

Compton Bishop Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th April 2019 at 7.30 pm

Members of the Public : There was one member of the public : Cllr Bob Filmer (SCC)

Present : Councillors -T Mason (Chair), A Lane, E Parker, D McCarthy, T Brownlow

1. **To receive any apologies for absence :** Cllr M Pritchard
2. **The minutes** of the meeting, held on 13th March 2019 were unanimously approved.
3. **Declarations of interest :** There were none
4. **Matters arising** from the previous minutes : There were none
5. **Clerk's Report**
 - a. Clerk Vacancy/Recruitment – The Staffing Committee has offered Sally Diaz the Clerk and Responsible Offer position to commence on 1st May 2019.
 - b. Local elections – There are 7 nominees for the Parish Council so all nominees were elected without contest. There are 6 candidates for the two District Council places and there will be an election for these on the 2nd May.
 - c. Parish Meetings
 - i. The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 8th May 2019.
 - ii. The Annual Open Parish meeting will be held on 17th May 2019.
6. **Finance Matters**
 - a. Finance
 - i. The Financial Statement was approved unanimously.
 - ii. The revisions to the 2018/9 and 2019/20 budgets were unanimously approved. It was noted that retention of large sums from previous years is not permitted.
 - iii. Audit – the declaration of exemptions was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Richard Young will be engaged for the internal audit
 - iv. CIL Levy – A payment of £1620.00 will be received by the council. This sum has to be used for infrastructure within the parish.
 - b. Payments
The following payments were approved :
 - i. Clerks February fee of £223.94 - approved unanimously.
 - ii. Defibrillator – electric wiring at Webbington £100 - approved unanimously
 - iii. Dog Bin – Coombe Lane (last 2018/9 26 weeks): £70.75 - approved unanimously
 - iv. 3 Dog bins Apr – Sept 2019 : £250.85 will be deducted from 2019/10 precept - approved unanimously
 - v. St Andrews Church Funding Request (minute 6bii 9th January 2019) - approved unanimously
 - vi. Weare Church/School Room Restoration - £100 (approved on a vote of 3-2)
 - vii. Finger post restoration - £2,160 - approved unanimously
 - viii. Cross Hall – hire for CBPC - £153 - approved unanimously
7. **Planning Matters**
 - a. Results of Planning applications for March/April 2019
 - i. None received (2-4-19)
 - b. Planning Applications received :
 - i. 21/19/00002 - Development of a gas-powered standby generation facility and associated infrastructure. This is basically a re-application with minor modifications and re-locating to the west of the original plan and within Compton Bishop Parish. The Council was unanimous in opposing this application. The Clerk was instructed to draft a response for the Chairman to approve.

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- c. National Grid mitigation funding – Cllr Parker outlined her discussion with NG. There is a possibility that improvements to the Webbington Road parking area could be an acceptable project. Further planning and discussions are in hand.
- d. 96/19/00006(NG) landscape mitigation and landscape schemes - South of Mendip Hills Cable Sealing End Compound for Stage 2.1 – The Council approved a communication with National Grid to outline The Councils concerns over the visual intrusion resulting from a reduction in tree screening. The exposure to the visual aspects from Crook Peak to Wavering Down would be unacceptable.

8. Highways and Environment Matters

a. Foot path issues

- i. Cross to Axbridge safe footpath campaign- Cllr Parker reported that at the joint meeting with Axbridge TC, Axbridge has formed its own process to improve footpaths generally. They plan to have a project team, engage a traffic engineer and look for funding. This could compromise the efforts being made with Sedgemoor's safe footpaths strategy. It was agreed that the project team should not delay and should proceed. It was noted that letters had been received from three disabled residents who are anxious to be able to safely use public rights of way to Axbridge.
- ii. AX1/19:29/37:1/20:13/7 upgrade to by-way . The clerk reported that the original application for a bridleway was refused. An appeal has been lodged. In view of this being to include a byway open to all traffic, the council expressed their opposition to the application.
- iii. Rackley Lane Bridge – Cllr Parker reported that SCC PROW has stated that they had no responsibility for the bridge or the necessary repairs to the parapets. The farmer suggested that the Environment Agency were responsible for maintenance. A letter has been sent requesting action or advice.

b. Other Highway issues

- i. Psychological traffic calming – Webbington road is currently a busy short-cut commuter route for vehicles from and to Weston-Super-Mare. The safety issues are a continuing concern for the parish. This is a popular cycle and walking route for the Mendip hills. The speeding traffic is dangerous to all visitors and will increase with the level of new housing and population in the wider area. Cllr McCarthy outlined alternative, psychological ways of slowing traffic on Webbington Road.
- ii. Webbington Road car pull in area – One of the new 'Take Your Litter Home' notice boards has been removed by persons unknown. The condition of the parking area is not satisfactory but improvements are being discussed with National Grid (see item 7c above)

- c. **Community Volunteer Group** - Cllr Pritchard has arranged a scheme for flower tubs in the parish.

9. Village Hall Committee Report –

- a. The proposed outdoor storage unit is not required. If there is a requirement for additional storage in the committee room approval can be sought from the Hall Committee.
- b. A possible installation of a video projector and WIFI was discussed. A feasibility review of alternatives will be investigated by The Council.

10. Correspondence and other communications

- a. Axbridge Mayor Making – Cllr Lane will attend
- b. SDC Housing Strategy – Notes of the new strategy meetings has been published
- c. The Local Crime report had been received. The Clerk reported that this report did not have corresponding incidents to another web-site. The Clerk was requested to speak to the local police. For clarification.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 8th May 2019