



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH OF COMPTON

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a **MEETING** of Compton Parish Council held on

Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.00pm

for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

Present: Cllr S Mallet (in the chair), Cllrs A Burtenshaw, R Nagaty, J Palca, C Sharples
County Cllr M Furniss
5 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

All matters raised in the Open forum were dealt with during the meeting, as they all referred to the agenda..

020/23 **Apologies for Absence:** were received from Cllr Saunders

021/23 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Burtenshaw and Cllr Sharples declared a personal interest in 033/23 Watts Gallery as Gallery employees.

022/23 **Minutes of Meeting held January 2023:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

023/23 **Matters arising**

Trees at Spiceall: The contractor has been asked to remove the trees, but not to replace them. Species to be agreed once the ground is clear. Timing ideally this spring.

024/23 **Withies Lane Water Flow:** members noted the letter from Mr Bagnall and thanked him for all his work to date to identify the blockage in the water flow, ownership and responsibility. The drainage company engaged by Mr Bagnall identified the blockage as being caused by tree roots and that a small section of pipe would need to be dug out and replaced in order to remove this blockage. He advised that he had contacted SCC, as they are ultimately responsible for this ditch and had been assured of a response within 28 days, which expires on the 22nd March. He undertook to keep the Council informed.

Cllr Sharples proposed that the Parish Council refund Mr Bagnall for the cost of the pipe survey and this was **agreed**.

025/23 **Land acquisition in Compton:**

Mr Palmer advised that solicitors were now talking to each other with reference to this land transfer. Members noted that it would be necessary to consider maintenance and right of way over Mr Palmer's land as part of any agreement.

026/23 **AONB Boundary review:**

Members agreed to ask Mrs Stevens to draft a response to the review, as her knowledge of the area is unsurpassed.

027/23 **Report from County Cllr:**

Cllr Furniss reported as follows:

- a) *Drain at Withies Lane:* Cllr Furniss agreed to investigate current action by SCC.
- b) *New Pond Lane junction with Binscombe:* closed for resurfacing on the 20th March for 2 weeks.
- c) *Speed surveys:* these are being organised for the B3000 and Down Lane
- d) *Average Speed Cameras:* members advised that 4 would be needed, to face each way, and that training on their use would be needed.
- e) *Speed restrictions:* there will have to be a public consultation on the proposals, when they are formulated.
- f) *20mph speed limit:* Cllr Palca asked if there could be a 20mph speed limit in The Avenue. Cllr Furniss advised that the police do not support a 20mph speed limit, but that this could be looked at.
- g) *Traffic survey wires:* Cllr Furniss agreed to investigate their ownership.
- h) *Nursing home:* Cllr Furniss agreed to investigate the Planning Application.
- i) *Right turn into Down Lane:* cars are still turning right, despite the restriction. Members discussed the possibility of a camera, or some physical restriction such as bollards.
- j)

- 028/23 **Report from Borough Cllrs:**
Cllr Nagaty reported as follows:
- i. A meeting had been held about the proposed Guildford West railway station. This would be helpful to the hospital.
 - ii. S106 money to be used for the car park at the hospital.
 - iii. Harrow planning application: an officer has been allocated but it has not moved forward yet.
 - iv. Continuing concern about the impact of the access road to the proposed solar farm.
- 029/23 **Members Report: local Plan:**
Mrs Steven's report was noted. Cllr Nagaty had asked for a more thorough review of housing numbers in light of Guildford specific issues relating to high student numbers and significant environmental concerns.
- 030/23 **Members Report: Highways: Cllrs Saunders and Sharples**
Nothing further to report. Cllr Nagaty advised that he had requested that the demolition materials from Debenhams be taken away by barge, but this was not to happen and they will be transported through a AQMA.
- 031/23 **Members Report: Allotments and Environment: Cllr Sharples**
Nothing to report.
- 032/23 **Members Report: youth and recreation: Cllr Saunders**
- i. *Playground:* Cllr Mallet would ask Cllr Saunders if he had been successful in obtaining designs and quotes for new equipment.
 - ii. *Coronation:* Mr Hunt advised that Compton's celebrations will be a collaborative event with Artington, and will take place on the Green, opposite the Club on the 7th May. Funding as follows: Artington: £500; CVA: £2000; Parish Council: £1228 (from Jubilee fund). Cllr Saunders is seeking further funding, but members agreed to increase the Council's share to £2000 should it be needed and subject to knowing how the money would be spent.
- 033/23 **Members Report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery: Cllr Burtenshaw**
- a) *Gallery Report:* noted.
 - b) *Donation Box in Chapel:* Sarah James, Head of Development, requested permission for the Gallery to install a donation box in the right hand niche of the chapel, to take electronic payments. The niche would also contain details of the work undertaken on the chapel and ownership. Members agreed in principle but wished for detail on what this donation box would look like, and what, if any, damage would be done to the interior of the chapel by its installation.
 - c) *Security:* members discussed the possibility of a security camera on the exterior of the building, which could also be used to count attendance numbers. Sarah would provide more details at a future date.
 - d) *Legacy Memorial:* members discussed a proposal for a legacy memorial close to the Chapel, on the right hand side of the path. An area of circular bricks was suggested, each with the legator's name inscribed on a brick, and a Gaze Burvill circular bench would sit around the edge of the bricks. Pictures of the proposal had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members agreed this to be a good idea in principle, requesting that the memorial is discreet. Further plans will be tabled before any agreement.
 - e) *Physical Energy:* after consultation, it had been agreed, for a number of reasons, not to locate this sculpture next to the A3 but to place it in the woodland garden at Limnerslease, where it will be more accessible. Cllr Sharples requested that the Gallery consider planting trees in the area next to the A3 where the sculpture was originally to be placed.
- This was Cllr Burtenshaw's last meeting, as he will not stand again at the election in May. He was thanked for his service to the Council.
- 034/23 **Planning:**
Land at Binscombe: A proposal for an Affordable Housing scheme for 28 affordable homes has been put forward for consultation by Opus Works. Members agreed to contact the company with their concerns, as follows:
- i. The proposed development is close to heritage buildings.
 - ii. This is a high density of housing, when Waverley has already met their housing target.
 - iii. Access is not currently stated, but if it is off Binscombe Lane the road is too narrow for extra traffic and construction lorries.
 - iv. The access to Brickfield properties is too close to the new entrance.
 - v. Members were concerned that the plot is low lying wetland, and will need serious infrastructure to provide drainage.
 - vi. The development will unbalance the ecology of the wildlife on the opposite fields, which are

successfully being re-wilded and deemed too wet to build on.

035/23 **Rural Housing, SCA:**

Members considered a potential need for development in the parish but agreed that as no-one was aware of any site, this should not be pursued at present.

036/23 **Parish Climate Action initiative**

No matters were raised.

037/23 **Finance**

- a) Schedule of income and payments to end February circulated prior to the meeting and the expenditure was noted and agreed.
- b) *Management report to end February* circulated prior to the meeting and noted.
- c) *Bank reconciliation to end February* noted and agreed
- d) *KSS Air Ambulance* have requested a grant of £300 towards their work and this was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Burtenshaw, Seconded by Cllr Nagaty, all in agreement.
- e) *Other grants:* the Clerk asked that requests for grant funding should be put in writing, so that they can be considered prior the meeting.

038/23 **Clerks Report**

- a) *Council elections May '23:* The Clerk advised on timetable and actions
- b) *Annual Parish Meeting:* it was agreed to open the meeting with a report from the Chairman, to talk about traffic calming and the playground, to take questions, and serve supper.
- c) *Litter pick:* The Clerk advised that it had been another successful day, with a good turnout, good weather, and a good atmosphere, with a lot of rubbish being collected. 18 of the 24 people counted as attending stayed for soup.
- d) *Consultation on new council divisions and division boundaries for SCC:* noted. These new divisions do not impact Compton.

039/23 **Councillors Business:** *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*

No further business was raised.

040/23 **Dates of next meeting:** Wednesday 17th May 2023

The meeting closed at 9pm