



## Compton and Shawford Parish Council

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### Record of the Annual Parish meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 19 April 2012, Shawford Parish Hall

**Present:** Councillors U Stevens, (chairman), J Evans, M Bell, J Millar, M Southgate, A Walmsley, M Wilkinson and Mr D Drake (Clerk).

**In attendance:** P C D Hagger, PCSO M Gay, County Councillor C Bailey, District Councillor J Warwick and 25 members of the public.

**Apologies for absence:** Councillor G Beckett, J Richardson, H Wyles.

#### Review of the Year

1. Councillor Stevens welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by announcing that on 8 May 2012 Angela Jeffrey and Marc Townell would become members of the Parish Council. They would be replacing Councillors Beckett and Millar who would be retiring on 3 May 2012 and Councillor Broomfield, who had resigned in January. She thanked them for their service to the community and, since a vacancy still remained, hoped that a volunteer for co-option would soon come forward.

2. Councillor Stevens mentioned the Annual Report, which, in the weeks prior to the meeting, had been delivered to all households within the parish. The aim of the report was to inform and to ensure transparency in the council's work. She thanked Peter Betts, Colin Jones, Terry Wilson and Adrian Walmsley for their excellent work on the Parish Plan and Village Design Statement. She had also been in correspondence with Steve Brine MP about the continuing need for a quiet surface on the M3. So far the news had been disappointing but she intended to keep up the pressure on the MP and the Minister for Transport.

#### Finance and Administration

3. Councillor Walmsley noted that the council had managed to maintain its precept (funds received from Winchester City Council) at £27,170 for the third year in a row. Income was also received from WCC's Open Spaces Fund and used to support improvements to the parish's playing fields and play areas. In accordance with local government guidance, the council must keep sufficient reserves to maintain operations for at least six months: these are recorded on the balance sheet as 'uncommitted reserves'. The council also maintains 'sinking funds' to cover major maintenance to the village hall and jubilee pavilion.

#### Police Report

4. PCSO Michelle Gay noted that, since her report to the Parish Council on 3 April 2012, no incidents had been reported to the police. She had recently held beat surgeries in Compton and Shawford and would continue to do so.

### **Shawford Play Area**

5. Councillor Millar noted that little progress had been made on the provision of a play area near the base of Shawford Down but the subject was very much alive. She had received an email from a Shawford resident with young children, who was very much against the proposal, but Councillor Millar wondered whether that view was shared by the community as a whole. A show of hands indicated that the public (as represented at the meeting) was in favour of a small play area in Shawford.

### **The Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

6. Councillor Stevens outlined the parish's plans to celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. There would be something happening on each day of the bank holiday weekend but the main event would be the Grand Fete on Monday 3 June 2012 at the Memorial Playing Fields. A full programme of events would be delivered to every household in early May. She hoped for good weather and a good attendance!

### **Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field**

7. Councillor Evans advised the meeting that an opportunity existed under the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge to rename the Compton Street playing field as "The Queen Elizabeth II Field". This would ensure that the field, which is greatly appreciated and used by the local community, would be retained for recreation use in perpetuity. Unless there were any strong objections, the council would proceed with the registration process, immediately following the council meeting on 8 May 2012. None were forthcoming.

### **Future Development within the Parish**

8. Councillor Bell wondered whether the new local plan offered the community an opportunity have a greater say on development within the parish. It would be worth considering having a discussion to see if parishioners could agree on areas that could be allocated for development rather than just waiting for developers to make individual proposals.

### **Open Session**

9. During the open session a request was made for a 'dog bin' on the Itchen Navigation towpath and for curbs on cyclists using the path. Councillor Wilkinson advised that she had been in contact with HCC about the 'cyclist problem' and would consider contacting WCC about the dog bin. Councillor Southgate advised the meeting that, over the past year, there had been a 78% reduction in complaints about aircraft noise. However, in recent days, some residents may have noticed aircraft deviating from their 'approved routes': this was due to equipment maintenance (ILS) at Southampton Airport but should not last for more than two weeks. James Marshall, on behalf of the Sports Club, thanked the council for its continuing support: recent initiatives had resulted in many more children, resident in the parish, being able to undertake sports training at the MPF.

10. Finally, Mrs Caffyn proposed a vote of thanks, seconded by Mr Marshall, for the service provided to the community by the Parish Council: it was much appreciated. The proposal was well supported from the floor.

David Drake  
Clerk