

Compton Bishop Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

11th October 2023

Present: Councillors C Settle (Deputy Chair) D McCarthy, E Parker, T Kelly, G Hancock and Parish Clerk A Mortimore.

23/10A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Apologies were received from Councillors T Mason (Chair) and M Shaw. Somerset Councillor B Filmer.

23/10B To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23/10C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th September 2023

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting
The Chairperson signed the minutes.

23/10D To receive the Clerks report.

- 1) Highways have confirmed that as normal 2/3 grit bags will be placed on the normal positions on the Webbington Rd for the winter period.
- 2) The Chairman had a call from Nick Wall of Southwest Heritage to advise that he considered it best if the Cross Mile Post be returned to its original position on the A38 as a grade 2 listed structure of historical interest. Subject to their current work load it is hoped to return it to the roadway before Christmas.
- 3) Speed watch Group – It was agreed that the Clerk to speak to the Chair on his return to consider setting up a separate section of the website to record the good work being done by the speed watch group as well as other volunteers and groups that help the parish.

23/10E To receive the County Councillor report.

Read out by the Clerk from a report from Councillor Filmer.

Register to vote: Residents are being urged to check their electoral registration details or risk losing their chance to vote on decisions that affect them. Letters have gone out to an initial 83,000 houses across the County and all other households will be written to later this month. Residents can tell the Council of changes and if there are new people eligible to be registered at their address, they will receive an 'invitation to register form' either through the post (or via email, if this contact method has been provided).

Go Green grants: 'Go Green Scheme' and the 'Somerset Green Business Grant Scheme' are being introduced to offer businesses help and financial support to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. The scheme offers free energy audits and support to develop individual, costed and prioritised sustainability plans. Grants can be capital and/or revenue and fund up to 50% of total eligible project costs, with the remainder funded by the applicant. The scheme is now open for applications for activity and expenditure which must be completed by end of March 2024. The deadline for submission is 31st October. Further information is available at www.somerset.gov.uk/business-economy-and-licences/funding-and-grants-for-business/

Plastics recycling: Every piece of plastic Somerset Council collected from households and via the recycling sites last year was recycled in the UK. In total 6,500 tonnes of plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays all went to UK

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companies to be turned into new products and packaging – everything from plastic wrapping and compost bins to fleece jackets. The figure is up from 99.4% the previous year.

Hosting: Autumn sees the return to university or college for many young people in Somerset, often leaving parents or carers with a sense of longed for peace and quiet. For others, a spare room gathering clutter and dust may also be ripe for a sort out and some useful employ. Hosting could be the answer, as the need continues for more host families to help support Ukrainian nationals forced to flee their homes and seek sanctuary in a new and unfamiliar setting. Since the Homes for Ukraine scheme was launched in March 2022, Somerset has welcomed over 1,500 Ukrainians to date, with host families playing a pivotal role in creating a safe environment for guests to re-settle and rebuild their lives in some way, supporting and helping them navigate a new life in the UK. Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/housing-support/homes-for-ukraine/ for more information.

BT prosecuted: British Telecommunications (BT) has been fined for carrying out work on Somerset's highway network without adequate traffic management or a valid street works permit. The utility firm was fined £12,000 and ordered to pay costs of £3,158, plus a £2,000 victim surcharge by Taunton Magistrates after it pleaded guilty to offences.

23/10F To approve the bank statement and the following statements.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Host	Spanglefish hosting	24.00
PATA	Payment for Pay role due 01/23	19.90
Clerk	Net salary (Sept 23)	316.86
HMRC	Tax deducted at source	79.80
Mr M Rolfe	Planters -winter and spring flowering	40.00
Mr T Mason	Purchase of Audio Recorder for the Clerk	73.30
SALC	Remote Training inv-2373	30.00
SALC	Remote Training inv-2387	25.00
SALC	Remote Training inv-2403	25.00
SALC	Affiliation Fee – April23 – March 24 (late invoice)	178.67
IFO	Annual Data Protection Fee (direct debit)	35.00

These payments were approved by the Councillors.

23/10G To consider the following Planning Applications.

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
21/23/00017/EC	Land to the south west of Townsend Farm, Prowses Lane, Axbridge	Variations of conditions 2, 4, & of planning permission 21/20/00003 (development of a gas-powered energy generation facility & associated infrastructure for a temporary period of 25yrs.) to amend soft & hard landscaping.
21/23/00022/EC	Land off Barton Rd, Webbington, Axbridge	To determine if prior approval is required for a proposed Base Station upgrade to existing telecommunications installation. Proposed removal and

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		replacement of existing 15.0m high R&T Swann Lattice Tower, (17.10m overall height) and 2 No, antennas with the proposed 20.0m Swann CS1S Lattice Tower, (20.10m overall height) 2 No antennas & 1No. GPS Module and associated ancillary woks. Existing 1no 600? Dish & existing 4 No. OLO antennas to be relocated to new tower leg, Existing equipment cabin to be refreshed internally.
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21/23/00017/EC – It was agreed to refer to the planners with the following observations

- The upgrade inappropriate being close to a residential area.
- Use of fossil fuels not in keeping with climate change issues.
- Inappropriate in an area of outstanding natural beauty.
- Increase in vehicles traffic very near to a conservation area.

21/23/00022/EC

The councillors had no comments on this application, and it was agreed to defer to planners.

23/10H

To note the Planning decisions update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
21/23/00009/EC	Land South of, Crossmoor Drove, Axbridge,	Awaited
21/23/00011/EC	Turnpike Road, Lower Weare, Axbridge,	Awaited
21/23/00014/EC	Timberwork Buildings, Bridgwater Road, Cross, Axbridge, BS26 2EA	Awaited
21/23/00015/EC	Electronic telecommunications apparatus at Webbington Farm, Barton Rd, Webbington, Axbridge	Awaited

23/10I

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

Axbridge Town Council will not approach the landowners concerned until there is a detailed plan in place for set-up and for on-going maintenance including costs and responsibility. It was agreed to investigate the cost of upgrading the footpath with farm stock proof fencing along with using a base for the path such as gravel. This would then allow for the project to move forward. There is the possibility of grants that are available from other sources which could be investigated to help fund the project.


The Clerk to advise Axbridge Town Council that Compton Parish are looking to prepare a Plan which may help to persuade the landowners to co-operate with the project.

23/10J

Update on the cost of obtaining an Electric Strimmer and spare battery.

Quotations were considered and it was agreed to purchase an EGO strimmer at £410 Including a spare battery which was the most competitive quote. This type of strimmer is used by another local parish council very successfully. The servicing of the machine can also

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be carried out easily with the suppliers.

A decision to be made on where the Strimmer will be stored to be decided once it has been purchased.

- 23/10K Church Lane Bus Shelter – update on the progress of installing a bench.**
This is progressing and will be updated at the next meeting.
- 23/10L New Replacement Sign on Wall at The New Inn to comply with the Yellow Lines on the road**
Cllr McCarthy obtained a quotation along with a printout of a suitable sign at a cost of £30. The cost and wording of the sign was sanctioned by the councillors although it was agreed that as a matter of courtesy to seek permission from the owner of the building before it is put up.
- 23/10M Village Signs – any progress on the “Cross Village” sign at the Compton Bishop end of the Village.**
This is still in progress and will be updated at the next meeting.
- 23/10N Springfield Wildlife Site – update and to consider title of the volunteer group.**
The management plan is still with Somerset Council for their approval as a few minor queries still need to be resolved.
The small team that will be carrying out the Management Plan have suggested that their title should be “The Springfield Working Group” and this was unanimously agreed by all the Councillors present.
- 23/10O To consider Councillor Training.**
This will be reviewed at the next meeting when further updates on appropriate training courses become available for consideration.
- 23/10P To receive Councillor reports.**
1) It was suggested that a letter of thanks is sent to Southwest Heritage regarding the Cross Mile Post. The Clerk to speak to the Chair as it may be more appropriate for this to be sent once the post is back in position
- 23/10Q To review two of the CBPC procedures to update to 2023.**
All the councillors confirmed that they had reviewed the two CBPC procedures and that no amendments were needed and could now be updated to the current year.
- 23/10R To consider inviting Sam Winter of SALC to a meeting.**
All agreed that it would be very useful to invite Sam Winter of Somerset Association of Local Councils to a future meeting to ensure the parish council is following the correct procedures and provide clarification to any questions the councillors may have. The Clerk to contact Sam Winter for availability.
- 23.19S To consider a donation for Crook Peak Community Magazine.**
The Council received the annual letter Crook Peak Community Magazine asking for a donation towards their printing costs. It was approved to allow the usual donation of £250 and the Clerk will inform the treasurer of the magazine accordingly.
- 23/10T To nominate and agree two councillors to serve as Trustees of the Hall Committee.**
Since the Hall Committee meets during the day it makes it very difficult for working Councillors to commit to its meetings.
Cllr Shaw confirmed that he was willing to join as a Hall Trustee and could make meetings

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during the day depending on the time. The Clerk to ascertain from the Hall Committee the future dates and times of future meetings and ask if some of the meetings could be in the evening to help working councillors to become Trustees and contribute to the running of the hall.

23/10U To consider purchasing a new pad for the Defibrillator.

The defibrillator has recently successfully been used so a new pad at a cost of £60 was needed and this was unanimously approved.

23/10V

Items for next agenda

- 1) Safe Pathway Cross Lane – update on any progress with the Landowners.
- 2) Church Lane Bus Shelter – update on the progress of installing a bench.
- 3) New Sign on Wall at The New Inn to comply with the Yellow Lines on the road.
- 4) Village Signs – any progress on the “Cross Village” sign at the Compton Bishop end of the Village.
- 5) Springfield Wildlife Site – SC Management Plan approval
- 6) Councillor Training.
- 7) Review of CBPC procedures.
- 8) To nominate and agree two councillors to serve as Trustees of the Hall Committee.
- 9) To consider public consultation regarding 20mph speed limit in certain parts of the parish.

Next Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 8th November 2023



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