

Compton Bishop Parish Council

COMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 13th November 2024

Present: Councillors T Mason (Chair), C Settle, E Parker, D McCarthy, G Hancock and Alan Mortimore (Clerk).

24/11A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Somerset Councillors T Grimes and B Filmer.

24/11B To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

24/11C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th September 2024 previously circulated.

It was resolved to approve the minutes. Councillor Mason signed the minutes as being a true record. It should be noted that there was no Parish Council meeting on the 9th October due to lack of councillors being available to attend.

24/11D To receive Clerks Report.

- 1) Lloyds Bank – Changing the name of the current account from a “Treasurers” to a “Community” account from 14th January 2025 with new charges of £4.25 per month. The first 100 electronic payments being free after which charges apply of 10 pence per transaction including direct debits and standing orders. With 7 pence for BACS transactions.
- 2) Somerset Road Closures – received two notices from Somerset Council regarding night road closures on the A38 due to resurfacing work. Information posted on Cross Connections.

24/11E To receive County Councillors Report.

As Councillor Bob Filmer was unable to attend the meeting there will be an update at the next meeting.

24/11F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Sept 24)	319.06
Clerk	Net salary (Oct 24)	318.86
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Sept 24)	79.60
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Oct 24)	79.80
Clerk	Expenses (Sept 24)	11.99
Clerk	Expenses (Oct 24)	11.99
PC Rescue	Setting up the new CBPC computer and supplying Microsoft Office 365 (1 year subscription of £60)	220.00
ScribeLite Accounting for Parish Councils	Direct Debit set up for monthly payments providing a full accounting system for the Parish from July 2024.	14.40 Monthly
Cllr E Parker	Reimbursement of Strimmer part	35.63
Mrs J Clutterbuck	Reimbursement of plants and Flower for around the parish	44.98
Mr P Ardifff	Reimbursement of hardware for repairing the bench by the bridge in Old Coach Road	12.60
Somerset Council	Charge for purchasing 3 posts suitable for the Speed Indicator Device and their installation	950.00
Hostworld Internet Ltd	Annual Domain renewal for the website	24.00
Arien Signs Ltd	Purchase and installation of 2 village signs	912.00

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SALC	Code of conduct for Councillors training session	25.00
SALC	Councillors Refresh/Update training session	25.00
Cross Memorial Hall	Cheddar and Axbridge LCN meeting	25.00
Mike Rolfe	Winter Plants for Parish Flowers Boxes	58.97
Somerset Council	Emptying of Dog Bins Oct24 – Mar25	267.70
Information Commissioners office	Annual Data Protection Fee annual direct debit	35.00
Paul Ardiff	Winter Plants for Old Coach Road	10.97
Tincknells	Shoulder harness for Strimmer	23.94

The payments were approved.

24/11G

To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal

There were no Planning Applications to consider this month.

24/11H

To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision

There were no Planning Decisions to note.

24/11I

Safe Pathway Campaign Cross Lane – update on any progress the Landowners.

The Safe Pathway Campaign are still awaiting an update from Somerset Council's "Rights of Way" officers on any progress being made with the landowners so that this project can move Forward. To be carried forward to the next meeting.

24/11J

To consider Councillor Training.

Code of Conduct and Councillors Interest courses have been attended by three members and further courses will be considered as appropriate.

24/11K

To receive Councillor reports.

1) Unused Telegraph Pole on Webbington Road in area of National Landscape (AONB)

Somerset Planning has confirmed that planning permission was not required to erect such a pole and Truespeed has replied with this regard and would not agree to remove the pole even though it appears not to be needed. The Council will give further thought to ascertaining if any further action that can be taken to get the pole removed.

2) Water on the Webbington Road by the Webbington Hotel

Councillor Mason informed the meeting that water was still coming into the road, and this could be a problem with the groundwater and he will make enquires with the Hotel Management to find out what they are doing to resolve the problem.

3) Cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.

Councillor Mason walked the streams around the parish and discovered a lot of vegetation growing in and around the streams. It is the responsibility of the landowners to keep the streams flowing and the council will contact the appropriate landowners to get them to dredge and clear the vegetation. There will be an update at the next meeting.

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4) Clearing of Ditch along the side of Butts Batch

The ditch running alongside the North East side of Butts Batch has become choked with rotten hedge trimmings and mud from farm vehicles, and the water running off the fields behind runs onto the road creating an accident risk when it freezes.

It was agreed that Councillor Mason should contact Mr Richard Brinson and request his assistance in clearing the ditch.

Councillor Hancock has offered for the material removed to be placed on his land.

24/11L **Update on the installation of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) which has been approved by Somerset Highways and the proposed fitting and management procedures.**

The SID scheme has now been approved by Somerset Highways and the council has now paid for the three location poles required to house the SID. Awaiting confirmation as to when these posts will be installed so the project can then be progressed to completion. The Clerk to contact Somerset Highways for an update.

4/11M **To consider investigating the water quality of the rivers and streams in and around the Parish.**

A local Ecologist has offered to assist the council in investigating the river quality around the parish and has met with some of the councillors around some of the streams and is to complete some testing and monitoring. A further update at the next meeting.

24/11N **Update on various Highway issues including A38 upgrade.**

The major improvements on the A38 are set to be progressed as these are government funded. The Clerk to contact Councillor Filmer for an update.

24/11O **To consider returning the Finger Post that was to be used for the Springfield Wildlife Site back to Somerset Council for them to utilise elsewhere.**

It was resolved that the sign should be removed from the post and put on the entrance gate to the Wildlife Site so that visitors are aware of the correct entrance. Councillors Parker and Settle will liaise to get the sign fixed to the gate.

24/11P **To consider purchasing a replacement bench for "Maggie's Corner" (by the side of the bridge Over the old river Ax on Old Coach Road) as the existing wooden one needs replacing.**

It was unanimously resolved to replace the bench in the spring of next year and, in the meantime, to investigate a suitable replacement. It was also resolved that the existing bench should be repaired and re-sited on another suitable part of the parish (to be decided at a later date).

24/11Q **Local Council Network (LCN) – To discuss how the council can assist LCN to focus on access to services available to residents and how to share such information including community groups, health and transport services.**

Councillor McCarthy gave an update on the last meeting of LCN on 7th November and how local councils can help more in the community. The LCN committee was very pleased with Cross Memorial Hall for their last meeting and suggested it could be used again for their next meeting in January 2025. It was resolved that Compton Bishop Parish Council would, again, fund the cost of LCN holding their next meeting in the hall. The Clerk to inform the LCN Link Officer of the decision and the Secretary of Cross Memorial Hall to issue the necessary invoice to the Clerk for payment.

24/11R **To consider a revamp of the Compton Bishop Parish Website.**

The Clerk had produced a document detailing all the items under the website some of which are either out of date, no longer required, need updating and still valid. It was agreed that the Clerk will split the items down by sections and the Councillors will take a section each and decide on the status of each item. This will then be passed back to the Clerk for actioning. Once this exercise is completed the website should then contain valid and up to date information.

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24/11S To approve a formal request to Somerset Council for clearance of blocked drains in the villages of Cross and Compton bishop where surface water freezes on the paths and roads in winter and is very dangerous to both motorists and pedestrians which could cause major injury.

Somerset Council has now responded to this formal request.

24/09T **Items for the next agenda**

- 1) Safe Pathway Campaign – update on any progress with the landowners.
- 2) To consider Councillor Training.
- 3) Update on the progress of installing the Speed Indicator Device around the Parish.
- 4) Update on the Investigation of the water quality of the rivers and streams in and around the Parish.
- 5) Update on Cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.
- 6) Update on various Highways issues including A38 upgrade.
- 7) Update on investigating a suitable new bench for “Maggie’s Corner”
- 8) Update on the progress of revamping the website.

Next Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7pm