

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of
Compton Bishop Parish Council
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29 July 2015
at Cross Memorial Hall**

Public Participation: Mrs C Wooley, Mr M Peel, Mr M Amesbury, Mr I Muchmore, Mr R Parker, Mr & Mrs K Garland, Mrs J Matthews.

Present: Parish Councilors Cllr. K Mace (Chairman), Cllr. T Mason (vice-Chairman), Cllr D McCarthy, Cllr K Glimstead, Cllr E Parker, Cllr M Pritchard, Mr R Pring (Clerk).

Prior to the meeting opening the Chairman invited members of the public to address the Committee. Several residents said they opposed the planning application to site a wind turbine within the parish of East Brent and some also expressed their concerns over the appeal against a refusal of planning permission at The Cottage, Kennel Lane. The Chairman also read out an e-mail from a resident in similar vein. One other resident spoke about the proposal to make changes to the Parish website.

1 Apologies for Absence: There were none

2 Declarations of Interest: None

3 Planning Matters

3.1 Planning Application Ref: 24/15/00016/CG to site a wind turbine within the parish of East Brent. The Chairman advised the meeting that he and two councilors recently attended a meeting of East Brent PC at which the application was discussed. The members there voted unanimously to oppose the application on various valid planning grounds centered around the location of the site and its effect on the local landscape, lack of public consultation and other ecological issues. After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Parker and seconded by Cllr Pritchard to send a letter of objection in support of the view arrived at by members of East Brent PC. **RESOLVED** - To write to Sedgemoor DC opposing the application.

3.2 Planning Application Ref: 21/1/.00002/ DRT The Cottage, Kennel Lane, Webbington, Axbridge, BS26 2HS. This matter was now subject to appeal and the PC had been invited to make further comment directly to the Planning Inspectorate. After discussion it was agreed to send the original letter of objection direct to the Planning Inspector and to make a further representation supporting the decision of Sedgemoor DC in opposing the application. Proposed by Cllr Glimstead and seconded by Cllr McCarthy that letters of objection to the proposal be forwarded to the Planning Inspector with copies to SDC. **RESOLVED** - to write to both parties as agreed.

Signed Chairman Date

- 4 **Communication.** The Chairman explained that comments posted on the Parish website were mistakenly attributed to the Parish Council. In order to avoid any future confusion, he felt that the website editor should make it clear who was commenting. SALC had recently advised that financial assistance may be available to Councils wishing to set up their own independent websites. From July 1st, new legislation meant that a “transparency code” from the Information Commissioner’s Office came into effect and had implications for all Parish Councils to become totally transparent. This would require all sorts of extra information including agendas, minutes, financial records etc. being placed in the public domain. The PC needed to decide whether to continue as at present or to set up a “stand alone” website. After a discussion where one member suggested a “stand alone” site being the best option, members agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting for further discussion with SALC about the mandatory requirement of a “stand alone” site.

5. **To consider and decide date of the next meeting.** Weds. 12th August at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed Chairman Date