

Compton Bishop Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th November 2022

Present: Councillors T Mason (Chairman), T Kelly, E Parker, M Rolfe and C Settle.

District and County Councillor B Filmer.

Parish Clerk Tony Jay.

22/12A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Apologies were received from Councillor D McCarthy.

22/12B To receive declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

22/12C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th September 2022.

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

22/12D To receive the Clerks report.

Sedgemoor District Council has been notified of the resignation of Alex Lane from the Parish Council. Unless ten electors call for an election then this casual vacancy can be filled at the December Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Councillors expressed their gratitude to Alex for her great contribution to the work of the Parish Council over many years.

Planning application 21/22/00020 will be heard by the Sedgemoor Development Committee on 15th November. The Chairman will speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

22/12E To receive the County Councillors report.

Councillor Filmer gave the report. There is likely to be a shortfall of £22 million in the Somerset County Council budget in the current financial year. This shortfall will be funded from reserves. The expenditure during the first year of the new unitary Somerset Council is projected to show a £71 million shortfall. There will inevitably be cuts to services.

All of the work involved in the setting up of the new authority needs to be completed by the end of March. Staffing problems are anticipated as some of the present staff are looking for positions elsewhere as they are unsure whether they will have a job in the new unitary authority.

Councillor Filmer spoke regarding the new Local Community Networks. The executive will be responding to the results of the recent consultation in December or January. Following this, decisions will be made regarding how these networks will operate.

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22/12F

To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
T Jay	Clerk's salary September	350.10
T Jay	Clerk's salary October	349.90
HMRC	PAYE September	87.40
HMRC	PAYE October	87.60
T Jay	Expenses September	98.40
T Jay	Expenses October	60.65
Broxap	Bench and sign for Springfield Wildlife Site, including delivery charge	974.40
Sedgemoor District Council	Dog bin emptying October to March	250.85
Spanglefish	Annual subscription	29.95
PATA	Payroll services – July, Aug and Sept	23.85

It was resolved to approve the bank statement and the payments.

22/12G

To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
21/22/00025	14 Big Tree Close, Compton Bishop, BS26 2EY	Installation of a new external door and window to the (NE) elevation replacing the existing garage door. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not comment on this application.
21/22/00023	Land east of Turnpike Road, Lower Weare, BS26	Erection of an agricultural building. It was resolved to object to this application. Full details of the objection will be published on the Sedgemoor District Council website.

22/12H

To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
17/21/00103	Stearth Bushes, Wedmore Road, Cheddar, BS27 3ED	Refused
21/22/00002	Land North of Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare, Axbridge	Granted
17/22/00002	Stearth Farm, Wedmore Road, Cheddar BS27 3ED	Granted
17/22/00010	Land to the West of Hollywood House, Hannay Road, Cheddar BS27 3BT	Withdrawn
21/22/00009	Compton House, Coombe Lane, Compton Bishop, BS26 2HE	Granted
21/22/00015	6, Church Lane, Compton Bishop BS26 2EZ	Awaiting decision
21/22/00010	Rackley Barn, Rackley Lane, Compton Bishop, BS26 2HJ	Granted
21/22/00012	Rackley Farm Cottage, Rackley Lane, Compton Bishop, BS26 2HJ	Granted
21/22/00020	Newland Farm, Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare, BS26 2JE	Awaiting decision

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21/22/00019	The Manor House, Butts Batch, Compton Bishop, BS26 2HF	Awaiting decision
21/22/00014	Southcroft Farm, Cross Lane, Cross, BS26 2ED	Granted

- 22/12I To consider the Parish Council's procedures for dealing with planning applications. The Parish Council will continue to comment on planning applications in the present way, although it is accepted that the Sedgemoor District Council Development Committee often does not agree with the Parish Council's objections to applications. Councillor T Kelly will be joining the planning group.
- 22/12J To receive an update on progress in respect of the Cross to Axbridge Footpath. County Councillor Filmer stated that the Somerset County Council Small Improvement Scheme is being curtailed due to budgetary restraints. However, he is still trying to obtain funding from the scheme for the footpath. The agreement of the landowners would still be required.
- 22/12K To receive an update regarding the Community Speedwatch Team. The Community Speedwatch Coordinator has suggested two more locations where the team could operate. The Police are considering the locations and their reply is expected shortly. A parishioner from Cross has completed her Community Speedwatch training and may be joining the team soon.
- 22/12L To receive an update from the Cross Climate Change Group. Around sixty people attended the recently held public meeting. Presentations were given on house insulation, solar panels and other related subjects.
- 22/12M To consider an advice document regarding the Springfield Wildlife site (previously circulated to the Councillors) and determine the future actions that the Parish Council needs to take. Councillor M Rolfe summarised the advice document. This will be turned into a Management Plan which will then be submitted to Sedgemoor District Council for their agreement. It was agreed that the wildlife site must remain a place of peace and tranquillity where the interests of the flora and fauna come first and that the Management Plan must reflect this.
- 22/12N To receive an update following the meeting with Somerset County Council Traffic Management Officers on 23rd September. The Parish Councillors have agreed responses to the Highways Officer's suggestions, which have been submitted. A reply has not yet been received. Items 22/12O and 22/12P were adjourned to the December Parish Council meeting.
- 22/12Q To receive Councillor reports. There were no reports.
- 22/12R Items for next agenda. Along with the standing items, there will be an item to receive an update following the meeting with Somerset County Council Traffic Management Officers on 23rd September, and an item to consider the number of hours worked by the Parish Clerk.

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Next Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 14th December 2022.

End of minutes