



Compton and Shawford Parish Council

PO Box 565, Winchester,
Hampshire SO23 3HG
Telephone: 01962 600198
email: clerk@comptonshawford-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Compton and Shawford Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm Tuesday 5 March 2019, in the Compton Room, Shawford Parish Hall.

Present: Councillors M Goulding (Chairman), M Bell, T Hunt, R Jordan, J Lockett, M Southgate, F Strange (from 7.45pm), R Webster, Mr D Drake (Clerk).

In attendance: County & District Councillor J Warwick, District Councillors E Bell and B Laming (until 8.15 pm) and 11 members of the public.

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies had been received from Councillor Wilkinson, who was on holiday. Councillor Webster declared an interest in Compton Pre-school and SOCCT. Councillor Southgate declared an interest in SOCCT. Councillor Bell declared an interest in the Compton Down Society.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2019 had been circulated together with the agenda. Since no amendments had been proposed prior to the meeting, they were taken as read. The chairman signed the minutes as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions

Councillor Wilkinson has asked District Councillor Jan Warwick to pursue the request for more obvious 'no cycling' signs along the Itchen Navigation tow path. She is also in discussions with suppliers about a replacement multi-play unit at the MPF. Councillor Webster will produce an article on CIL for Council's annual report, which will be circulate to all householders in April/early May. All other outstanding actions had been completed.

Councillor Bell expressed concern about the decision not to publish the Winchester City Council (WCC) Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) on the parish website. The chairman said that, since it was published on the WCC website, anyone requesting information on the SHELAA should be referred to that source.

4. County and District Councillors' Reports

Since councillors had no comments on either report, they were taken as read. Councillor Warwick reported that, on Compton Lock, there had been a good meeting of all interested parties. Bin collections had already been increased and Twyford PC will circulate a management plan for the Lock, following further meetings with key stakeholders, including the South Down National Park. She confirmed that there had been little progress towards declaring the footpath beside the railway a bridleway but added that Hampshire County Council (HCC) was broadly in favour of the proposal. The HCC Leader of the Council was taking a personal interest in the internet problems of Martins Fields and, also, Hursley.

5. Public Session

Mr Beckett hoped that the Council would consider placing the provision of affordable housing on the agenda for its next meeting. A request was made for the Council to bring forward its discussion on Compton Down, which prompted Councillor Bell to express concern about negative comments made about the Compton Down Society (CDS). The chairman agreed to bring forward discussion on Compton Down and stated that the Council recognised the work undertaken by the CDS on behalf of the residents. Ms Holt made a request for a grant of £500 for Compton Pre-school.

6. Highways and Public Transport

Councillor Bell expressed concern about the implications of the decision, by HCC traffic engineers, to lift the embargo on housing development on Compton Down. There was likely to be a flood of applications that could result in a negative impact on the area. In response to a question from a member of the public, about how the impact might be mitigated, Councillor Strange read an extract from the record of the meeting between representatives of the Parish Council, Compton Down Society and HCC and WCC officials, in which the WCC planning team leader, Lorna Hutchings, confirmed that her team would ensure that they would fully explore the impact on the area before reaching any conclusions.

The position on why the embargo had been lifted was also clarified. The original decision would have been assessed, having regard to the prevailing policy of the time, the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, which was introduced in 1992. When considering the current situation, the Highway Authority had been obliged to consider both the national and local position: The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which was introduced in 2012 and contains a presumption in favour of sustainable development, and HCCs, Technical Guidance TG3 Stopping Sight Distances and Visibility splays, which reflects national policy.

Councillor Bell reported that the Council had received further correspondence about inconsiderate parking, primarily by contractors' vehicles, in Otterbourne Road. It had been suggested by Hampshire Police that the Council should consider circulating a note to householders reminding them of their obligations and the law. He was content to produce a draft. In the subsequent discussion it was noted that recent planning approvals did not include a reference to contractors' vehicles being parked on site. Councillor Strange agreed to take up this matter with the WCC Planning Department.

Action: Councillor Bell to produce a draft letter on inconsiderate parking in Otterbourne Road.

Action: Councillor Strange to speak to the WCC planners about inconsiderate parking by contractors.

Councillor Southgate expressed concern about the number of bollards appearing in Southdown. The Council noted that many parishioners had placed obstructions on grass verges in Southdown to discourage parking. Councillor Warwick explained that the verges belonged to HCC and that, should an accident/any damage occur as a result of the obstructions, responsibility would lie with the person that placed them on the verge.

Finance and Administration

Councillor Webster moved that John Murray should be appointed as the Council's internal auditor for the coming financial year.

Vote: Unanimous

Councillor Webster moved that the Council approve the updated Risk Assessment, Review of Internal Audit and Asset Register.

Vote: Unanimous

Councillor Southgate, in his capacity as a trustee, explained that the Sparrowgrove and Oakwood Copse Conservation Trust (SOCCT) could not survive on voluntary donations alone. The copse was great asset to the community, and he hoped that the Council would approve the application for a grant of £500.

Councillor Webster moved that the Council should approve a grant of £500 to be paid from the General Administration Sub-head.

Vote: Unanimous

The Council noted the list of payments made since 8 January 2019 and the financial statement dated 28 February 2019.

The Council noted that the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) would be held on Thursday 16 May 2019 and that a representative of Southampton International Airport (SIA) would make a presentation on the airport's expansion plans. Councillor Bell indicated that he would contact SIA to confirm who would be attending the APM. Contributions to the Annual Report should be submitted to the chairman by the end of March.

The Council noted that the Annual Council Meeting (ACM) would take place on 7 May 2019 and that the first item of the agenda would be the election of a chairman. Councillor Goulding indicated that he would be content to be nominated for another year. He asked portfolio holders to inform him in advance of the ACM whether they would be content to serve for a further year.

7. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Councillor Webster noted that, Councillor Strange, who declared an interest, had made a request for next year's CIL grant to cover village agent duties to be increased by £50 to £300. This was to cover two days of benefits training. He moved that the village agent should receive a grant of £300 from CIL in the financial year 2019/20.

Vote: Unanimous

The Council noted the conditions placed by the Sports Club on the installation of baby changing facilities in the pavilion. Councillor Webster agreed to provide the Council with an estimate of the costs involved at the next meeting in May.

Action: Councillor Webster to obtain estimates for the cost of installing baby changing facilities in the pavilion.

Although the subject was not the agenda, all councillors expressed a desire to discuss the application from the Compton Pre-school for a grant of £500. This would enable the school to offer a diverse range of activities to local families. There was some discussion about whether the grant would qualify for CIL funding and the Clerk was asked to check with WCC. Councillor Southgate moved that the Council should provide Compton Pre-school with a CIL grant of £500 but, should it not qualify for CIL funding, the grant to be paid from the General Administration Sub-head.

Vote: Unanimous

Councillor Webster advised the Council that the Clerk had contacted the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) about returning the balance of the grant towards the adoption of the BT telephone kiosks and installation of defibrillators. He had been informed that the BLF would be content for the sum to be spent on a suitable community project but not sport related. He asked councillors to provide him with suggestions in time for discussion at the next Council meeting in May. The sum involved is £1116.80.

8. Playing Fields, Footpaths and Environment

In her absence, Councillor Wilkinson's report was taken as read. The Council noted that the outdoor gymnasium had been recently inspected by Vita Play and a quote for minor works had been invited. Councillor Strange noted that some of the pigeon spikes were missing.

9. Lengthsman

Councillor Hunt reported that the Lengthsman had cleared the footpath between Compton Street and Hurdle Way. He had received a complimentary report from the parishioner, who had requested the work.

10. Tree Warden

Councillor Hunt advised the Council that the tree warden's terms of reference had been amended in accordance with the suggestions made at the last meeting. Work had been commissioned to check on two trees that are leaning towards Compton Heights: both had been declared safe but need to be checked again in eighteen months. Chris Sparkes had been engaged to undertake some pruning/reshaping work on the MPF trees.

11. Planning

Councillor Strange reported that at the WCC meeting to discuss the Lerner Review, WCC planners had indicated a desire to work closely with parish councils on planning matters. The draft of the revised Village Design Statement had been circulated to residents' associations and interested parties. She would revise the document in time for the next meeting in May.

Councillor Bell advised the Council on the background to the Compton Down Local Area Design Statement. It was commissioned and paid for by WCC (and helps determine planning applications) but involved local residents and the CDS, which is considering the production of a revised document. It was noted that, at the recent meeting with WCC and HCC officials, the Parish Council had been asked to provide the WCC planning department with information on Compton Down road ownership. Councillor Bell agreed to provide the Clerk with a map.

Action: Councillor Bell to provide the Clerk with a map showing ownership of the roads within Compton Down.

The Council discussed Councillor Strange's paper on affordable housing within the parish, which suggested that two sites could be used to provide social housing in Compton village: bungalows at the end of Attwoods Drove and semi-detached houses at the far end of Martins Fields. As a member of Action Hampshire, Councillor Southgate declared an interest. In the subsequent discussion, it was noted that it was important for the community to be involved in the discussion and that a number of issues needed to be addressed, including parking, loss of views and congestion in Compton Street. Councillor Strange agreed to consult the Compton Village and Compton Tenants Association and to consider other affordable housing options in the parish prior to producing an updated report in May.

Action: Councillor Strange to consult the Compton Village and Compton Tenants Association about her proposals for affordable housing in Compton village.

12. Date of Next Meeting

7.30pm Tuesday 7 May 2019 in the Compton Room, Shawford parish hall.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

Chairman

*Copies of all the reports mentioned above can be obtained from the Clerk.