

**Minutes of the Meeting of Compton Bassett Parish Council
Held on Thursday 7th August 2025
At 7 pm at the Benson Hall, Compton Bassett**

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

John Barnes NCN 403 Cross Council Working Group

PB arrived 7.20pm left at 8pm

2 members of the public attended

AGENDA

25/41 Apologies for absence- Cllr Barlow (JB), Cllr Budge (EB), County Cllr O'Neil (AN)

25/42 Minutes –The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held 19 June 2025 were unanimously approved and signed by PS
Circulated before the meeting

25/43 Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda - None

25/44 NCN 403 Cross Council Working Group – John Barnes, Chair of Derry Hill parish council explained the NCN 403 cross council working group is made up of parish councillors from the area that the route runs through from Chippenham via Calne to Marlborough. The route comes out at Freeth Corner towards Marsh Lane.

The group hold an online meeting every 2 – 3 months. They aim to carry out small improvements to the route, e.g. surface repairs , refurbished signage.

Action: to be discussed at September meeting

25/45 Receipt of Public Questions- The property owners of The Chalk Barn, Buttle Farm, Compton Bassett SN11 8RE attended the meeting. They gave a summary of planning application PL/2025/05844 and answered questions from parish councillors regarding the application. They then left the meeting.

25/46 Finance and Accounts

- a. Bank statement and Income & Expenditure as at 3 August 2025
£41,363.48
- b. Invoices Clerk's salary £156 and HMRC July £39. Paid 11 July
ICO £47 paid by direct debit in July (there has been an increase in the cost of the ICO annual subscription, a statutory requirement, from £35 to £47, the parish council pay annually by direct debit, this reduces the cost by £5 from £52
- c. Invoices Clerk's salary and HMRC August, Clerk broadband and phone contribution £150, Auto Speed Watch 12 month subscription £214.80
Unanimously agreed. DZ to set up, RLD to release

Weed killer plus spray bottle £29.95 plus £12.95 total £42.90 (for war memorial working group) unanimously agreed and paid Eugenie Brooks 30.07.25)
- d. Bank signatories PS, LW, RLD and DZ are signatories. EB has agreed to become a signatory. **Action:** DZ to set EB up as signatory

- e. Parish Council savings accounts It has been unanimously agreed to set up a 90 day notice savings account with Hinckley and Rugby Building Society, who offer specific accounts for local/parish councils. It was agreed the parish council would keep the precept and balance brought forward in the Lloyds Current account and transfer balance of £23,000 to the savings account

Action: DZ to set the account up.

- f. CIL payments from Calne Without- The parish council have a limited time in which to use the CIL money transferred from Calne Without. If it is not used or ring fenced by the set dates, Wiltshire Council can claim the payments back.

Various options were discussed for potential use of the payments.

Solar powered SID plus solar panel for existing SID

Replacement defibrillator

Repairs to war memorial steps

Part payment of village gates

Contribution towards solar panels for village hall

Action: DZ will contact CIL team Wiltshire Council for confirmation the funding could potentially be used for payment towards proposed items.

Documents emailed to councillors before the meeting

25/47 Matters Arising Parish Steward Visits- no visit in August, Swindon and Wiltshire Prepared Emergency Contact Hub on going, Bridleway on going see 25/51

25/48 Highway matters

PS attended an onsite meeting with Wiltshire Council drainage engineers Emma Biggs and Richard Williams re issues in the village.

The problems by Rosemary Cottage were discussed with the owners of Rosemary Cottage. The drainage team will arrange for a crew to dig up the affected area.

The work will have to be booked in and a request submitted for a road closure.

The footpath running down towards Rosemary Cottage is very badly damaged, we assume by heavy vehicles parking or driving over the path. The flagstones are lifting and are a danger to pedestrians.

Awaiting response to email sent on 03.08.25 asking for update

The first section, approximately 1m from the kerb edge, is Highways, Wiltshire Council to complete. They have the flagstones from outside of Rosemary Cottage in safe keeping, as until the drainage work has been completed there, there is nothing they can do to make this repair right.

Until the drainage has been repaired, this issue will continue to cause defects in the area due to the 'leak'. This area may be dug up again and it would be better to wait until all work has been completed before proceeding with repairs. Highways can have 'uneven' footway boards put out to warn people of the surface, in the interim. The parish council have requested the boards.

Highways have advised due to the size of the boards they would be a hazard

To help alleviate the problems with heavy water flow down the road (after heavy rain), from the track/bridleway by the village hall field, when available a crew will clear blocked drainage at the bottom of the track. They also had some suggestions about the blocked ditch by the side of the track.

Parish Council have also chased up the cleaning out of the drain under the road, about 20 yards down the road from the pipe in the bank, on the same side as the White Horse Inn, but just up the hill from it.

It got rather treacherous in the winter when the water was across the road and froze.

Gulleys cleared 01.08.25

20.06.25 Request submitted for all white lines in Compton Bassett to be refreshed

LW advised fire hydrant opposite the Pippins is leaking. **Action:** DZ to contact DWFB

25/49 Planning

PL/2025/02426 Land North of Abberd Lane. Outline application with all matters reserved for residential development of up to 300 houses. Comments by 24.04.25. This area of lane will fall within Compton Bassett boundary after 01.05.25. After discussions on 10 April, parish councillors unanimously agreed to object to the development, backing Calne Without Parish Council's comments and objections to the application.

PL/2024/11469 High Penn Solar Farm, Calne SN11 8TE. Removal/variation of conditions. (Installation of 25.53Ha 12MW Solar park, including Transformer housing, Security fencing and cameras, Landscaping and Associated works) to adjust the proposed operational lifespan of the project from 25 to 40 years. Comments by 22.05.25

Letter sent asking for meeting with owners to discuss solar park (letter to be signed for sent on 09/05/25, delivered and signed for 8.27am 12.05.25) No response has been received. Advised planning officer of this and hence no comments submitted

Letter sent to planning officer voicing disappointment over solar park owner' not responding to parish council letter.

It was agreed parish council would write again to Wiltshire Council as solar farm owners will not communicate with parish council

Action: DZ to submit comments to Wiltshire Council

PL/2025/05844 The Chalk Barn, Buttle Farm, Compton Bassett SN11 8RE Change of use of holiday let to permanent use. Comments by 14.08.25

After a full discussion, the parish council unanimously agreed there were no objections to the application.

Action: DZ to submit comments to Wiltshire Council

PL/2025/05941 Hoopers, 36 Compton Bassett SN11 8RF Yew tree – full removal including stump. Comments by 05.08.25 No comments from parish council

Action: DZ to submit comments to Wiltshire Council

PL/2025/05920 Thatch, 8 Compton Bassett SN11 8RE Fell Davidia Involucrata (Handkerchief tree) and Lilac tree. Comments by 05.08.25 No comments from Parish Council **Action:** DZ to submit comments to Wiltshire Council

PL/2025/05943 Land east of Spitfire Road- 20 dwellings Comments by 28.08.25

After a full discussion it was unanimously agreed to submit the relevant comments from application PL/2025/02426 Land North of Abberd Lane plus additional objectives as produced by EB

Action: DZ to submit comments to Wiltshire Council

25/50 Correspondence National Neighbourhood Policing Week 23-29 June, Police road safety conference cancelled, John Derryman to attend Sept CBPC

meeting, Flood warden lunch and other dates, Planning newsletter, Walc June newsletter, Area board get flood ready, Minute Calne Area Board, Safe streets in Wiltshire, Eat nourish love Autumn Fair, Walc Chairs network
All noted

Car obstructing pavement in village – details passed to Wiltshire Police

Winter Peas equipment request form – to be returned by 12 Sept No requirements this time

All emailed to councillors before the meeting

25/51 Feedback from meetings

LW and CR attended meeting Anne Henshaw re the issues with bridleway CBAS1 from its junction with CBAS 2a, to the split to CBAS2, and the continuing stretch of CBAS1 to the village road.

Action: CR to meet with landowner

LW attended VHC meeting, a new kitchen window is to be fitted in ongoing upgrade to building.

RLD attended LH Fig meeting. The parish council application for village gates has been granted, the parish council will pay a percentage of the costs. RLD and JB will meet with Wiltshire Council next week to discuss where the gates will be installed. The parish council has unanimously agreed on white gates.

25/52 Community Governance Review see 25/46f Also the parish council is struggling to get an up-to-date map of the new boundary, Wiltshire Council have not produced one. Up to date list of new properties within the boundary also required **Action:** LW to investigate producing map, DZ to get list of properties

25/53 Annual Community Meeting Review 2025 plus discuss 2026 meeting to be discussed at September meeting

25/54 NHP Review On going

25/55 Clerk Appraisal Completed by JB early July

25/56 Traffic Consultation and Management Traffic survey requested 26.06.25 , will be completed by end of October

25/57 Communications LW a newsletter will be produced in early Autumn

25/58 Councillors Observations DZ uses own laptop for parish council work, this now needs replacing as not compatible with windows 11. Unanimously agreed parish council should purchase a refurbished laptop for parish council work, up to approx. £350
DZ to source laptop.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 18th September 2025