



Compton and Shawford Parish Council

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Minutes of the Compton and Shawford Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm Tuesday 12 November 2019, Compton Room, Shawford Parish Hall.

Present: Councillors M Goulding (from 7.46pm), J Lockett, M Bell, T Hunt, R Jordan, M Southgate, R Webster, and Mr D Drake (Clerk).

In attendance: District Councillors E Bell and B Laming (until 8.35pm), and 5 members of the public.

Since Councillor Goulding had been delayed, Councillor Lockett took the chair.

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies had been received from Councillors F Strange and M Wilkinson, County Councillor J Warwick and PC David Fry. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 3 September 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting. No amendments had been proposed and they were taken as read.

3. Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions

All outstanding actions had either been completed or were agenda items. Councillor Southgate reported on his attendance at a meeting organised by DC Brian Lamming to consider potential M3 diversion routes. Most of the concerns had been raised by Otterbourne PC, e.g. noise, vibration and pollution. HCC highways officers confirmed that they had a close relationship with Highways England. The meeting agreed that good communication between all the organisations involved was essential.

4. County & District Councillors' Reports

The County and District Councillors' reports were taken as read. In response to a question from Councillor M Bell, District Councillor Laming confirmed that they were no current plans to reduce the speed limit along Otterbourne Road.

5. Compton Street Fires

On behalf of PC David Fry, the Clerk introduced a report on the police investigation into the recent fires in Compton Street, which had included one on the QEII Field multi-play unit. The person responsible had been identified and been spoken to. It was clear from police interactions that he is unwell and requires further support from those responsible for his housing, Winchester City Council (WCC), and Mental Health services. A joint visit from the male's GP and WCC officials had been scheduled. The police were confident that he did not pose a risk to other members of the community.

The Clerk added that because of staff changes at Alresford police station, there were only two full time officers, PC David Fry and PCSO Rhys Griffiths, supported by part time PCSOs Kerry Croutear and Michelle Wilkinson. By January the station should have additional support from two new PCSOs and PC Tom Harries, who will return from his CID attachment.

6. Public Session

In response to a question, DC Brian Laming confirmed that, while there were currently no diversions planned for M3 traffic, Highways England had authority to impose them, if required. Concern was raised about the condition of Shawford railway station, where some of the platform slabs were loose. Councillor Southgate advised that, while it may be unmanned, the station was monitored by the station master at Winchester. He believed that the slabs were due to be reset. Concerned rail users can report maintenance problems through the station communication system.

The chairman of the Shawford Village Residents' Association (SVRA), was pleased that progress was being made towards the use of the Walcon site as a station carpark. Discussions with South Western Railways were proceeding well. While there were still some issues outstanding e.g. the level of the parking charges to be imposed and associated village parking restrictions, she was optimistic that these could be resolved. To ensure close liaison with organisations within the parish, it was agreed that a working group should be established to include two members from the SVRA and two from the Parish Council, Councillors Southgate (lead) and Bell.

The chairman of the Sports Club thanked the Council for its support towards the project to improve the Memorial Playing Field (MPF) cricket and football pitches: they had never looked better.

Councillor Goulding, who had assumed the chair at 7.46pm, confirmed that he had written to WCC expressing concern at the lack of CCTV cameras within the body of the Chesil car park.

7. Planning

Councillor Hunt presented the planning report, prepared by Councillor Strange. The WCC Planning Officer, Lee Smith, was now requesting more evidence of public involvement in the production of the Village Design Statement (VDS). He was asking that the Local Area Design Statement (LADS) either be part of the VDS or that all items relating to Compton Down be removed and links be added to a separate document. Since this is contrary to the initial advice provided by Jenny Nell, Strategic Planning Manager, WCC, Councillor Strange is querying.

Councillor Strange is also liaising closely with Councillor Bell, who had briefed her on the recent WCC/Compton Down Society meeting on LADS, which she had been unable to attend.

Councillor Hunt advised that the Tree Officer had visited Silkstede Cottage and Silkstede Priors, both of which had been subjected to significant tree work. Silkstede Cottage is being investigated by the Enforcement Team and the Tree Officer has indicated that he is minded not to recommend the application for further tree work at Silkstede Priors.

8. Highways

Councillor Bell presented his report. He advised that he had reached agreement, with Hampshire County Council (HCC), on the site of the proposed bus stop bench in Otterbourne Road. Councillor Jordan raised concerns about the number of vehicles that are being parked all day in Shepherds Lane, many of which appeared to be owned by staff at Shepherds Down School (SDS). Councillor Bell agreed to contact SDS to seek clarification of the school's parking policy.

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| Action: Councillor Bell to contact Shepherds Down School to seek clarification of the school's parking policy. |
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9. Footpaths and the Environment

Councillor Southgate advised that HCC was about to issue a public order confirming bridleway rights over the route adjacent to the railway line between Shawford Road and Southdown Road.

10. Playing Fields Management

The Clerk presented Councillor Wilkinson's report. Following a short discussion Councillor Goulding moved that the Council should accept the Creative Play quotation of £13,255 for the replacement multi-play unit at the MPF. [The second quote from Sovereign Play was £15,664.03.] 50% of the cost to be borne by the Community Infrastructure Levy Fund.

Vote: Unanimous

The council noted that Councillor Wilkinson and the Clerk had undertaken an inspection of the Jubilee Pavilion in October. It was agreed to defer the changing room 'deep clean' until after the football season had ended but that work was required to counter damp on the ceiling of the disabled toilet and moss needed to be removed from the MeGA surface. It was not considered necessary to repaint the MeGA basketball and football markings. It was noted that the Lawn Tennis Club was considering whether to repair, or replace, the pavilion clock.

The Council also noted that work to repair the multi-play unit at the QEII Field, which was damaged in the arson incident, would begin shortly.

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| Action: Clerk to instruct Mr Sparkes to remove the moss from the MeGA and to seek quotes for repairing the damp patches in the Pavilion's disabled toilet. |
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11. Lengthsman

Councillor Hunt reported that the Lengthsman had visited the parish in October. He had been tasked with cutting back vegetation along a number of parish footpaths. The next visit was scheduled for February. Councillor Hunt indicated that he would welcome suggestions from councillors on those areas/routes to be given priority.

12. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Councillor Webster reported that a payment of £2000 towards the cost of an adventure playground, (approved by the council on 8 January 2019) had been made to Shepherds Down School on 21 October 2019. He advised that the current CIL balance was £9374.56, from which 50% of the cost of replacing the MPF mpu (£6627.50) will be deducted.

Councillor Webster moved that, since it will be a community asset, the Council should take over the project to install a defibrillator at the Jubilee Pavilion at a cost of £1329.00 (+VAT). Most of the cost (£1116.80) will be paid from the balance of funds, obtained from Big Lottery Fund, for the purchase and installation of defibrillators in the two former BT kiosks in Compton and Shawford villages.

Vote: Unanimous

The Council discussed the request for financial assistance for the proposed grass mesh car park in Church Field. It was decided that there was insufficient information to commit Council funds in support of the project. Councillors considered that it would be useful to know whether other potential sources of funding were being investigated and how the carpark will be managed. Councillor Webster undertook to contact the Church/All Saints School to obtain a formal proposal, which covered such subjects.

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| Action: Councillor Webster to contact the Church/All Saints School to obtain a formal funding proposal, containing information on potential funding sources and the future management of the proposed Church Field car park. |
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13. Finance and Administration

Councillor Webster presented his report. The Council noted:

- The financial statement dated 5 November 2019;
- The list of payments made since 3 September 2019;
- The £30,000 term deposit with Lloyds Bank has been 'rolled over' until 2 November 2020 at an interest rate of 1.05%;
- The insurance claim for fire damage at the QEII Field play area had been resolved (less the excess of £250).
- The three-year grass cutting contract with Grass & Grounds expires in November and will be retendered in December.
- A Review of Internal Audit had been undertaken and the Risk Assessment updated.

The Council discussed the draft budget and decided to reduce the amount allocated to contingency from £1000 to £250. Councillor Webster moved that the Council accept the proposed budget for 2020/21, with a contingency of £250 and revised precept of £28,108, an increase of £285 (1%) on the current financial year.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Clerk to issue invitations to tender for the three-year grass cutting contract that will begin in March 2020.

13. CASCA

The council noted that the CASCA AGM will take place at 7.00pm on Thursday 28 November in Shawford Parish Hall.

14. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

7.30pm Tuesday 7 January 2020 in the Compton Room, Shawford Parish Hall.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.53pm.

Mike Goulding
Chairman

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