

Compton Bishop Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

13th December 2023

Present: Councillors: T Mason (Chair), C Settle, E Parker, M Shaw and
Parish Clerk A Mortimore.
Somerset Councillor B Filmer

23/12A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.
Apologies were received from Cllrs D Mc Carthy, T Kelly, and G Hancock.

23/12B To receive declarations of interest
Item 23/12G Planning Applications 00025 and 00026 – prior to the meeting Cllr Hancock expressed a conflict of interest in the two applications as this relates to his neighbour and has abstained from any making any comments. He also sent his apologies so was not involved in any discussions that took place on these applications.

23/12C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November 2023
It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting
The Chairperson signed the minutes.

23/12D To receive the Clerks report.

- 1) Still awaiting a timeline from Southwest Heritage about the Cross Mile Post being returned to its original position on the A38. Southwest Heritage did indicate that they hoped it would be back in position before the new year and the Clerk will obtain an update.

23/12E To receive the County Councillor report.

- 1) Somerset Council Finance – Latest budget figures show the in-year overspend for 2023/24 has reduced from £27M to £19M. The budget gap for 2024/5 has reduced from £100M to £87M.
- 2) Closure of A Block, County Hall - was closed on 30th November to reduce costs. Face to face enquiries will be dealt with at Deane House from this month
- 3) Changes to waste collection days – many recycling and rubbish collection days will change from February next year to make rounds more efficient and cost effective.
- 4) The M5 Willow Man – Somerset has been given £35,000 by National Highways as an initial feasibility programme to look at the possibility of repairing/enhancing the structure and relocating the Willow Man. The public are being invited to have their say via the Somerset Council website.
- 5) A full transcript of Councillor Filmer report can be found on the Compton Bishop Parish Council website.

23/12F To approve the bank statement and the following statements.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net Salary (Nov 23)	316.86
HMRC	Tax deducted at source	79.80
Clerk	Expenses for Oct 23	7.48

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Cllr T Mason	Refund Hosting/Spanglefish annual premium for no adverts on the website	39.95
Cllr T Mason	Refund for posting mandate to Lloyds Bank to remove ex councillors	2.25
Crook Peak Magazine	Donation agreed in the October meeting	250.00

These payments were approved by the Councillors.

23/12G

To consider the following Planning Applications.

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
21/23/00023	Land adjacent to River Axe, North of Turnpike Rd, Lower Weare, Axbridge BS26	Erection of an agricultural building and hardcore area. It was resolved to object to this application. Full details of this objection will be published on Somerset Council's Planning website.
21/23/00025 Full Planning permission	The Cheese Barn, Butts Batch, Compton Bishop, Axbridge, BS26 2HF	Alterations to existing outbuildings to include wood cladding and oak doors to Southeast elevation and full glass windows and doors to Northeast elevation. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not object to this application.
21/23/00026 Listed Building Consent - alterations	The Cheese Barn, Butts Batch, Compton Bishop, Axbridge, BS26 2HF	Alterations to existing outbuildings to include wood cladding and oak doors to Southeast elevation and full glass windows and doors to Northeast elevation. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not object to this application.
21/23/00013	26 Church Lane, Compton Bishop, Axbridge, BS26 2HB	Change of use to domestic land and erection of a double fronted garage with parking area and associated works. It was resolved to object to this application. Full details of this objection will be published on Somerset Council's Planning website.
21/23/00024	The Old Exchange, Bridgwater Rd, Cross, Axbridge BS26 2EB	Extension to a single storey dwelling. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not object to this application.

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23/12H

To note the Planning decisions update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
21/23/00009/EC	Land South of, Crossmoor Drove, Axbridge,	Granted
21/23/00011/EC	Turnpike Road, Lower Weare, Axbridge,	Granted
21/23/00014/EC	Timberwork Buildings, Bridgwater Road, Cross, Axbridge, BS26 2EA	Granted
21/23/00015/EC	Electronic telecommunications apparatus at Webbington Farm, Barton Rd, Webbington, Axbridge	Granted
21/23/00017/EC	Land to the south west of Townsend Farm, Prowses Lane, Axbridge	Awaited under consideration
21/23/00018	Timberworks Buildings, Bridgwater Road, Cross, Axbridge, BS26 2EA	Awaited under consideration
21/23/00022/EC	Land off Barton Rd, Webbington, Axbridge	Granted

23/12I

Safe Pathway Campaign Cross Lane – update on any progress with Axbridge Town Council and the Landowners.

Letter has been sent to Axbridge Town Council asking if they would be prepared to invite the Landowner of the field within their boundary to take part in initial talks with no commitment regarding Installing stock proof fencing and a more robust surface to the path. Awaiting a response from Axbridge Council and there will be an update at the next meeting.

23/12J

Village Signs – any progress on the “Cross Village” sign at the Compton Bishop end of the Village.

Councillors D McCarthy and G Hancock will progress this item and will update at the next meeting.

23/12K

Springfield Wildlife Site – SC Management Plan approval.

The management plan has now been approved by Somerset Council.

23/12L

To consider Councillor Training.

The Chair to contact SALC to establish which training courses are most suitable for the parish council members.

23/12M

To receive Councillor reports.

- 1) It was mentioned that it is normal to hold an open AGM with residents although this was not completed last year. This usually happens around May, and it was suggested that the issue of a 20mph speed limit could be a topic for discussion at such a meeting. See item 12O.
- 2) Cllr Parker attended the recent SALC's AGM when the main points were Somerset Council financial difficulties as mentioned under item 12E and some work that was the Council responsibility could be passed down to local Town/Councils to undertake to reduce overall costs with the possibility of using volunteers for certain tasks.

23/12N

To review two of the CBPC procedures to update to 2023.

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The councillors confirmed that they had reviewed another two CBPC procedures and that no amendments were deemed necessary and these were updated for the current period.

- 23/120 Update on the progress of asking residents for their views regarding a 20mph speed limit in certain parts of the parish**
It was agreed that the initial approach should be via social media and the notice boards and obtain public reaction before progressing further. This will be actioned in the new year with the possibility that the open meeting planned for May next year will give the opportunity for a more accurate local view on imposing a 20mph limit in certain areas. See item 12/M.
- 23/12P Update of the purchase of an Electric Strimmer.**
Cllr Settle will be visiting the proposed supplier in the new year to ascertain if the Strimmer was suitable and robust enough to tackle the required tasks around the parish. Cllr Settle will report back at the next meeting.
- 23/121Q To consider a formal complaint about the difficulty of reporting dumped rubbish.**
Before Somerset became a single authority it was very easy to report fly tipping and dumped rubbish online. However, the system has changed and now must navigate through a series of steps which are irrelevant for reporting fly tipping. It was suggested that a complaint is lodged so the system can be made more simplistic for reporting certain problems without the need to explore through all the process maps. Cllr Filmer asked to be copied in with our complaint and any replies received.
- 23/12R To consider preparation of the 2024/25 Precept.**
This precept needs to be completed by February and Cllr Mason will start by looking at how much of the current precept has been used which will help in deciding the details for next years figures.
- 23/12S To consider replacement of the Kennel Lane Notice Board which is in a very bad condition.**
Cllr Shaw offered to investigate this notice board to establish if it can be repaired or replaced And will provide an update at the next meeting.
- 23/12T items for the next agenda.**
- 1) Safe Pathway Cross Lane – update on any progress with the Landowners
 - 2) Village Signs – any progress on the “Cross Village” sign at the Compton Bishop end of the Village.
 - 3) Councillor Training.
 - 4) Review of CBPC procedures.
 - 5) To consider public consultation regarding 20mph speed limit in certain parts of the parish.
 - 6) Update on the purchase of a Strimmer/Brush Cutter.
 - 7) Update on the formal complaint about the difficulty of reporting dumped rubbish.
 - 8) Preparation of the 2024/25 Precept.
 - 9) Update on the replacement of the Kennel Lane Noticeboard.

Next Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7pm

Compton Bishop Parish Council

DRAFT