



Compton Parish Council

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Draft Minutes of the Compton Parish Council Meeting held remotely via MS Teams online meeting platform on Wednesday 20th May 2020 at 7:30pm

Those Present: Cllr J Popplewell in the chair
Cllr A Davies, Cllr M Edney, Cllr J Moulton, Cllr S Reid, Cllr R Verghese

Also in Attendance: District Councillor Bourne Division - Cllr R Briscoe (RB), County Cllr Bourne Division – Mike Magill (MM)

Public Attendance: 1 member of the public was present

The meeting commenced at 7:31pm.

1. Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr J Bray and PCSO Baylee Reed

2. The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting

3. Declarations of interest. The Chairman asked Council members to declare any interests now or when addressing relevant items.

4. The minutes of Compton Parish Council Meeting, held on Wednesday 15th January 2020 were approved with the following correction. “Ian Strachan” on item 8. The minutes were then approved unanimously by those present and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

5. A report on the community response to the pandemic and lockdown was presented by the Chairman and Cllrs. Three donations have been made to local organisations including Compton Village shop (£100), the local ‘Scrub Hub’ (£100) and a Bourne area project to print flyers supporting local businesses (£30.76). Some discussion followed regarding further initiatives to help support local shops and pubs.

It was noted that Compton Square Dance has been cancelled until further notice.

6. Reports were received from Cllrs on other topics including:

- Affordable Housing. The working group met on the 13th March 2020 and was attended by representatives from Hastoe Housing Association and Chichester District Council. Both representatives expressed commitment and enthusiasm for the project going forwards. It was noted that Compton Parish Council had paid initial expenses for the project from monies provided by Hastoe and CDC and would be providing the land. Requests for further funding from Parish Councils in the area of benefit (Stoughton, Compton and the Mardens) would be forthcoming. Recent CIL grants from SDNP should be considered. Discussion followed regarding actions to ensure that locals residents would be the beneficiaries of the new housing.

- West Marden phone mast. No change

- Environment. Farmers will be receiving finance for further measures to ‘green’ land, notably more field margins for conservation purposes. It was noted from farmers that walkers and cyclists had been straying onto these field edges more frequently, despite well maintained footpaths elsewhere, thus eradicating the benefit to wildlife such as ground nesting birds.

- Changes to the Parish Council. The Chairman asked Cllrs to consider who should take over as Chair following his imminent retirement.

- West Marden bus shelter. Cllrs have repainted the shelter. The council will refund the cost of materials.

- West Marden BT phone box. One of the glass windows has been recently damaged. The Clerk to ask

BT to effect a repair.

- Footpaths and Bridleways. It was noted that many kissing-gate latches had been taped open since lockdown by persons unknown. This has caused problems with animals escaping in West Marden. Thanks were expressed to ME and SR for their work in clearing a footpath in West Marden where ash dieback had resulted in several fallen trees.

7. Reports from District and County Cllrs and PCSO.

Cllr Roy Briscos presented his report. He thanked residents and volunteers for all their help during lockdown, noting that a recovery framework was currently being drawn up by CDC. He also noted that there had been a significant increase in fly tipping across the area.

Cllr Mike Magill also expressed his thanks, and specifically for the help with printing and distributing the business leaflets. He noted that the community hubs helpline was now open 8am to 8pm 7 days a week for any residents in need during lockdown.

The Chairman presented a report from PCSO Reed

8. The clerk and RFO presented the bank reconciliation which had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was noted that:

- The audit commission had extended the audit deadline by 2 months.

- The Council had received CIL funding from SDNP for £1089.

Cllrs then voted to approve the regular annual payment of £1500 to the Recreation Ground Committee

9. Planning.

SDNP/20/01248/TCA and SDNP/20/01349/ HOUS. Cllrs had visited two properties on West Marden Hill and supported the applications. Two further applications (SDNP/20/01689/LIS and SDNP/20/01688/LIS) had been received for Compton Farmhouse. Cllrs will be visiting the property shortly.

10. No further questions were received either during the meeting or sent to the clerk prior to the meeting.

11. The next meeting will be held on the 15th July. Format and platform/venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 21:30

Chairman Date

Abbreviations used:

Cllr(s) – Councillor(s)

SDNP – South Downs National Park

WSSC - West Sussex County Council

CDC – Chichester District Council

RFO – responsible financial officer