



# COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Minutes of a meeting of Compton Parish Council held on  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
In the **Village Hall** for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

**Present:** Cllr M Williams (in the chair), Cllrs M Bills, J Parsons, K Patel  
County Cllr P Gimson  
Borough Cllr J Palmer  
2 members of the public, Mr and Mrs Hunt  
**In attendance:** the Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

67/11 **Apologies for Absence:** were received from Cllr F Curtis and Cllr D Haskins

68/11 **Declarations of interest:** none were made

69/11 **Minutes of Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> July:** Cllr Parsons PROPOSED, SECONDED by Cllr Bills, that the minutes be taken as a true record of the meeting. This was agreed by all present.

70/11 **Matters Arising:**

*52/11a: Highways: quieter surfacing:* Cllr Gimson that the decision not to replace the quieter surfacing had been a financial one. Finances dictated that the roads could be top dressed every four years, to install quieter surfacing would cost ten times as much.

*52/11a: Highways: pothole repairs:* Cllr Williams asked for clarification on the stipulation that the contractors must return to repair a pothole free of charge. Cllr Gimson advised that this applied if the original repair failed within the first 24 months.

*52/11c: Surrey Pride: small items:* Mr and Mrs Hunt requested that attention be paid to the pavement approaching the roundabout, which was un-walkable. The pavement between the common and Withies Lane had used to be 1/7m wide and was now less than 1ft wide. The bend there is very dangerous and anyone with a buggy has to walk on the road. The footpath opposite Downs Lane is in the same condition.

Cllr Parsons noted that highways signs had not been cleaned for a very long time. Cllr Gimson advised that the new highways contract would include this work.

Mr and Mrs Hunt noted that there is no Compton sign at the Godalming end of the village.

71/11 **Chairman's Report:**

*Vas system:* The Parish Council has purchased 2 VAS systems and a data collection system. Three people are trained to move the VAS equipment, charge the batteries and collect data and the data is proving interesting with relation to traffic volume, speed and patterns. The combination of the VASs, CSW and the 20mph due to road re-surfacing seems to have slowed the traffic down to some extent.

*Community Speed Watch:* this is now operational again. The current co-ordinator, Jon Maslin, has requested further training from the police and is awaiting confirmation.

*Highways:* Mr Ken Miller has spoken to Kas Banisaied, who has requested that we send location details for the proposed 'unsuitable for HGV' signs and justification, as well as location details, for the proposed 'pedestrians in road' signs. The traffic committee will deal with this in October and asked that the Parish Council approve Martin Foran, ex-chairman of the Parish Council, as a member. This was **approved**.

Communications are ongoing following unsatisfactory responses from Highways concerning the resurfacing of the road and there has been no response from Stagecoach over the question raised about the bus stop at the bottom of Down Lane.

*Planning:* Along with 6 residents, the Parish Council objected to the legalisation of the business currently taking place at Monks Hatch Garden Farm and the outcome was expected the day following the meeting.

*Grit bins:* an update is awaited on any new regulations or recommendations before purchasing bins.

Councillors **approved** the purchase of 4 snow shovels, one each for the church, chapel, village hall and club, up to a limit of £100. 50% of this money will come from Cllr T Rooth's fund of 2010. Priorsfield Road no longer want a grit bin, confirmation from GBC is required on whether the promised funding will still be forthcoming if the bin is in a new location.

*Finances:* Takings from the collection box at the Chapel have increased since the re-opening of the Gallery. The figures need to be separated into donations and sales, at present the donations slightly outweigh sales, which are split between the leaflets and the books. We await figures from the Gallery on numbers of books sold and numbers of visitors from tours so that the current agreement and finances can be reconciled. We understand that the visitors to the Gallery are treble that of the Restoration Programme period. Excluding sales, donations are slightly higher, but not much higher than before, indicating that visitors might feel that the entry fee is sufficient and includes the Chapel visit. This and future collaboration between the Gallery and the Parish Council concerning the Chapel and Gallery is ongoing.

The Chairman has produced a Powerpoint map of the cemetery based on the old map, which can be edited and e-mailed. Once the Clerk has cross-referenced this with all available data the two will be passed to Cllr Haskins to be linked up to the online cemetery info.

Maureen Butler has asked for her thanks to be passed to Paul Monks for the good work which he is going at the green. The Chairman also wished to thank Paul for his work to date and for tiling the kitchen backsplash.

Former councillor Desmond Rothwell passed away recently after a long illness, Desmond was a good friend to many in the village and will be truly missed. The Parish Council passed its condolences to his widow, Doramie.

## 72/11 Reports from Borough and County Cllrs

*Cllr Palmer, Guildford Borough Council:*

- a) *HGVs:* Cllr Palmer advised that a question had been tabled for the Local Committee meeting the following day on the removal of HGV signs towards Compton. It was hoped that a forthcoming government review of the A3 would include a review of signage.
- b) *S106 monies:* GBC is currently reviewing how this money can be used, and has asked for ideas. Members suggested funding for a footpath on Downs Lane.
- c) *Gypsies:* GBC is required to identify sites that are suitable for gypsies and would be grateful for any suggestions of sites in this area.
- d) *GLive:* this is now open for business. The Clerk had received a booklet advertising their autumn programme, and this was circulated at the meeting.

*Cllr Gimson, Surrey County Council:*

- i) *A3 review:* Cllr Gimson hoped to be included on the working party which would review the Surrey Transport Plan. He wanted to see a traffic measurement survey done now that the Hindhead Tunnel is completed, as he suspected this had caused a bigger problem in this area, but as yet there is no data.
- ii) *Winter:* SCC's winter provision policy is now on their web site, there is no change for Compton as gar as road gritting is concerned.
- iii) *Drains:* these are still blocked with the grit from the road resurfacing. Cllr Gimson undertook to speak to John Hilder.

## 73/11 Report from the Police

- a) *Burglaries:* the police had warned that a number of burglaries had been carried out recently where access had been through a very small space, such as a small top window.
- b) *Drain covers:* some had been stolen in Wanborough
- c) *Down Lane:* there had been a burglary during the last two weeks.
- d) *Puttenham Golf Club:* had been broken into and wedding presents stolen.

## 74/11 Public Forum

- a) *Compton Common:* Mr and Mrs Hunt commented that this was no longer a common, as every tree was surrounded by brambles and these areas were never mowed, reducing the area of common land considerably. **Action:** refer to Cllr Haskins
- b) *Grit bins:* Cllr Gimson advised that the County intended to have all grit bins filled by the end of October and had purchased extra grit for the coming winter. Information on the reason for the lack of grit bins in Compton would be useful, in order to obtain funding to supply some.

## 75/11 Members Report: Highways

- a) *Grit Bins:* see 74/11 above.
- b) *Community Speed Watch:* Surrey Police had introduced new procedures for submitting the data from speedwatch patrols and these had put more technical duties over to the teams. As a result and in order to make this less onerous and error prone, Cllr Haskins had, in conjunction with Surrey Police, developed a data input and verification on line system which, after trial in the village, is being piloted across Surrey and seems to be accepted.
- c) *Vehicle Activated Signs:* these are put in different places through the village for a week at a time. Data on traffic speeds and volume has been extracted at regular intervals and is online at [www.ubiubi.org/vas](http://www.ubiubi.org/vas). The project is still at calibration stage as, although the count seems to be right, the speeds are not convincing.

## 76/11 Members Report: Allotments and Environmental Projects:

- a) *Allotments:* the allotments had won 4 gold and 3 silver-gilt awards at this year's *Guildford in Bloom*, this result was better than anywhere else in the borough. Cllr Haskins had advised the a fairly active turnover was expected this autumn, as people moved away or lost enthusiasm, so as well as continuing the policy of aggregating small plots into larger ones, people who wanted an allotment should be encouraged to apply.
- b) *Environment:* at present the focus would be on drain/ditch maintenance and common clearance.

## 77/11 Members Report: Recreation ground and playground

- a) *RoSPA report:* All items noted had been low risk, and Cllr Patel proposed that no work be done at present. This was **agreed**.
- b) *Recreation Ground:* this is being mowed on a regular basis and the clippings removed.

## 78/11 Members Report: Watts Chapel and Cemetery

- a) Minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> September had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members noted as follows:
  - i) *Path:* the start date for the path for Zone 5 was delayed again, due to a dispute between the contractor and the supplier on the price of the stone to be used for the edging. The stone had been ordered on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, and would be delivered in 4 to 6 weeks, so work would now not commence before the end of October. The Clerk had asked the contractor to liaise

with the farmer whose field was to be used for access, but had not yet had confirmation that this had been done.

- ii) *Lych gate roof*: Paul Monks had completed the work and Loseley Bakeries had paid all costs.
- b) *Gallery visitors*: Cllr Bills reported that the initial rush after the re-opening had died down; last week visitors had been down by 1/3<sup>rd</sup>.
- c) *Conservator*: Cllr Bills reported that he would be on site the following week, and would look at the war memorial as well as the well head. (It was noted that the well head needs protective covering for the winter). Cllr Bills intended to obtain estimates for this work and for the loggia and accepted that the well head is the most urgent, although work can wait until the spring if it is protected over the winter.
- d) *Heritage Weekend*: this had gone well.
- e) *Open Evenings*: Cllr Bills suggested that this might be a popular idea, as the light in the chapel is very different in the evenings, and that there should be a charge for attending.
- f) *Management of Chapel*: discussions are currently taking place between Watts Gallery and the Parish Council about the future management of the chapel. A meeting the previous week had discussed ideas in principle, but no details had been agreed to date.

79/11 **Members Report: Planning**

**11/P/01610 Brooklea (formerly known as Roseberry Farm), New Pond Road**

*Proposed replacement office building (Class use B1)*

Cllr Parsons explained that this was the headquarters of Opus. The company was using a stable as offices, and had applied for retrospective planning permission and for an additional building. There has been a letter of objection from Highways, who were concerned about traffic volumes. There had been 5 letters of objection from neighbours which had resulted in the initial application being withdrawn, and the consultation on the new application would run to the 11<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Parsons would visit the site on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> October and would send a draft letter to the Clerk.

80/11 **Members Report: Village Hall**

Cllr Bills had nothing to report.

81/11 **Finance**

- a) the Schedule of Income and Expenditure to 1/9/11 had been circulate prior to the meeting and was **approved** by all present.
- b) *Mandate*: Lloyds Bank had decided to review the account as a result of the application to add the Clerk to the list of people with access to the account. They had also asked for the following resolution to be agreed:  
*At the meeting of Compton Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> September it was agreed in accordance with the Constitution and Rules that Mrs Carolyn Maslin is removed as signatory from the account held with Lloyds TSB. We confirm that David Haskins and Joanna Cadman are to be added as new signatories. We hereby certify that the above resolution is in accordance with the Constitution and Rules of the organisation.*  
Cllr Patel PROPOSED that this resolution be agreed and signed by the Chairman. This was SECONDED by Cllr Billis, with all in favour.

82/11 **Cemetery Lodge**: the Clerk had submitted an application to Guildford Borough Council to change the name to Chapel Lodge.

83/11 **Councillors Business**: *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*

- a) *Electric fence*: it was reported that there was an electric fence very close to the road in Downs Lane, on the land between the gallery and the cemetery. Cllr Parsons agreed to investigate.

84/11 **Compton News**: The Clerk would submit an article.

85/11 **Dates of meetings:**

16<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm: Cllr Bills tendered his apologies for this meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.