



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH OF COMPTON

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a **MEETING** of Compton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.00pm
for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

Present: Cllr J Palca (in the chair), Cllrs R Nagaty, C Sharples
County Cllr M Furniss
Borough Cllr Dominique Williams
3 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

The Open Forum was deferred until after the start of the meeting, in order for a Chairman to be elected for the meeting

112/23 **Election of Chairman for the meeting**

Cllr Palca was elected chairman, proposed by Cllr Nagaty and seconded by Cllr Sharples.

113/23 **Open Forum**

Harrow development

Cllr Palca read extracts from her letter to Cllr Houston summarising Compton objections to the proposed development, and emphasised that the plans are incorrect.

The immediate neighbour illustrated the issues of access to their property after the development has been completed.

Another neighbour suggested that an independent person is appointed to look at the plans, which appear to be very creative. He also pointed out that the boundary is not clear.

Cllr Palca requested that our borough councillors keep the Parish Council updated on developments.

It was agreed that the key issues are:

- i. Access
- ii. The plans are misleading
- iii. Hedgerow: the new access goes through the current hedge, but the removal of the hedge is not mentioned in the application.

Cllr Furniss advised that he had asked the planning team for an assessment of the sight lines and had also asked SCC Rights of Way for their comments regarding the hedgerow.

114/23 **Apologies for Absence:** were received from Cllrs S James, S Mallet and J Saunders,

115/23 **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Sharples declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 125/23, Watts Gallery, as an employee.

116/23 **Minutes of Meeting held September 2023:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

117/23 **Matters arising:**

All matters are covered by the agenda.

118/23 **Land acquisition in Compton**

The Clerk advised that the two parties solicitors were in discussion over the granting of the Right of Way. She had asked the Council's solicitor for an update but this had not been received and she would continue to chase a resolution.

119/23 **Report from County Cllr:**

Compton Traffic Calming and place Making

Originally the scheme was just focusing on The Street to try and slow down speeds, but we are now looking at potentially expanding the scope of the scheme to include Down Lane. Many pedestrians use Down Lane to get to the Watts Gallery, Chapel and The North Downs Way. The Watts Gallery put forward some interesting

suggestions regarding the bus stop area outside the Watts Gallery and how we can make Down Lane safer for pedestrians/ cyclists. As we are now looking at expanding the scheme there is now potential to include more placemaking elements and bringing more of a village feel as well as slowing down speeds. The placemaking elements of course will be shaped by the residents of the village.

We are also still working on trying to slow down speeds along the Street as well as Down Lane. As you are probably aware there are many challenges around slowing down speeds in Compton, such as carriageway width restrictions as HGVs use this route and with Compton being in an AQMA. The team have been doing some reading and found a village called West Meon in Hampshire which has similar characteristics to The Street in Compton and there are issues with speeding. They managed to reduce speeds of between 5-10% without the use of physical measures. They also received positive feedback from the Parish Councils and residents. They also saw accidents halved through the village. A meeting is being set up with one of the officers at Hampshire Council who worked on the scheme to understand how its worked, what we can learn from it etc. The scheme was put in a few years ago now so hopefully they have been monitoring it and will have some robust conclusions to draw from it.

We are currently exploring options for funding however once we have confirmed this the plan is to have an initial engagement session in the village to ask people 'What they want' and then we can work from those comments when creating the designs. Once funding is confirmed we will also start engagement with the Parish Council as well. Conversations have been had with the heritage team, so we do want to also highlight the heritage of Compton throughout the scheme.

SCC Updates

Young people to get around for a pound on Surrey buses

Surrey County Council has agreed further funding to reduce the cost of travel for under 20s, with many single bus journeys now costing as little as £1.

The Surrey LINK card was launched by the county council earlier this year entitling all young people aged 20 and under, to 50% of all bus adult bus fares across Surrey. This has now been extended to include tickets purchased under the Department for Transport (DfT) £2 bus fare cap scheme which has been extended to December 2024.

From 12 November 2023 operators participating in the DfT fare cap scheme will offer a £1 single fare on adult tickets when a LINK card is shown. Participating operators include: Compass, Diamond Bus, East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership, Falcon, First, Metrobus, Stagecoach, Thames Valley Bus, Waverley Hoppa and details of participating routes can be found of the [DfT website](#).

Operators who do not participate in the DfT fare cap scheme will continue to offer 50% off the adult fare on single and return tickets.

Surrey set for the first ever Festival of Skills

The free one-day careers event will provide local students with the chance to connect with and learn more about some of the county's brightest businesses and training providers.

Up to 1,500 young people from schools and colleges across Surrey are expected to attend the event later this month (23 November 2023) at Sandown Park Racecourse.

The Festival of Skills will feature more than 60 exhibitors, including Samsung, British Airways, Pfizer, Haleon, and BAE Systems.

Public sector institutions will also be represented with the Animal & Plant Health Agency, NHS, armed forces and Surrey Fire & Rescue among those attending.

The event has been organised and funded by Surrey County Council, with support from the Association of Learning Providers Surrey (ALPS) and Surrey Event Professionals.

The Festival of Skills is open to young people in education aged 14 to 18. Those attending will have access to inspirational talks and interactive displays, while also learning about potential career opportunities.

Sectors represented include the creative arts, construction, cyber security, health and social care, technology, engineering, public sector, and hospitality.

The event will also host the official launch of the new [Surrey Careers Hub](#), which will work with the county's secondary schools, special schools and colleges to ensure every young person can find their best next step. Schools and colleges are still able to [sign up to the Festival of Skills for the remaining afternoon slots](#), but pre-booking is essential.

A small number of exhibitor stands are also available. Employers interested in attending must [register their interest via the Festival of Skills website](#).

For further information visit www.surreyfestivalofskills.co.uk.

Surrey community recycling centres to accept small DIY waste from households free of charge

<https://news.surreycc.gov.uk/2023/08/29/surrey-community-recycling-centres-to-accept-small-diy-waste-from-households-free-of-charge/>

From 1st September, Surrey County Council will lift charges on resident DIY waste in line with Government policy changes that were proposed in June.

The County Council, like most neighbouring authorities currently charge for all rubble and plasterboard to be disposed of at community recycling centres (CRCs). From 1st September up to two 50-litre rubble bags or one large item no larger than 2m x 0.75m x 0.7m per household will be accepted for free, at a maximum frequency of four visits over four weeks. Anything in excess of this will be chargeable at current rates.

DIY waste can be accepted at nine of the 15 community recycling centres and access to the rubble and plasterboard containers will continue to be controlled and monitored. A new monitoring system will be introduced using the automatic number plate recognition system to monitor usage.

CRCs are for Surrey residents only to dispose of household waste and recycling, including:

Batteries

Carpet

Cooking oil

Furniture
Small electrical items
Paper and card
Metal

A full list of Surrey's community recycling centres is available on the Surrey County Council website, along with details of what is accepted at each site.

Drivers to save up to £10,000 on electric vans to improve air quality on the A3

<https://news.surreycc.gov.uk/2023/09/07/drivers-to-save-up-to-10000-on-electric-vans-to-improve-air-quality-on-the-a3/>

Diesel van owners who drive along the Guildford stretch of the A3 more than three times a week, could be eligible for a grant to replace their vehicle with an electric model.

Surrey County Council is working in partnership with Guildford Borough Council to deliver a £11 million National Highways scheme, aimed at reducing high levels of pollution in the area. Applications can be made here from Tuesday 12 September 2023.

Vehicle dealerships that sell and lease qualifying electric light commercial vehicles are also being encouraged to apply to participate in the scheme. Applications can be made at

www.surreycc.gov.uk/a3evgrantdealer.

More information is available at www.surreycc.gov.uk/a3evgrant

120/23 **Report from Borough Cllrs:**

Council Finances

Whilst we have ensured that the borough will live within its means during this current financial year we are working on proposals to council to prune the capital spending plans significantly, and thus reduce the projected borrowing requirements. There is a crisis in local government funding and finance across England, not helped by slashed grants to government funding for local services to all councils, nor helped by high inflation and interest rates and the high cost of living as a result.

Climate Change Scorecard

This year's Climate Change Scorecards have been published and GBC has been scored as 'average'. You can read about this here: <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/26949/Our-climate-action-scorecard-2023>

North Street Development

The North Street revised proposal was approved by the cross-party Planning Committee in September.

Thames Water

The recent problems in Guildford and Godalming regarding lack of water supply due to a problem at the Shalford Treatment works have now been resolved. The Local Resilience Forum is run by Surrey County Council but as borough councillors we were ensuring information was relayed to local residents via social media. After water supply issues at the same treatment plant a year ago we now hope that TW invest in plant and infrastructure to ensure such problems do not happen again. There were problems in Compton and we hope that these are now resolved. Cllr Houston was in touch with Cllr Mallett to check how Compton was managing so that we could feedback through into the resilience forum.

Compton Planning Issues

Harrow Pub

This matter was dealt with in the Open Forum

Nursing Home

This application has been approved. There were only six objections so it did not fit the criteria to be heard at planning committee

Community Engagement

Our next ward surgery details are:

Date - Saturday 25th November

Time - 9:30-10:30am

Venue – The Snooty Fox Café, Shalford GU4 8JU

121/23 **Members Report: local Plan: no report this month, other than:**

- i. Wisley airfield enquiry is underway
- ii. Mrs Stevens will attend the GRA meeting on the 21st November and will report afterwards.

122/23 **Members Report: Highways: Cllrs Saunders and Sharples**

All actions had been covered by the County Cllr's report.

123/23 **Members Report: Allotments and Environment: Cllr Sharples**

No actions to report.

122/23 **Members Report: youth and recreation: Cllr Saunders**

The Clerk requested that this item be deferred to the January meeting, as it had not been possible to convene a meeting of the working group who would make recommendations to the Council. This was agreed.

The possibility of adding more trees to the Green and around the playground was discussed and agreed to be explored further. A representative from 'Roots for the Future' will be invited to the

January meeting to advise. It was noted that there was a safeguarding issue concerning visibility through trees in a playground situation, and this would be taken into account.

Cllr Furniss advised that SCC are currently still giving away trees.

- 124/23 **Members Report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery: Cllr James**
- a) *Gallery Report:* no report had been received.
 - b) *Cemetery committee meeting:* Thursday 16th November 2.30pm.
 - c) *Draft Terms of Reference:* These were **agreed**.
- 124/23 **Planning:** All noted and no objections were recorded.
- 125/23 **Finance**
- a) Schedule of income and payments to end October: the payments for the period of September and October of £8,906.42 were noted and approved.
 - b) *Management report to end October* noted and approved
 - c) *Bank reconciliation to end October* noted and approved
 - d) *Interim internal audit:* noted
- 126/23 **Councillors Business:** *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*
- i. *Bollards on GBC land to prevent cars parking on grass:* Cllr Williams would find the name of the correct person at GBC to discuss this with.
- 127/23 **Date of next full council meeting:** Wednesday 17th January 2024

The meeting closed at 20.06.