

Compton Bishop Parish Council

COMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 11th December 2024

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

24/12A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.
Councillor D McCarthy, Somerset Councillors T Grimes and B Filmer.

24/12B To receive any declarations of interest.
No declarations of interest were received.

24/12C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November 2024 previously circulated.
It was resolved to approve the minutes. Councillor Mason signed the minutes as being a true record.

24/12D To receive Clerks Report.

- 1) Invoices for payment – When submitting invoices for payment could the Councillors please ensure that the payees account details are with the invoice for payment.
- 2) Letters issued to landowners at the end of November asking them to clear vegetation and debris from the Old River Axe. One had replied that the required action had been taken. Awaiting a response from the other Landowner. The situation will be monitored and if no action taken then the Clerk will contact the second Landowner again for the work to be undertaken.
- 3) Precept form 2025/26. Somerset Council has requested that the Parish Precept for the following financial year be submitted by 31st January 2025. The Councillors to discuss and decide on the amount required at the next meeting.

24/12E To receive County Councillors Report.
As Councillor Bob Filmer was unable to attend the meeting, he provided a detailed written briefing report on the current work and proposed changes being considered by Somerset Council. This has been downloaded to the website.

24/12F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Nov 24)	318.86
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Nov 24)	79.80
Clerk	Expenses (Nov 24)	11.99
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
Crook Peak Parish Magazine "Contact"	Annual donation towards the printing costs	250.00

The payments were approved.

24/12G To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal

There were no Planning Applications to consider this month.

G. Filmer 15/1/25

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24/12H To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision

There were no Planning Decisions to note.

24/12I 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. There will be an update at the next meeting.

24/12J To consider Councillor Training.

Appropriate training sessions to be considered in the new year when a fresh set of courses become available.

24/12K To receive Councillor reports.

1) Drains/Gullies around the parish that get blocked and need regular maintenance to keep them clear of Debris.

Councillor Mason confirmed that Somerset Highways were due to come and flush the drains from four sites around the parish. However, due to recent storms their resources have been required elsewhere. The Clerk along with Councillor Mason will monitor the situation and follow up with Highways if necessary.

2) Water on the Webbington Road by the Webbington Hotel

Councillor Mason informed the meeting that water was still coming across the road. It appears that ground water is following a pipe from the property and leaking into the road. Somerset Highways confirmed that the property owners are legally responsible under the Highways Act to ensure such water does not leak from their property into the roads. The Clerk to liaise with Councillor Mason to draft a suitable letter to be sent to the Webbington Hotel.

3) The new Sign in Cross lane.

The Landowner whose farm entrance is just behind the new sign lowered the sign nearer to the ground to make the access more visible. However, this was done without any consultation with the parish council. It was agreed that the Clerk writes a letter to the Landowner and ask for a joint onsite meeting with the Councillors to resolve this issue.

4) The Climate Change Group.

Councillor Parker informed the meeting that the group is gaining momentum with other Individuals, and organisations are getting involved and it is now considering changing its name to reflect the broader aims regarding climate change. The parish council does support the group with some councillors on the group and subsidising their meetings whenever they meet in Cross Memorial Hall. More information should be available at the next meeting.

24/12L Update on the installation of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) which has been approved by Somerset Highways and the proposed fitting and management procedures.

Before the meeting the Clerk had contacted Somerset Highways for an update on the installation of the three posts needed for the SID. The work has been listed but due to the workload that Highways have at present, it will be sometime in the New Year before the work can be allocated.

Jan 15/1/25

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- 4/12M To consider investigating the water quality of the rivers and streams in and around the Parish.**
The local Ecologist who has agreed to help the council in investigating the water quality needs to complete further research. It was agreed that an onsite meeting should be arranged with the Ecologist and Councillors Mason, Settle and McCarthy will arrange a mutually convenient meeting amongst themselves in the new year.
- 24/12N Update on cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams in and around the Parish.**
This was dealt with under the "Clerks Report" item number 24/12D number 2.
- 24/12O Update on various Highway issues including the A38.**
As the Somerset Councillors were unable to attend the meeting and the briefing note did not include any mention of the A38 upgrade then it was agreed to carry forward to the next meeting.
- 24/12P To consider purchasing a replacement bench for "Maggie's Corner" (by the side of the bridge Over the old river Axe on Old Coach Road) as the existing wooden one needs replacing.**
It was agreed to consider further at the next meeting.
- 24/12Q Update on the progress of revamping the website.**
The Clerk confirmed that some sections of the website had been updated although more needs to be done on other parts. Councillor Mason agreed to assist the Clerk in making further progress with the revamp and will liaise to agree a date after the New Year.
- 24/12R To consider storage of local Compton Bishop history and information which has been compiled after many years of research.**
It was resolved that an onsite meeting should be arranged with the person who compiled all the research to establish the volume of documents involved so that a decision over the storage can be made. The Clerk to contact Margaret Jordan in the new year.
- 24/12S To consider making the annual donation towards the printing costs for "Contact" the Crook Peak Parish Community Magazine.**
It was resolved to donate £250 towards the printing costs which was the amount donated last year.
- 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.
 - 9) Update on the storage of local Compton Bishop history and information compiled over many years of research.

Next Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 15th January 2025 at 7pm



Handwritten signature and date: 15/1/25