

# Compton Bishop Parish Council

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2020 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Cross

Present- Cllrs T Mason, A Lane, D McCarthy, E Parker, M Rolfe, A Brellisford

Parish Clerk S Diaz

County Cllr B Filmer

Two members of the public were present.

**20/3A. To receive any apologies for absence**

Cllr Brownlow sent apologies

**20/3B. To resolve to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

It was resolved to amend the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February with the amendment of the final paragraph which says Cross Connections magazine and will be amended to Contact magazine.

**20/3C. To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda.**

Cllr Mason declared a declaration of interest in item 20.41 application 21/19/00017

**20/3D. Clerk's Report**

Cllrs were asked to consider how the CIL funds could be used in the Parish.

A new sign at Kennel Lane has been installed.

Cllr Filmer has agreed to assist the Council regarding the responsibility of ditches and verges in the parish and will liaise with MP James Heappey on the Council's behalf.

The clerk will book R Young to carry out our internal audit.

New funding avenues are available through Spark Somerset who provide advice and guidance.

Avon & Somerset Police can provide training and equipment for a Community Speed watch Group once they have established the problem areas in the parish and the PCSO should be contacted in the first instance to discuss concerns.

Somerset County Council Leader David Fothergill presented the proposal for a Unitary Council at a recent SLCC meeting and has asked for feedback from Town and Parish Councils on areas they can become more involved in. More information to follow.

A joint cluster meeting at Sedgemoor District Council Offices on 26.3.20 will include a presentation on the proposal of a Unitary Council.

**20/3E. To Consider the bank statement and budget (Clerk)**

It was resolved to approve the bank statement and budget

**20/3F. To consider the following payments**

It was resolved to approve the following payments

Details	VAT	Total
SDC-Clerk salary/HMRC/Home allowance February 2020-paid by Direct debit		374.64
S Diaz- Clerks expenses/mileage	0.67	32.85

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## 20/3G. Planning Applications

### Application No: 21/20/00003

**Location:** Land To The South West Of, Townsend Farm, Prowses Lane, Townsend, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26

**Proposal:** Development of a gas-powered energy generation facility and associated infrastructure for a temporary period of 25 years.

**It was unanimously resolved to object to this application for the following reasons:**

**Industrial Complex within the Countryside** (Local Plan (LP) Policies D 4, 19,24 refer)

The land upon which the proposed industrial complex would be constructed is presently agricultural land. It is inappropriate to build an industrial complex on agricultural land in this setting. (refer to Location below).

Considering also that the adjacent barns are agricultural, it is apparent that approval of an industrial complex in this location would set a dangerous precedent should an application be submitted for the barns use be changed from agricultural to industrial.

The complex is only suitable for a brownfield site that is not adjacent to protected landscape, albeit that it is contrary to the principles of LP Policy D4.

**Location:** (Strategic Priority 7 and LP Policy D19 refer)

The site is located at an elevated to the fields to the south and west and is within the countryside immediately adjacent to and within the setting of The Mendip Hills AONB. It is clearly visible from Cross, Weare the A38 and from the Mendip Hills. The development has the potential to harm the character and visual amenity of the protected landscape. No mitigation measures are proposed, however such measures would not negate the harm caused by the industrial development.

**Gas Powered** (Strategic Priorities 1 and 7, LP. Policy D24 refer )The industrial development relies on gas which is not carbon neutral. The development is contrary to National and Local Policies that require the use of forms of renewable energy and measures which mitigate and reverse the effects of climate change.

**Increase in HGV Traffic** (LP Policy C5 refers) There are no apparent plans to upgrade either the access to the complex from Prowse's Lane or the A371/Cross Lane and the dangerous A38/371 crossroad junction.

**Noise** ( LP Policies D 24 and 25 refer) There is no assessment of the effect of generator noise (Hum) on settlements to the North and West of the complex. The noise from generators can be a source of stress and a risk factor for certain health issues and has the potential to cause disturbance to residents.

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**Light** (LP Policies D24 and 25 refer) The lighting plan for the proposed industrial complex will cause significant and unacceptable light pollution within the adjacent countryside. The proposed site lighting plan is unacceptable.

**Pollution** ( LP Policies D24 and 25 refer) There is no plan demonstrating how carbon emissions from the plant are to completely eradicated.

**Landscaping** (LP Policy D19 refers) There is no landscaping plan describing how the industrial complex is too hidden from view, especially from the North and West.

Cllr Mason left the meeting

## **Application No: 21/19/00017**

**Location:** Southcroft Farm, Bridgwater Road, Cross, Axbridge, BS26 2ED

**Proposal:** Conversion and extension of former telephone exchange into a one bed dwelling. It was resolved to have no objections to this application but has the following observation:

**Observation** With reference to the area bounded in red on the site location map. CBPC takes it that this area is the legal boundary of the residential development site. Much of the area is presently covered with a 'waste' tip. CBPC takes it that SDC will require the area to be suitably landscaped commensurate with a residential garden in accordance with an agreed landscaping drawing identified in permission documents (if permission is granted)

Cllr Mason re-joined the meeting

## **20/3H. Results of planning applications**

### **Application number: 21/20/00001/CM**

Location: 12 Old Coach Road, Cross, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2EF

**Granted permission**

### **Application number: 02/19/00021**

Location: Mendip View, Cheddar Road, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2DL

**Awaiting decision**

### **Planning application number: 17/18/00053.**

Location: Land to The West Of, Lower New Road, Cheddar, BS27 3DZ

**Awaiting decision**

### **Planning application number: 17/19/00095**

Location: Strawberry Farm, Short Lane, Cheddar, BS27 3YB

**Application refused.**

### **Planning application number: 17/18/00073/SPH**

Location: Land to the North of, Axbridge Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27

**Awaiting decision**

### **Planning application number: 02/16/00030**

Location: Land to The South Of, Houlgate Way, Axbridge, BS26

**Granted permission**

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- 20/3I.** To consider the legal responsibility of repairs to Crooks Peak Car Park.  
It was resolved that The Parish Council will not take legal responsibility for repairs to the Crooks Peak car park.
- 20/3J.** To consider the tree and Sedgemoor District Council funding available.  
It was agreed that Cllrs D McCarthy and A Brellisford would consider how many trees are required and where and would inform the clerk to complete the application.
- 20/3K.** To consider village maintenance plans.  
A total of 32 volunteers are available to carry out the village maintenance plan. Some volunteers have now been allocated to certain roles and tasks.
- 20/3L.** To accept the declaration of office for Cllr A Brellisford.  
It was resolved to accept the declaration of interest for Cllr A Brellisford.
- 20/3M.** To consider funding to Compton Bishop Church.  
It was unanimously resolved to continue to fund Compton Parish Church for the year ahead although the clerk advised that this was against the guidance from NALC.
- 20/3N.** To consider under writing any shortfall in funds from the National Grid for the Village Notice Board.  
This item was removed from the agenda.
- 20/3O.** To consider the protocol and preparations for the passing of a Monarch/Consort.  
It was resolved in the event of a Monarch/Consort passing the church has agreed for flowers to be laid there and they have a book of condolence for parishioners to use. The Council will buy tea lights and announce the information on the website should it happen.
- 20/3P.** To consider a new notice cabinet for Church Lane Bus Shelter.  
It was resolved to buy an aluminium oak effect cabinet at a cost of £320.00 together with zintec backing for £9.50 plus VAT from Arien signs.
- 20/3Q.** To consider the Cross road side board opposite Bourton Lane  
It was resolved to design a sign to be agreed at the next meeting.
- 20/3R.** To consider solar panels for the village hall  
It was resolved that Cllrs Parker & Lane will propose this to the Village Hall Committee.
- 20/3S.** To consider requesting a map regarding highways and maintenance from Somerset C.C/ Sedgemoor District Council to show areas they are responsible for within the Parish.  
It was resolved that the clerk will write to Somerset County Council Highways to ask for a map of what they are responsible for.
- 20/3T.** To consider the Cross Lane road surface  
It was resolved that the clerk will write to Somerset County Council Project Manager and ask them to address this when they begin work on the A38 refuge which will be closed after Easter to suggest both are completed at the same time.

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**20/3U.** To consider writing to the developers of the Houlgate Way application 02/16/00030 to request a meeting to discuss reserved matters.

**It was resolved to write to the developers of the Houlgate Way application 2/16/00030 to request a meeting to discuss reserved matters.**

To consider asking Mrs M Pritchard to continue work on the historic board in Cross (dependent on funding application).

**It was resolved that the clerk will write to ask Mrs Pritchard to continue with the historic board up to the point to obtaining a quote.**

## **20/3V. Cllrs Reports**

Cllr McCarthy received a response from Alyn Jones S.C.C. Usual response - many other priorities, costs and no fatalities have occurred on Webbington Road.

**Action:** Cllrs Parker and McCarthy will attend the next cluster group meeting to discuss ongoing concerns about pedestrian safety/vehicle speeds on our rural roads – this has been discussed in previous cluster meetings and these concerns are shared by other parishes.

Residents of Compton Bishop/Cross intend to start a Community Speed Watch group for this parish and are planning to ask MP J Heapey about speed reduction/speed limits on the Webbington Road

Pictures of locations for tree planting/environment issues/wildlife and psychological traffic calming have been taken.

Cllr Lane reported that 11% of the Parish had completed the survey regarding the Village Hall. 90% of those who had taken part said they would like a rural cinema and Cllr Lane will apply for funding a projector from the National Lottery.

Cllr Filmer -Somerset County Council

Highways safety issues have been raised with Cllr A Jones at Somerset County Council regarding psychological calming and gateway planting. Once he has looked at the report he will respond.

Council Tax will increase to 3.99%-1.99% County Council and 2% Social levy

A million pounds has been set aside next year for climate change funding

**Date of Next Meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

**The meeting closed at 9.13pm**

End of minutes