

**Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on 11 June 2014 at Cross Memorial Hall**

**Public Participation:** *There were two members of the public present, Mr. Rama Bowley and Ms Alison Finn. Also Councillor John Denbee who was invited to attend this meeting.*

**Present:** Parish Councillors Sue Passmore (Chair), R. Woolley, M. Rolfe, R.Parker, K Mace, Caroline Woolley, Allison Campbell (Vice-Chair).

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received from the Parish Clerk.
2. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014 were approved by those present at that meeting and signed as a true record by the Chair.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr K Mace declared an interest in item 12.2 and 12.3 as he is a member of the Harvest Home committee.
4. **Changes to Resolution List:** The Resolutions List had been circulated before the meeting, the following actions were raised:  
The Chairman reported that Mr Aggett had agreed that clearance work was satisfactory. It was RESOLVED to close resolution 2014/04/09/10.4 as completed.  
It was resolved that Cllr Parker continues with delegated responsibilities for the National Grid Consultations. It was RESOLVED to close resolution 2013/11/13/12 as completed.
5. **Matters Arising from the May 21<sup>st</sup> minutes:**  
Item 10.1 - raised at the Annual Open Parish Meeting received the following response from Cllr J Denbee. :
  - 5.1. *Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for improvements to footpaths and A38 junction – Agreement between Somerset CC and Sedgemoor DC has not been resolved and CIL arrangements will probably not now be announced until October 2014. Cllr Denbee believes RLT3 funding still applies and would advise council when CIL issues have been resolved.*
  - 5.2. *Footpath between Lower Weare and Shute Shelve – The deteriorating condition of the footpath with encroaching weeds, stinging nettles and brambles has reduced the width and usability. Cllr Denbee agreed to address the problems with the relevant SCC Officers.*

*The Chair closed the meeting at 19.50 to allow discussion of item 8.1a as the applicants were present. It was RESOLVED to bring item 8.1a forward.*

- 8.1a - **Application No 21.14.00007** Proposed single story building at Underdown, Webbington Road. Cllr Rolfe outlined the Planning Advisory Group (PAG) recommendation to approve the application but to comment on the need to align the building to provide satisfactory maintenance access for the adjoining fence.

*The meeting was re-opened at 19.55*

6. **Finance Matters**
  - 6.1. The Clerk had previously circulated the bank reconciliations to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014. These were noted and approved by the Council.
  - 6.2. It was RESOLVED to pay Invoice 1147 from T H Baker for grass cutting April and May.
  - 6.3. Cllr R Woolley presented repayment of VAT on expenses for notice board maintenance carried out during 2012-13.
  - 6.4. It was RESOLVED to approve the Clerk leave of absence for the first two weeks in July 2014.
7. **Reports or recommendations from Finance and General Purposes Advisory Group:**
  - 7.1. Cllr Mace presented a report (attached) which was noted and approved.
8. **Planning Matters**
  - 8.1. To approve valid comments and reports on any planning applications received, as required by Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) as follows:
    - a. See above – It was RESOLVED to approve the Advisory Group recommendation for approval of this application. As the closing date for comments on this and item 8.1b is 12<sup>th</sup> June, Cllr Rolfe was asked to send the CBPC response in the absence of the Clerk.
    - b. Application No 21.14.00008 Replacement 17.4m Vodafone mast at Townsend Farm. It was RESOLVED to approve the Advisory Group recommendation for approval of this application with a comment on retaining the natural screening.
    - c. Application no 17.13.00080 Bristol Water Application – New Cheddar Reservoir. It was RESOLVED to approve the Advisory Group recommendation of objecting to the application as no account has been taken of infrastructure improvements to support the additional building and visitor traffic.
    - d. Applications decided by SDC Development Committee were:
      - 21.14.00005 Knoll View - approved

SIGNED:  CHAIRMAN

DATE: 16 July 14

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- 21.14.00006 Vodafone Mast extension - approved
- 8.2. The PAG report had been circulated to Council and Cllr Rolfe highlighted that no responses have been received to letters concerning issues on conformance to conditions for Over Compton or the agricultural workers bungalow on Cross Lane. It was RESOLVED that the clerk would request an update from Mr Crowle at SDC.
- 9. Highway Matters:**
- 9.1. There has been no response from Somerset Highways regarding the proposed 40 mph speed limit on Webbington Road. It was RESOLVED that the clerk would request an update from Mr Richard Newby at SCC Highways.
- 9.2. After some discussion, it was RESOLVED to express an interest in taking on SID equipment and analysis for the parish and that the Clerk should write to Mr David Grabham accordingly. Cllr Parker agreed to take responsibility for set up and implementation if a SID were allocated at minimal cost to CBPC as notified.
- 9.3. Cllr R Woolley reported that the new notice boards have been installed.
- 9.4. Further Reports
- 9.4.1. The invoice for re-rendering of the Church Lane bus shelter had not been received. The Clerk was requested to obtain the invoice from Mr Andrews.
- 9.4.2. Cllr R Woolley requested Cllr Parker to circulate the document 'Transport Priorities for Compton Bishop 2010-2015'.
- 10. Environmental Matters**
- 10.1. To receive reports on Hinkley Point "C" and pylons. It was RESOLVED to accept Cllr Parker's report (attached) and proposal that the current representatives from Badgworth, Compton Bishop and Mark Parish Councils (Sue Hayes, Richard Parker and Eileen Corkish) be registered as a group to provide continuity, support and, when necessary, representation for each parish for the Planning Inspectorate's examination process. This is the Planning Inspectorates recommendation for small parishes. It was RESOLVED to approve this arrangement.
- 10.2. To receive an update from "The Coffin Lane Campaign" Group. It was RESOLVED to accept Cllr Parker's report (attached).
- 10.3. To consider SCC Funding Cuts 2015-16 for Mendip Hills AONB. It was RESOLVED to accept Cllr Parker's draft response which had been circulated to Council. The Clerk was instructed to return the response before the deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> June.
- 10.4. To consider any further reports from the Environment Advisory Group:
- 10.4.1. AX15/12 at The Scaurs was reported to be overgrown and virtually impassable. AX15/13 was reported to have equine restricting tape obscuring the footpath and also intimidating horses venturing onto the footpath. The Footpaths Liaison Officer would be asked to investigate.
- 10.4.2. CBPC was advised that the Bleadon Sluice Gates would be repaired in June 2014, but no progress had been noted to date. Cllr C Woolley was requested to draft a letter for the Clerk to forward to the Drainage Board.
- 11. Communications**  
No Report.
- 12. Social**
- 12.1. Cllr C Woolley reported on the progress and details of Parish Festival.
- 12.2. Cllr C Woolley reported on the Risk Assessment being produced. It was noted that CBPC could only provide public liability insurance cover for the events for the benefit of parishioners and not commercial undertakings such as the bouncy castle or bar; the final Risk Assessment to be sent to our insurers should reflect this.
- 12.3. In response to a request from Cross Connections, it was RESOLVED to underwrite any loss made on the Harvest Home, up to a limit of £500.
- 13. Representation**
- 13.1. Cllr R Parker would be attending the Hinkley C Connection Group on 15<sup>th</sup> July and Sedgemoor District Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.
- 14. Correspondence**
- 14.1. The papers for the Annual Audit are complete and had been accepted by the Internal Auditor. It was RESOLVED to agree these and that the Clerk and Chair sign them before making the CBPC return by 23<sup>rd</sup> June.
- 14.2. The complaint from Mr Martin had been investigated and a letter sent to Mr Martin on 28<sup>th</sup> May. No acknowledgement or response has been received. The Chair considered the matter complete.
- 15. Date of Next Meeting**  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at 19.30 in Cross Hall .

# Environment Advisory Group Report

## June 2014

### **Item 10.1 - To receive reports on Hinkley Point "C" and pylons.**

National Grid submitted their application to The Planning Inspectorate (PI) on 28<sup>th</sup> May. SDC are working on their 'Adequacy of Consultation' statement which will be submitted to the PI around 10<sup>th</sup> June. I have been working on the Critique, covering stages 1,2,3 and 4, with Badgworth and Mark Parish Councils. The document and a statement had to be with SDC by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June. A copy has been sent to the Clerks of each Parish Council.

After The PI has considered the Local Authorities Adequacy of Consultation statements, they will announce their decision on whether NG's consultation was 'fit for purpose' on 25<sup>th</sup> June. The PI will invite registration from interested parties during their review of the consultation process. At this stage, Compton Bishop, Badgworth and Mark Parish Council representatives plan to register as a team to spread the workload and provide continuity when the examination process begins. This will be a significant workload and the team's continued availability and commitment will be kept under constant review.

The PC representatives are requesting approval, from their PC's, to register the current three representatives: Sue Hayes, Richard Parker, and Eileen Corkish as joint respondents who will provide substantiated evidence at the pre-examination hearings.

### **Item 10.2 - To receive an update from "The Coffin Lane Campaign" Group**

The group completed a 12 mile sponsored walk on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Any proceeds will support stationery, advertising, etc.

As mentioned at the last meeting, Axbridge TC couldn't support the scheme unless safety at the A38 junction was included. This has been done, as an additional phase. We have asked Cllr Dawn Hill (SCC) to promote a Small Infrastructure Submission to SCC for the changes.

Axbridge TC's request for a 40 mph speed limit on Cross is supported by The Group. Axbridge TC has been asked to contribute to the £6,000 cost.

The group wants CBPC to support the installation of a bicycle rack at the New Inn as a facility for people from Compton Bishop who cycle to the junction and, because of the traffic, prefer to walk from The New Inn to Axbridge.

Volunteers will be clearing the verge at the A38 corner. Investigations, about the possibility of purchasing some land from Mike Clements for a widened footpath, are under way. Support from CBPC will be requested.

### **Item 10.3 - To consider SCC Funding Cuts 2015-16 for Mendip Hills AONB.**

This is the issue of SCC's planned reduction of the AONB's budget from £40,000 to just £5,000. The points, below, demonstrate that the proposed cuts would be detrimental to our countryside and environment. There is a partnership of local authorities and other bodies such as National Trust, Somerset Wildlife Society, English Nature, etc. which develops a management plan for the whole of the AONB. The AONB unit is responsible for implementation.

- AONB is 75% funded by DEFRA and 25% from Host Authorities. The AONB unit is located at Somerset CC's headquarters. SCC charges the AONB a 'hosting charge' which, basically, returns their contribution back to SCC.
- SCC has a legal responsibility to The Countryside and Public Rights of Way and has signed up to an AONB management plan. With this cut the AONB team will not have the funds to implement this agreed plan which covers the period 2014-2019.
- The withdrawal of SCC from the partnership puts the partnership of councils in as funding from DEFRA is only available to partnerships, not individual authorities.

