

Chairman's report - July 2016

The PC Review

We spend fewer hours in meetings than any other council and the same as Shackleford and Artington who also have meetings once every 2 months. Our meetings are longer than those that record meetings (almost half do not record end times, including Artington and Shackleford).

Decision making must be 'informed' and the current method of sending in reports is helpful, but not all reports are read by everyone.

For meetings to be shorter and effective, we have to send the reports in at least a week ahead of the meeting. However, I am aware that GBC & SCC respond to deadlines and hence, often send much awaited information on the day of the PC meeting.

If we are requesting an action, it should be clearly mentioned in the report - although actions needed as the result of more up-to-date information can still be dealt with.

Keeping the running list up to date for all projects - may negate the need for a report at all meetings but for now we will try shorter reports backed up by the running list which will be updated at the PC meeting and then by each person responsible for the action and kept in dropbox so that all changes are visible.

Everyone needs to be able to access Dropbox.

The public forum will be at the very beginning so that members of the public can then leave if they wish. This will be no longer than 15 mins and no more than 5 mins per person. The PC meeting will then run without any open discussions unless the Chair invites discussion.

All sections will be timed on the agenda. This report has 10 minutes max per report but if we can keep it to 5 minutes, this will cut 30 mins of the meeting.

The Local Plan is a huge topic and many PC's discuss the various aspects at committee meetings (which are made up of Cllrs and hence they are informed). The consultation is however now over and hence there will be less to say unless major changes are introduced which we are hopeful for.

The other methods for managing the agenda in a shorter time are to have more sub-committees (with powers to make decisions) or more meetings. I am happy for information and decisions to be made via email in between meetings, as we have always done. We have agreed to try the timed agenda and running order until November and if this doesn't work we will need to

consider a shorter meeting every month (which is what most PC's do),

Joanna has agreed to work a couple of hours a week in Compton (probably Thursday). This can be advertised regularly in the NEWS so that residents can see her or ring and know there will be an answer. Watts Gallery are considering offering some space. TBC - It is important that we understand Joanna's role and how much time is spent on what, as we may need to consider an increase in hours. Joanna has been keeping a diary for the last 2 weeks as an example.

For Joanna's time to be effective and to keep within allotted hours, she will need a laptop. I propose we buy a PC laptop that is for PC work only. Request vote for purchase of one at a cost of approx £400 plus software.

Village Green & Common Land

For the first time in living memory travellers temporarily moved onto the Green. There were approx. 15 vehicles and a large noisy generator that kept residents awake at night. The stay resulted in a lot of waste including human waste and several large piles of landscape waste. The matter was dealt with quickly by GBC and CPC and the travellers left after 5 days and 5 sleepless nights for residents nearby.

Understandably, residents who were most affected are very keen that we take preventative measures. We found out that the additional numbers of travellers in the area was because of a 'Travellers got Talent' contest that was being held at Camberley Theatre on 9th July. If this becomes an annual event as the organizer would like, then it emphasizes the need to secure the Green as best as we can, without spoiling its openness.

I met Hendrick Jurk who is going to send a plan with options and prices. The preferred option to secure the land is a grass covered permanent bund with small posts in areas where a bund isn't feasible. The Almsgate area wouldn't need securing as there is no vehicular access. The fencing would remain and the bunding would only be for exposed areas. The entrance could be either a gate or a retractable post. Bunding is also proposed for the common land near Pear tree Cottage.

We will need to share the costs with GBC and can discuss this when the details are drawn up. They dealt with the common clear up quickly.

Local Plan Meeting 5th July

The meeting was attended by approx 35 people in total, which included 3 Parish Cllrs - namely the Local Plan Committee.

The presentations provided a step-by-step guide to the issues that will impact Compton if plans go ahead and indeed even if they don't.

If there is no development and no highway mitigation just existing planning permissions and Dunsfold, we will see a 5% increase in traffic

If development goes ahead we will see 16% increase

The local roads that will be hit the hardest will be B3000, Prorsfield Rd and Down Lane.

If the A3 is widened, it will not help and the highways Assessment shows it will make matters worse as the A3 will attract more cars via the B3000.

The studies we helped to support showed that the 4 way junction is not viable and Karen will explain more about that (in the Highways section).

If Blackwell Farm goes ahead there is nothing to stop traffic wishing to avoid the bottle necks into Guildford (traffic will exit BWF at the Tesco roundabout) by leaving the A3 at Compton and getting to the A31 via Down lane and then crossing to use the short cut that will be created through the business park.

There have been 2 independent reviews of the SHMA and a further critique by Cllr Reeve who is a mathematician. All said the known errors had not been corrected. All said the figure could not be justified. The CPRE consultant presented a figure of 480 and Neil McDonald said 510. Both noting this was pre-Brexit and that the assessment would have to be done again once we have a better idea of the impact. Making an adjustment to account for Brexit is not a viable option as this would be without basis. We have paid our contribution towards this study, which was commissioned by GRA. We may however be asked to make a further contribution at some point in the future if the need arises.

The general attitude was that we must get this message across as forcefully as possible, as many people still don't realize what this could mean for Compton.

We were asked what could be done and whether we had a barrister to fight our corner when the plan is put to the Inspector. Karen explained that she as a campaigner had taken advice from a planning expert as they couldn't avoid a barrister but that barrister might be needed later on. I took a vote whether they would be happy for village funds (namely PC) to be used to defend Compton against the impact of the plan and for legal representation and residents voted 100% for this and one person said they couldn't think of anything more important.

May 24th - GBC Full Council Meeting

All Cllrs representing an area with a strategic site asked for the site in their ward to be removed. All that is, except our Cllrs. who did not. In contrast our

Cllrs voted for Blackwell Farm to stay in the Local Plan.

The consultation went ahead and I submitted the response for Compton PC. The points relating to soundness would appear to be the points that the Inspector will be most interested in, along with any points that do not legally comply or fail the duty to cooperate.

The issue we have over excessive pollution is a legal issue. The response we received from Cllr Furniss was that the readings were not valid as the tube was less than 1m from the road. We measured all sites and all were valid, this has been explained to Cllr Furniss who declined to comment.

We also questioned the soundness of a Plan that is based around a figure that no-one can check, surveys that are subjective, and inclusion of sites where their deliverability is unknown as major points, like access, are to be dealt with at the next stage, by developers?

There are many other issues, the full response was emailed and approved by a majority and no-one objected.

I attended the GRA meeting in June and again, the response was unanimous rejection of the vast majority of the Plan. CPRE also strongly rejected many parts of the Plan.