



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH OF COMPTON

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a meeting of Compton Parish Council held on

Wednesday 17th July 2019 at 7.00pm

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

Present: Cllrs A Burtenshaw, P Graham, R Nagaty, J Palca, K Patel, C Sharples.
County Cllr M Furniss
One member of the public
The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

Public forum:

1. Members were advised of the sad death of Peter Turner on the 15th July.
2. Village Green: Ken Miller questioned the long grass at the roadside of the Green. The Clerk advised that the Borough Council were trying to encourage wild flowers. Cllr Sharples confirmed that some are growing. He was also of the view that the longer grass discourages encroachment.

AGENDA

- 68/19 **Election of Meeting Chairman:** Cllr Burtenshaw, Proposed by Cllr Sharples, Seconded by Cllr Graham, all in favour.
- 69/19 **Apologies for Absence:** all members were present
- 70/19 **Declarations of interest:**
- a) Cllr Nagaty declared a pecuniary interest in the proposed Blackwell farm development as he is a neighbour.
 - b) Cllr Burtenshaw declared a pecuniary interest in Watts Gallery, as Director.
- 71/19 **Minutes of Annual Meeting held 15th May:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
Minutes of Extraordinary meeting held 28th May: were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
Minutes of Extraordinary meeting held 26th June: were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
- 72/19 **Matters Arising:**
All matters in previous minutes are covered by the agenda
- 73/19 **Reports from County Cllr:**
Cllr Furniss reported as follows:
- a) Down Lane: the footpath has been completed. Cllr Burtenshaw thanked Cllr Furniss for the work to the pedestrian path and the additional funds to complete it. White lines, a notice and an additional piece of resurfacing by the pond are still awaited.
 - b) B3000 Pond Road bridge: was closed for a short period as a void was discovered under the bridge. This was mended and further tarmac added.
 - c) Public footpaths: Cllr Furniss asked to be advised if work needed to be done to SCC owned footpaths.
 - d) Community allocation: Cllr Furniss has some money available for defibrillators, noticeboards, etc. The Clerk will submit an application for playground repairs.
 - e) Removal of white lines in Priorsfield Road: these had not been reinstated after resurfacing. Cllr Furniss will speak to Highways, but pointed out that SCC have a policy of removing road furniture of this nature, as it has been proven to help slow traffic. Cllr Graham was concerned that drivers were not sure of their place on the road without this marking.
 - f) AQMA review: this had resulted in a decision to remove the right turn into Down Lane. Cllr Burtenshaw asked that signage for Watts Gallery should be very clear.
 - g) Traffic lights at roundabout: Cllr Nagaty suggested that these might improve traffic flow. Cllr Furniss advised that no action could be taken that could impact on the A3, and that traffic lights would have that impact. He was disappointed that the no right turn into Down Lane was the only action to come out of the AQMA review and asked members to put forward any other suggestions.

- 74/19 **Report from Borough Cllrs:**
Cllr Nagaty reported as follows:
- a) the results of the AQMA had been discussed.
 - b) Cllr Nagaty discussed the impact of developments on surrounding Borough Local Plans.
- 75/19 **Report on police and crime statistics:**
Cllr Burtenshaw reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner had visited Watts Gallery recently. Cllr Palca believed it would also be helpful to have advice on crime trends in the area.
- 76/19 **Members Report: local Plan:**
- a) Members discussed Karen's report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.
 - b) Members noted that Puttenham Parish Council had decided not to support the legal challenge as they had been advised that it might be illegal to do so. The Clerk advised that this was incorrect, as the JR is not a campaign, it is a means of protecting the parish.
 - c) Members discussed the decision to proceed to Judicial Review and the financial implications. Cllr Graham reminded members that this had been discussed and decisions minuted over a number of months, and the Parish Council and its representatives were acting on the decisions made.
 - d) Whilst agreeing that members had agreed to proceed to Judicial Review, with the previously agreed ring-fenced commitment of £25,000 from parish council reserves, members hoped that the two sides might reach an agreement out of court and requested Karen to explore this option.
- 77/19 **Members Report: Highways:**
Mr Miller reported as follows:
- a) *Reported near misses on A31/A3 slip road:* As promised, SCC have now painted a further set of arrows on the road surface indicating the direction of traffic. They have also left the temporary sign in place indicating two-way traffic.
 - b) *AQMA:* GBC have decided to go ahead with the no-right-turn into Down lane as their sole solution to the problem, in spite of our pointing out that this is likely to have little effect on the traffic pollution in the AQMA.
- 78/19 **Members Report: Allotments and Environment**
- a) Cllr Sharples will seek support for a Himalayan Balsam pulling party on the common. Results from previous sessions are very good, it is now important to keep on top of it.
 - b) Withies pond: The Clerk and Cllr Sharples will meet to discuss the work to be done to the feeding ditches by the village handyman.
 - c) Telephone box: Cllr Sharples was thanked for its constant lovely surprises. The recent theme had been fairies, to support the Gallery's summer project.
- 79/19 **Members Report: youth and recreation**
- a) RoSPA Inspection report: the Clerk will deal with the recommendations
 - b) Cllr Nagaty advised that he sits on a committee at WBC which is looking at playground provision across the borough. He will report further.
- 80/19 **Members Report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery**
- a) *Minutes of cemetery meeting held 9th July:* circulated prior to the meeting and agreed.
 - b) *Current cemetery fees:* the Clerk was asked to review the fees at other cemeteries. **Agenda item: September meeting.**
 - c) *New exhibition at Watts Gallery:* 'John Frederick Lewis: Facing Fame' was opened the previous week. The next on William Orpen's studio portraiture is in progress.
 - d) *Physical Energy:* most of the money required to put this in place had been raised. The Gallery is currently working on Highways regulations. It is hoped to have the work on site in October, with completion at the end of the year.
 - e) *Auditorium:* work is beginning on the planning submission for the woodland auditorium Bench 1 by Practice Architecture thanks to the Parish Council's contribution which will support the planning process. Project completion will also be subject to raising of the costs for the structure.
- 81/19 **Members Report: Planning**
- a) 5 planning applications and 5 applications for tree works have been submitted since the last meeting: Fowlers Croft, variation on approved; Monkshatch, variation on approved; Broadbridges cottage, demolish and erect new garage; 3 Fowlers Croft, extension and porch; Beechwood, variation on approved.
 - b) Invading weeping willow to be removed: Helmstead; diseased trees at Field Place; 2 reductions at Compton Heights; invaders at the Harrow Boundary. No objections.
 - c) All the planning applications reported at the last meeting were approved and had not been objected to: application for certificate of lawfulness to establish whether a house in a grounds of another (Abbots Wood, Priors Hatch Lane) can be regarded as a separate dwelling; an

extension to an outbuilding; full application for planning and listed building consent for conversion of the Pottery at Brickfields into holiday let use.

82/19 **Members Report: Village Hall**

- a) The hall will be decorated this summer.
- b) All existing trustees were elected, with 3 new trustees.
- c) David and Sarah Baskerville will resign in due course.
- d) Data protection and safeguarding policies were published and will be issued to all hirers.

83/19 **Charging points for electric vehicles**

A paper had been tabled by Cllr Burtenshaw and was discussed. As the charging process takes some time, it seems that a logical place to have a point is at the Gallery, where the car owner can occupy themselves, but the Gallery and grounds are locked at night, which would make it impossible. It might be possible to place one in front of the gate, outside the Gallery's grounds, so it was agreed to gauge demand for electric charging in general in Compton, through the News.

84/19 **Air Quality**

A paper was tabled by Cllr Burtenshaw and was discussed. The following was agreed:

- a) This would be a standard agenda item, with the proviso that there should be something new to discuss. Cllrs Burtenshaw and Graham will form a small committee to take this forward
- b) The parish was receiving little support from GBC, but this should be kept under review.
- c) An electric charge point in Compton would send the right message.
- d) Members to consider an audit from an environmental consultant, with recommendations on what the parish could do. This will be considered following the result of the Judicial Review,
- e) Volunteers to get involved will be sought through the News.

85/19 **Finance**

- a) *Annex 8: Schedule of income and payments April to June.* Members noted the total outlay for the months of April to June of £8629.96
- b) *Annex 9: Management report to end June 2019:* noted and agreed. Cllr Palca asked for a column showing current expected expenditure for each budget item, so that it was clear when no more money would be taken from that cost centre. The clerk will discuss this with the software provider.
- c) *Annex 10: Bank reconciliation to end June 2019.* Noted and agreed.

86/19 **Risk Assessment**

Annex 11: Risk assessment summary revised. Noted and agreed

87/19 **Councillors Business:** *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*

- a) Mr Miller is to hold a meeting at the Club about its future. He will be asked to report at the next meeting.

88/19 **Correspondence:**

No new correspondence had been received.

89/19 **Dates of meetings:**

18th September

20th November

The meeting closed at 9.32pm