatives.

119/18 Finance

- a) *Management report to 31st August:* noted and approved
- b) *Receipts and expenditure for July and August :* members noted and approved the expenditure for the period of £16,494.60
- c) *Bank reconciliation: statement to 30/6/2018:* members noted the balance in the current account of £43,471.86.

120/18 **Clerks report**

*Website report: **Annex 9 Should this SHOW annex 9?***

121/18 **Councillors business:** *for noting or including on a future agenda – No business noted?*

122/18 **Correspondence:** *to be noted*

Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance have requested a grant towards their work of £150. Members agreed to this grant, as the Air Ambulance had been used by parishioners in the recent past and their work is vital. Proposed by Cllr Sharples, Seconded by Cllr Patel, all in favour.

123/18 **Dates of meetings:**

Parish Council: 21st November, 16th January, 20th March

Please note: local elections will be held in 2019. The Annual meeting will be held after, and within 14 days of, the elections

Annual parish meeting date to be determined.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.29pm.