

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9th December 2015 at Cross Memorial Hall

Public Participation: There was one member of the public present. Mr R Parker addressed the Council on National Grid- Hinkley C Connection ; Cross Lane revocation ; Sedgemoor Core Strategy consultation

Present: Cllr T Mason (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Pritchard, Cllr D McCarthy, Cllr K Glimstead, Cllr E Parker.

Cllr T Mason (Vice Chairman) opened the meeting by reading a letter he had received from The Parish Council Clerk, Mr R Pring, which was received, by The Chairman, on 1st December 2015, tendering his resignation with immediate effect. Cllr Pritchard queried whether details of the reasons for Mr Pring's resignation should be pursued. It was unanimously **resolved** not to pursue the matter further at this time.

Cllr T Mason (Vice Chairman) also read out a letter which was received immediately prior to this meeting, from Cllr K Mace (Chairman) resigning as a member of Compton Bishop Parish Council with immediate effect.

The Chairman **proposed** that Mr Richard Parker be asked to take the minutes for this meeting. The proposal was approved on a vote of four members for and one member against.

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

2. Approval of minutes

It was noted that this item in the published agenda referred to the 'Annual Parish Council Meeting' which was incorrect, it should have read 'Parish Council Meeting'.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2015 were previously circulated to all Councillors. These were approved by all those present and signed as a true record of the meeting by the Vice Chairman.

Matters arising

- 2.1. Previous item 3(d) – PROW AX15/1: Cllr McCarthy has established that Rob Coate (SCC PROW) has been unsuccessful in his attempt to arrange a meeting with landowners and will discuss the issues with SCC Cllr John Denbee.
- 2.2. Previous item 6.2 – Yeo Bridge Farm : There has been no decision on the appeal regarding planning application 21/15/00009, land at Yeo Bridge Farm for 5 mobile homes and other buildings on the site.
- 2.3. Previous Item 9 – Hall Committee membership : Cllr Glimstead is unable to attend meetings during the day and stood down as Parish Council representative. Cllr Pritchard volunteered to share the role with Cllr Mason.
- 2.4. Previous item 10 – Correspondence regarding Cross Lane Footpath : Cllr Parker has contacted SCC and been told that as Mr Newby (highways Engineer) is leaving, Mr Cowling would be the alternate contact. Mr Cowling stated that he would be unable to meet until after a decision on the SIS application had been reviewed. It was noted that Mr Steve Watts would cover for Mr Newby until a replacement had been recruited. Cllr Parker has had no response from Mrs Scott.

3. Declarations of Interest

There was none.

4. Finance Matters

- 4.1. It was **resolved** unanimously that the following invoice be paid:-

| Cheque no. | Payee | Reason for Payment | Amount |
|------------|---------|--------------------|--------|
| 100754 | R Pring | Clerk's expenses | £23.22 |

- 4.2. With the absence of The Clerk and The Chairman there was no further report.
- 4.3. The precept for 2015-2016 will need to be submitted by 8th January. Preparation and approval of the precept documents will require full council approval. It is probable that an extraordinary meeting will be necessary.

5. Planning Matters

- 5.1. Formal complaint to SDC regarding Planning Enforcement procedure :
It was **resolved** by a vote of four members for and one member against that, in the absence of a Clerk, Cllr Parker would be delegated to write to Mr Stuart Houlet (SDC Planning) to request that The Parish Council is advised of any pending decision prior finalisation. A draft is to be agreed by Councillors.

6. Highway Matters

- 6.1. Update on Coffin Lane - It was **resolved** by a vote of four members for and one member against that the Coffin Lane Report would be a standing item for the agenda.

Signed:Chairman

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- 6.2. Proposed 40 MPH limit – (Revocation order MH27102015 Cross Lane) Council agreed that a reduction in the speed limit would contribute to the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. It was unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Parker would respond positively to Somerset Highways but emphasise that this should not have any influence on the proposals for a safe footpath.

The meeting was closed at 8.12pm to allow Mr Parker to report on a meeting that members of the Coffin Lane Campaign group had with Mr Bunting (SCC Highways). During the discussion Mr Bunting suggested the removal of unnecessary 'double poled' signage at the A38 junction. He also commented on CBPC's views on a 40 mph limit on Webbington Road. He suggested that a 40mph speed limit could be achievable between Cross and Loxton.

The meeting recommenced at 8.14 pm.

Cllr McCarthy commented on her personal experience and considered the poles a hazard to pedestrians. It was unanimously **resolved** to request the removal of the double poled sign showing Compton Bishop and Webbington Hotel for both safety and reduction of unnecessary street signs.

- 6.3. Damaged/Missing signs – Cllr McCarthy reported on her survey of damaged signage and result of her contact with SCC.

- a. An unstable 30mph sign at Rackley - now repaired.
- b. A damaged 40 mph sign by Dunnett Farm – SCC has inspected.
- c. Yellow parish signs – The broken Webbington sign has been retrieved and stored by Cllr McCarthy. It was agreed that the location has been incorrect and Cllr McCarthy was requested to suggest a more suitable location. Repairs and relocation could be carried out by volunteers but The Clerk is to contact the Insurance Company to notify them of the damage and for approval prior to work being carried out.
- d. Cllr Glimstead reported that a yellow sign has been missing at Barton Road for some time, the supporting poles are still in situ.

- 6.4. Webbington Road - Cllr Glimstead reported that there had been no accidents on Webbington Road to support the need for a speed limit and stated that the Parish Council had not supported a 40mph limit when a planning application for building on Webbington Road was submitted in April 2014. He stated that the applicant, Cllr McCarthy, had not declared a personal interest in the 40mph debate. It was explained that the planning application was for an extension to a dwelling and the objection was regarding the potential numbers of cars being parked on the road. The Vice Chairman pointed out that there was no association with the 40 mph and the planning application and that Cllr McCarthy has no pecuniary interest in the Parish Council's pursuit of a 40 mph limit.

- 6.5. Stones on verges - Cllr Pritchard advised council that a member of the public had reported tripping on stones placed on a grass verge to Somerset Highways. SCC carried out their responsibility to remove obstructions. Residents can request the installation of kerb stones which would prevent vehicles parking, at a cost to the house owner, of £30 per metre. Cllr Pritchard volunteered to inform the residents informally.

- 6.6. Salt/Grit bags – Cllr Pritchard had collected 5 small bags from the Dunball SCC depot and will identify suitable locations. SCC has placed large bags of grit on the verge at locations at high risk of dangerous icing on roads within the parish.

7. Environmental Matters

7.1. Environmental Advisory Group- this group does not exist and the topic will be removed.

7.2. Mr Parker reported during pre-meeting public participation that there was no report on The Hinkley C Connection project during this period as the Secretary of State will be considering her recommendation until 19th January 2016.

8. Communications

8.1. Cllr Glimstead raised the question of whether councillors should use laptop computers as suggested by Mr Pring, the former Clerk. No case had been presented and the suggestion was considered not relevant at this time.

8.2. Cllr Pritchard reported on the successful progress of information gathering for 'Parish Link' and is now ready for the initiative to be advertised on the Parish website

9. Correspondence

9.1. A copy of a letter from James Heapey to Cllr Fothergill (Cabinet Member for SCC Highways) in support of the SIS bid submitted by Cllr Denby was supported.

9.2. A response from Cllr Fothergill outlined the LTP1, Ltp2 processes and the SIS process. The Coffin Lane Group has been fully informed.

9.3. An Invitation to Axbridge Town Council on Sunday 28th February at 3pm, confirmation is required by 31st December 2015. Cllr Parker agreed to attend.

10. Any Other Business

It was unanimously **resolved** to include this as a repeating item on the agenda.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 13th January 2016 at 7.30pm in Cross Memorial Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.04pm

Signed: .....Chairman

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