

**Minutes of the Meeting of Compton Bassett Parish Council  
Held on Thursday 11 January 2024  
At 7 pm in the Benson Hall**

**Those Present:** Cllr Szczesiak Chair (PS), Cllr Lloyd-Davies (RLD)  
Cllr Barlow (JB), Cllr Waite (LW), Cllr Barnett (PB)  
D. Zeitzen (DZ) (Clerk),

Wilts Councillor Ashley O'Neil (AN) present items 95/2023 – 98/2023  
Rebecca Chivers,(RC) Highways Engineer, Wiltshire Council present items  
95/2023-98/2023

Member of public present items 95/2023-98/2023

**AGENDA**

**95/2023 Apologies for absence** Cllr Budge (EB), Cllr Reis (CR)

**96/2023 Minutes** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 7 December 2023 were unanimously approved and signed by PS– circulated before the meeting

**97/2023 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda** None

**98/2023 Receipt of Public Questions-** Question received from member of the public by email prior to meeting, following the recent heavy rainfall.

**“What practical steps do the Parish Council propose to take to minimise the risk of a repeat of the flooding which took place last week?”**

Flash flooding in the village on 4 January, led to several properties suffering flooding with internal water ingress and several more having flooding to gardens. The road was flooded at both ends of the village for a short time, rendering the village impassable.

The member of the public who put the question to the parish council was present at the meeting, spoke for a short time and made the following points.

They suggested a review of the emergency plan, grants possibly available, areas of weakness pat pipe and ditch capacity. Availability of sandbanks for residents with properties that are subject to ingress.

PS thanked the member of the public for his question and addressing the councillors. He said the flood plan is appendix 8 of the emergency plan and will be looked at. **Action: LW to review flood plan.**

PS said some ditches through the village had been dug out by a local farmer. Some gulleys in the village had been cleared by Wiltshire Council a few days before the flooding. Wessex Water had replaced a brick culvert with a 9 inch pipe near Austins Farm, this was only meant to be a temporary measure put in place some years ago. **Action: RC will contact Wessex Water.**

Wiltshire Council rarely supply sandbags, purchase price is approx. £200 for 20/30 bags.

RC said Wiltshire Council have a policy not to give out sandbags. The ones they do supply are not gel sacks.

Wiltshire Council have recently dug out the ditch by the bund from the bridleway opposite Woodville.

AN said to minimise flooding, Wiltshire Council Highways need to clear gulleys and culverts, landowners need to ensure ditches are clear. If there is still flooding after these steps have been taken there are schemes that will mitigate. It is also up to homeowners to plan for the worst. E.g. flood barriers. These 3 aspects are needed to minimise the risk.

Renate Malton, flood resilience officer, Wiltshire Council.

[Renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk)

RC 27 gullies through the village were cleared by Wiltshire Council a couple days before the heavy rainfall and flooding on 4 January. Clearing all the gullies in the village is ongoing. The road sweeper has been through to clear the debris left on the highway from the flooding.

**Action:** LW to collate list of properties that experienced flooding to Wiltshire Council

### **99/2023 Finance and Accounts**

- a. Bank statement and Income & Expenditure balance as at 03.01.24  
£10,414.89

Invoices to pay: Clerk's salary £310.12 & HMRC payment £69.40  
Includes back pay on pay rise April – Dec on all hours worked.

Donation towards VHC Christmas tree request not yet received

- b. Clerks' pay scales 2023-24 on going
- c. Fee increase re payroll. Payroll administrator fee to rise to £72.

All 99/2023 unanimously agreed. DZ to set up payments, LW to release

Documents item 99/2023 emailed to councillors before meeting

**100/2023 Precept and Budget** 2024-25 Precept discussed at December meeting and provisionally agreed as £8,000, to be finalised at this meeting. Revised budget had been circulated to councillors to take into account clerk pay rise, pay roll increase. Audit fee will increase by £5  
After further discussion, JB proposed precept for 2024-25 to be £8,000, seconded by RLD and unanimously agreed. **Action:** DZ to submit precept request to Wiltshire Council

**101/2023 Matters Arising** Parish Steward Visits- 8 Jan included drain cleared, next visits 7<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
Map of village for parish councillors - ongoing work by RLD  
Tree sparrow nesting boxes – approved  
Dog warden update on going CPN in place

### **Highway matters**

Water leak – spring by Rosemary Cottage. Chased Martin Cook for update 14 Nov. Update RC to take up with Wessex Water

Blocked culvert by bund opposite Woodville - Parish steward to clear re Martin Cook 14 Nov Update culvert has been cleared

Flooding Freeth Corner- Reported to Highways who have erected signs, incident no 00128954. Chased Highways 2 Nov and Martin Cook 14 Nov. Update RC dealing with, on going.

Flooding Goodenough Corner -Reported to Highways 13Oct, Ditch cleared by CR

Complaint sent to Highways 13<sup>th</sup> Oct re road closure 11 and 12<sup>th</sup> October re signage. Highways forwarded complaint to Streetworks 13 Oct. No response from Streetworks, chased 16.11.23. Response received saying signage will be removed.

Email sent to Drainage Wiltshire Council 25.10.23 re flooding in Compton Bassett, who said they would follow up Highways. Awaiting response

On site meeting held PS, LW and Becky Chivers, Highways engineer 14 Dec  
Re issues in Compton Bassett

Fire hydrant sign opposite southern boundary of no 57- Dorset and Wilts Fire & Rescue hydrant technician to attend and investigate **Action:** DZ to chase

## **102/2023 Planning**

PL/2022/06790 Fairholme Farm Compton Bassett SN11 8RB  
Full planning permission application for  
Situating of a mobile home to provide on site accommodation for our shepherd.  
Comments by 10.11.22 Objection submitted by Parish Council- Ongoing

PL/2023/08203 Full planning permission Cowes, The Courtyard, Buttle Farm, Compton Bassett SN11 8RE Change of use from holiday lets, food preparation and production plus ancillary residential use with extension to form enclosed corridor and greenhouse to unencumbered residential use together with the erection of linking corridor, enclosed main entrance, associated parking and ancillary residential storage.  
Discussed at extraordinary meeting on 31.10.23. There were no objections from Parish Council- Ongoing

PL/2023/08204 The Chalk Barn. Removal/variation of conditions.  
Removal of Conditions 16 and 17 (Tourism Occupancy Restriction Conditions) and addition to plans set out within Informative 1 associated with N/10/00054/FUL relating to details of external elevation treatments and proposed boundary treatments defining residential curtilage. Replace with condition(s) restricting occupancy to over 55's only plus dependent relatives and carers.  
Various concerns were raised about application PL/2023/08204, including bringing another residential property to the village would contravene the Compton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan. Councillors were concerned this may set a precedent in the future for the village.  
At extraordinary meeting on 31.10.23, a unanimous decision was made by the Parish Council to submit the various comments to the planning department- Ongoing

**103/2023 Correspondence** Broken fire hydrant sign **Action:** DZ to chase repair/replacement.

Wilts Council Town & Parish update.

Jacs suppliers of village gateways, Flood maps, pcc precept survey, parish steward scheme schedule, Defra's property flood resilience repair grant scheme, Benson Hall events

All emailed to councillors before meeting

All noted

**104/2023 Feedback from meetings** None

**105/2023 Traffic Consultation** SID monthly report and placement circulated to councillors by LW.

Proposed speed limit changes consultation 30 November 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> January

Consultation now closed.

Auto speed watch device to be purchased when new speed limits in place, as Previously agreed.

Request received from resident for potential Caution Horses Sign-unanimously agreed to be considered when new village signs and new speed limits in place

**106/2023 Neighbourhood Plan Update** LW emailed Wiltshire Council Neighbourhood Planning team, awaiting response. Current NHP is safe and up to date.

**107/2023 Calne Without Parish Council financial distribution** On going

**108/2023 Annual Community Meeting 15 May 2024** **Action:** CR to contact Potential speaker

**109/2023 Meeting Dates April 2024 – March 2025**

Annual Parish Council Meeting will now be held on Wednesday 22 May 2024

Annual Community Meeting 15 May 2024

A list of dates up until 31 March 2025 has been circulated to councillors.

**Action:** DZ to book Benson Hall for these dates.

**110/2023 Communications Action:** LW and JB to produce a spring newsletter

**111/2023 Parish Councillors' Emails** All councillors emails are working correctly

**112/2023 Councillors Observations** None

Meeting closed 8.40pm

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 14 March 2024 at 7pm**

**Annual Community Meeting Wednesday 15 May 2024**

**Annual Parish Council Meeting will now be held on Wednesday 22 May 2024**