

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting
held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10 June 2015 at Cross Memorial Hall

Public Participation: Nil.

Present: Cllr K Mace (Chair), Cllr T Mason (Vice Chair) Cllr M Pritchard, Cllr D McCarthy, Cllr K Glimstead, Cllr E Parker and Mr R Pring (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** None
2. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 13 May 2015 were previously circulated to all Councillors. These were approved by those present and signed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman.
3. **Matters arising.** None
4. **To Note the appointment of new Clerk.** The chairman introduced Rod Pring as the new Clerk and RFO for the Parish Council. He was currently working as Clerk at Wedmore with two and a half year's experience in that role. Rod and the Chairman had agreed to reduce the monthly hours but with an increase in salary because of his experience. A contract had been signed by both parties and the position was subject to a three month probationary period.
5. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr M McCarthy declared a personal interest in item 9.4. Cllr K Glimstead an interest in item 8.2.
6. **Finance Matters.**

6.1 The Clerk reported that following the internal audit carried out by Mr Richard Tyas, three matters had been justifiably reported. Bank statements and a full set of minutes had not been supplied. The first was a bank error which had since been rectified and minutes were now complete. Mr Tyas was satisfied that these matters have now been addressed. A cheque for a £40 audit fee had not been recorded in the minutes and this was purely "clerical error". The accounts were now ready to be presented to the external auditor, Messrs Grant Thornton. **RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Clerk sign the annual accounting and governance statements on behalf of the Council.

6.2 **RESOLVED** the following invoices be paid:-

Cheque no.	Payee	Reason for Payment	Amount
100736	Sam Winter (Clerk)	Expenses and stationery	£68.64
100737	Sam Winter (Clerk)	Postage and mileage	£35.21
100738	Sedgemoor DC	Election expenses	£100.00
100739	Zurich Mutual	Annual council insurance	£326.30
100740	SALC	Annual affiliation fee	£154.05

6.3 To receive any further financial reports. None

7. Recommendations from Finance Advisory Group:

7.1 Review of Council Asset Register. Cllr T Mason was not in a position to review the current list and this matter was deferred until the next meeting.

8. Planning Matters:

8.1 Re. application 21/15/00011/LE, Alcasta, Old Coach Road. Four members had recently visited the site by invitation of the applicant. After a lengthy discussion by the Council a vote was taken and the Chairman used his casting vote to oppose the application. **RESOLVED** to write to SDC with a letter of objection to this application. Re application 21/15/00012/DD Honeysuckle Cottage, Church Lane. Whilst there was no obligation for the Council to respond it was **RESOLVED** to ask SDC to refuse the certificate of lawfulness.

8.2. The Chairman informed members that the previous council had made a level 2 complaint against Sedgemoor DC concerning a planning application for development of land behind the Webbington. SDC had now taken the matter as far as it could and the next stage was to forward the complaint to the Ombudsman. As the recently elected members were not fully aware of the previous correspondence it was agreed that Cllr T Mason would review the previous papers and update the members at the next meeting before any decision is made on how to proceed.

9. Highway Matters

9.1 To consider purchasing a Speed Indicator Device (S.I.D.). This matter was being considered by the previous council but a recent communication from SCC outlining the protocol for displaying the device together with the necessary training, insurance and safety issues suggested that this was a matter best left to the professionals. **RESOLVED** to continue to be placed on the rolling S.I.D. programme within the county.

9.2 Suggested consideration for a weight limit from A38 at Cross to the Old Coach Road junction near the memorial hall. **RESOLVED** not to pursue this matter at present but reconsider if and when appropriate.

9.3 Grasscutting contract. It was noted that the contractor was doing the work but a contract for the current year had not been issued. **RESOLVED** the Clerk ascertain full details of the contractor and endeavour to sign an agreement for the current year.

9.4. Speed limit Webbington Road. Cllr D McCarthy circulated e-mail correspondence between herself and Bev Norman, SCC, concerning extending the current speed limit to cover three properties on Webbington Road. Cllr McCarthy had written the correspondence as a resident and councillor. Ms Norman had responded by showing that guidelines covering the criteria for speed limits was not appropriate for this area and declined to consider the matter further. **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr John Denbee to take the matter up on behalf of the council.

10 Environmental Matters:

10.1 Reports on PROW's and Bridleways. The Clerk reported that Annie Vickerstaffe had offered to take on the role of voluntary "Parish Paths Officer" from Ian Tabrett. Her application form was currently with the County Footpaths Officer for consideration.

10.2 Reports from Environment Advisory Group. Nothing to report.

10.3 National Grid and Hinkley C proposals. A report from Richard Parker had been circulated and was noted.

11 Communications

11.1 Cllr M Pritchard offered to consider ideas to improve communications within the Parish by collecting e-mail addresses for news information dissemination. The Clerk reported that Mr Richard Parker had kindly agreed to keep the web-site up to date.

12 Social

12.1 It was agreed that this item would no longer appear on council agendas.

13 Correspondence. Nothing further to report

14 Date of next meeting Wednesday 8th July at 7.30pm in Cross Memorial Hall

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.