

# Minutes of the Meeting of Compton Bassett Parish Council

Held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019

At 7pm

**Those Present:** Cllr Szczesiak (PS), Cllr Marshall (JM) (Vice Chair), Cllr Waite (LW), Cllr Barlow (JB), Cllr Barnett (PB), Cllr Reis (CR), D. Zeitzen (DZ) (Clerk)

No members of the public attended

## AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence-** Cllr Horseman, County Cllr Crisp
2. **Briar Leaze development update Peter Crouch** – Peter advise the hand over of plots 1 & 2 has been postponed until the New Year. This will be followed by the hand over of plots 3 & 4 in early February and then the others following on. The residents of no.s 16 & 17 have now been decamped. No 17 will be used as a site office but later in the year no.s 16 & 17 will be sold as outright freehold sales, the properties are of non-traditional construction and will probably be auctioned. No 10 will be re let. The site will be closed from 20<sup>th</sup> December until 2<sup>nd</sup> January. In the event of any emergency, Sam the site foreman will be contactable. In regard to the drainage connection, the section 171 has now been done so should be completed by 20<sup>th</sup> December. PC apologised for the damage caused to the Village Hall site grass caused by sub-contractors and this will be repaired. PC also apologised for the tradesmen vehicles blocking the road for the bin lorry. Potential grass cutting is still being looked into. PS thanked PC for attending the meeting.
3. **Minutes** – The Minutes of the Meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were unanimously approved and signed by PS.
4. **Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda** - None
5. **Receipt of Public Questions** - None
6. **Actions & Matters Arising** : Phonebox LW advised this has now been disconnected from the electricity supply, the next stage is to dig it out and take for refurbishment. CR has kindly agreed to provide the loader, trailer and straps for this. LW advised total refurbishment costs are in the region of £1,300. **Action: LW, CR and PS to liaise over taking box for refurbishment.**  
White lining by Church **Action; JM to bring this up at next CatG meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December.**  
Snow plough CR advised it's in Chippenham awaiting delivery, the Parish Council has now received the grant from SSE. **Action: DZ to send payment and claim VAT back on invoice.**  
Wildflower seeds JM advised these have been distributed with the newsletter.  
Village archives LW has potentially found a suitable cupboard **Action; JM to liaise with VHC.**  
Overgrown bushes by bus shelter **Action: PS to arrange for it to be cut back.**  
Gigaclear CR has still not been contacted by Gigaclear despite several requests, CR is concerned there are no facilities for extra pods and businesses are being disadvantaged. JM proposed the parish council should contact Wiltshire Council to complain and highlight the problems JB seconded this and this was unanimously agreed. **Action: DZ to contact Wiltshire Council, cc N.Wilts MP and Gigaclear**

**Verges** The Parish Council has received a couple of complaints about the state of the verges. The village has suffered greatly from vehicles destroying verges and churning up ground recently. This is an ongoing problem which whilst beyond the direct control of the parish council is something of which we are aware. JM advised money was put aside by Highways for helping to rebuild damaged verges and make them more resilient. It was unanimously agreed to approach Wiltshire Council for help to rebuild damaged verges and make them more resilient. **Action: JM to contact Highways.**

In the mean time for those wishing to demarcate verges outside of the boundaries of their land using bollards, stones or markers on council verges it maybe helpful for the community to follow the advice of the Parish Steward/Highways Department:

Protecting Grass Verges

Placing boulders, bollards, parking etc. on highway verges, without following the appropriate application process, can not only reduce the verge to an unsightly state, but it can also cause a hazard to other motorists. We do not promote or support these activities on grass verges, unless there is a justified reason.

There are defined processes in place for anyone wishing to use the Council's verges and these must be followed. The council can take action against anyone not following the appropriate steps. All uses of the highway verge will need to be approved by the appropriate highway officer.

## 7. Planning-

Hills - 16/05708/WCM Extraction and conveyor belt and Footpath and bridleway diversion order Objection from Compton Bassett Parish Council – ongoing.

19/05427/Ful 1, The Breach Single storey extension to rear of property, two storey extension to side of property, loft conversion and relocation of oil tank – ongoing. JM proposed the parish council contact Wiltshire Council again with concerns over the size of the proposed extension and the access. The Parish Council also feel the extension would not sympathetic to surrounding houses. CR seconded this. **Action: DZ to contact Wiltshire Council.**

8. **Annual Parish Meeting 2020** CR proposed a speaker is invited to give a presentation on bees, JM seconded this and it was unanimously agreed. JB has kindly offered to arrange this. A date needs to be set for the meeting which will be on a Wednesday evening. **Action: Date needs to be agreed, DZ to circulate. JB to arrange presentation.**

9. **NHP Review** The Parish Council would like to express their thanks to the NHP steering group for all their work carrying out the review which has been received by the Parish Council. No policies have changed but there are a number of recommendations that the Parish Council are examining in terms of feasibility. **Action: These recommendations will be looked at by PS, JM, LW and JB who will feedback to the next Parish Council meeting.** PS proposed planning applications should be looked at in conjunction with the NHP. Seconded by JB. **Action: LW and JB to look at applications.**

PS proposed the NHP should be an agenda item for every meeting, this was unanimously agreed.

PS proposed the Parish Council should inform Wiltshire Council a NHP review has been carried out and adopted with no policy changes. JM seconded this. **Action: DZ to inform Wiltshire Council**

10. **Feedback from meetings** JM attended the recent Area Board meeting and explained Wiltshire Council have been awarded a £75 million grant to put in the infrastructure for a new ring road for Chippenham.

JM attended a footpath meeting organised by Anne Henshaw who is looking at the possibility of replicating footpath warden groups that have been set up in the Cotswolds.

11. **Correspondence Received** County of Wiltshire Carol Service 6<sup>th</sup> Dec Swindon, Dorset & Wilts Local Performance and Scrutiny meetings – noted.

Gulley emptying service – JM and PB have marked the gulleys on a map and sent request for blocked ones to be cleared to Wiltshire Council,

What 3 words – Parish Council are aware of What3words which can be used to give precise locations when the app is downloaded.

Car parking in village – passed to landowner who is looking at putting no parking signs to stop his access being obstructed.

NHS info for villages passed to village website for uploading.

## 12. Finance and Accounts

a. Bank statement as at 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec £11,542.27 Income & Expenditure as at 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec £11,542.27 Unanimously approved

b. Budget and set precept 2020/21 After discussing the budget in detail JB proposed keeping the precept at £5000 PS seconded this, it was unanimously agreed

**Action: DZ to submit the precept request.**

c. Invoices Clerks salary £158.55, wildflower seeds Emorsgate Seeds £45.76, snow plough Chippenham Farm Sales £2,820.00 Newsletter Kennet Print £40.00 Unanimously approved and cheques signed.

13. **Communications** -newsletter PS congratulated LW & JB on the latest newsletter. The next one will be circulated in Spring 2020. **Action; LW & JB to produce the next newsletter.**

**14. Traffic Calming** JM has been looking at the options available and will ask for more advice at the next Catg meeting. Calne Without Parish Council have enlisted the help of an environmental traffic engineer to do an audit in Calne Without and have kindly said JM can go along to see what possibilities this could offer to Compton Bassett. JB said the amount of traffic using the village was of a major concern and it was unanimously agreed to keep working on this issue. **Action; JM and JB to continue working on this.**

**15. 2020 Running Club Event** **Action: JM & PS to meet with organisers in new year.**

**16. Councillors Observations** – JM would like to look into the possibility of providing short first aid refresher course for residents- she will look into and it will be added as agenda item for next meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

**Date of next meeting; Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020**