

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on January 4th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Hay, Withecombe, Dorber, Mohan, Rix and 7 parishioners and 1 member of the press.

Apologies: The Chairman, Cllr. Tabrett

In attendance: Clerk

The Vice-Chairman opened the meeting at 19.45 after the public had spoken.

The Vice-Chairman thanked the public for their support and invited questions. Mr Rita Tyas raised the concern of nitrates from the field at the top of Bourton Lane polluting the water course. Cllr Hay to approach the farmer and report back to the PC and Mrs Tyas. Mr Chris Byrne raised two complaints and was asked by the Vice-Chairman to provide them in writing.

04/01/01 Minutes of the meeting held on December 7th 2005 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Vice - Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

04/01/02 The Vice-Chairman read out a statement by the Parish Council in response to a previous statement from Mrs Rawlings. A copy of the statement was given to Mr Rawlings.

04/01/03 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

04/01/04 Matters Arising

Rural Community Development Worker, Katherine Armstrong

The clerk to publicise and promote Ms Armstrong's role in the next newsletter and to invite her to speak at the Annual Open Meeting.

Carol singing Event

It was agreed that it was well attended.

Members Community Budget 2005/06: Noticeboards

Clerk reported that planning permission was sought but is not required by Sedgemoor Development Services and that County Highways permission is still awaited.

Bristol International Airport Expansion Plans

The Vice-Chairman reported that a letter was sent to BIA Master Plan Consultation regarding the PC's concerns about the airport expansion. Clerk to write to AONB and to BIA after Cllr Tobin reported that flight paths had been diverted from flying over 'Constable Country' designated AONB.

Bus Shelter

Mr Bob Andrews will repair the one by Church Lane in the Spring and submit an evaluation for rebuilding for insurance purposes.

Community Access Fund Grant – Kissing Gate

A Kissing gate has been installed to replace an old stile in Mr Lovell's field. Mr Grant Turner for Community Access Fund will be asked to attend a possible 'official opening' where the press will be invited.

The Chairman asked that the Cllrs be informed that a meeting with the footpath officer would be taking place on Monday morning 9th January at the Scaurs.

04/01/04 New Matters

Annual Open Meeting Agenda

Clerk to contact Mr Peter Lacey to ask if he would give a talk about the role of the Parish Council. Vice- Chairman to contact Mr Brian Aston to see if he would update the parishioners on the car parking issues in Old Coach Road. Clerk to contact 'SafeCam' to see if a talk could be arranged on the safety of speed cameras.

04/01/05 Financial

Income

Interest Treasurer acc. 0.23
Business Money Manager £25.76

Expenditure

100292 CVP Xmas cards and photo £61.61
100294 Clerk Home Allowance/salary £236.30
100295 Cllr Hay Cluster Group Meeting £8.00
Petty Cash Clerk – Photocopying paper £4.24
And 9 stamps for xmas cards £2.70

Budget 2006/07

The budget was unanimously approved

04/01/06 Planning

Nothing to report

Enforcement Matters:

Nothing to report

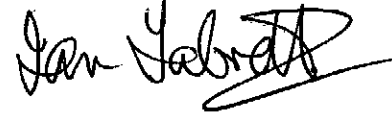
Jan Jabrett

04/01/07 Correspondence

- The Chairman received a letter from the Chairman of Alveston Parish Council in South Gloucestershire, congratulating the PC on the success of getting unnecessary road signs removed.
- Vice-Chairman received a letter from Mr and Mrs Thorne concerning the position of the Trafalgar Tree. Clerk to circulate the letter to all Cllrs and defer to February's meeting.
- Somerset Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 – clerk distributed to Cllrs
- Somerset Access - Annual Newsletter 2004-05 Clerk to obtain more copies and circulate.
- Application for Certificate of Lawfulness – Land to the West of the A38 Cross – Clerk to contact SDC for extended date to reply.
- Fieldwork magazine – article about PC getting signs removed.

**The Vice-Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.25
Next Meeting Wednesday 1st February 06 at 19.30**

Jan Jabrett
1/2/06



Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on February 1st 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tabrett, Tobin, Hay, Withecombe, Mohan, Rix and Mr Baz Hamblin (Axbridge Town Council) and 8 parishioners.

Apologies: Cllr. Dorber

In attendance: Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.40 after the public had spoken.

Cllr Hamblin reported on the Sustainable Communities Bill. Mrs Wooley made a personal statement about a member of the public. Mr Gary Harrison suggested traffic improvements to the crossroads on the A38.

01/02/01 Minutes of the meeting held on January 4th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

01/02/02 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

01/02/04 Matters Arising

Bristol International Airport (item moved forward in the agenda)

Cllr Hamblin reported that he had received a number of complaints about low flying aircraft in the Mendip Area. The Civil Aviation Authority had been contacted but are unwilling to view the commercial aircraft as a problem. Cllrs proposed that the BIA is contacted about this and a mention about the hazardous crossroads.

Trafalgar Tree

Matter deferred to Church Wardens.

Carol singing Event

The clerk read out a letter from Mr Freeman who said that he no longer wished to be involved with the event. Clerk instructed to reply with a letter of thanks.

Members Community Budget 2005/06: Noticeboards

Parish Council has been awarded £300 grant towards the cost of the noticeboard which is £425. Cllr Hay proposed that the noticeboard is purchased with the PC making-up the shortfall. Cllr Withecombe seconded. Clerk to chase-up highways and ask Mr Brinson to install.

Annual Open Meeting Agenda

Clerk to contact Speedcam to invite them to give a talk. Mr Lacey and Ms Armstrong have confirmed. Clerk to write to Mr Farley, Mr Warner and Cllrs Ham and Denbee.

CPRE Road Signs

Cllr Tobin read a letter sent by Mr David Heathcoat-Amory MP supporting the PC initiative of removing unwanted road signs. The MP said that unwanted road signs are obtrusive. Clerk to write to Chairman of the Cluster Group explaining the PC's action.

Nitrates from Field at the top of Bourton Lane

Cllr Hay reported that after speaking to the farmer concerned he reassured her that not a lot of nitrates are used in the field. The crop planted will be maize again this year but with an under-crop to stabilise the soil. Cllr Hay also reported back to the parishioner who originally brought-up this matter.

01/02/04 New Matters

Contact Magazine

PC received accounts for Contact for 2005. Cllr Rix proposed donating £240 to Contact, the sum is based on the formulae of one pound per household, Cllr Withecombe seconded the proposal. Clerk to reply to Rev'd Brown.

01/02/05 Financial

As it was the beginning of the month no bank statements have been received. Reconciliation deferred until next meeting.

Clerk asked that membership to SLCC was renewed Cllr Rix proposed and Cllr Withecombe seconded.

01/02/06 Planning

Application 21/04/00016/CJA Yeo Bridge Farm use of land to site two additional mobile homes – SDC granted permission.

Application for certificate of Lawfulness – Land to west of the A38, Cross. Clerk showed response sent to Mr Brown Head of Legal services at SDC.

Enforcement Matters:

Nothing to report



Jan Tabrett

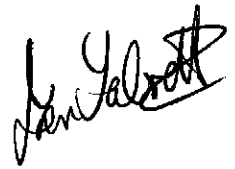
01/02/07 Correspondence

- Somerset Village in Bloom brochure – clerk passed to Cllr Rix
- Standards of Conduct in English Local Government – Cllrs welcomed the changes – Clerk to write to Mr Peter Lacey
- The Future for LAMP – Cllr Tobin reported on the changes proposed for Level and Moors Partnership – Cllrs agreed that there was no response to the document.
- Cllr Dorber reported to the Chairman the poor condition of the footpath of Rackley to Kennel Lane. Chairman to contact district footpath officer.
- A complaint about the public footpath opposite the Memorial Hall was brought to the attention of the meeting, Cllr Tabrett to investigate.
- Cllr Tabrett mentioned that after a meeting with the footpaths officer it was agreed that the Scaurs would be cleared twice a year by SCC contractors.
- The publicity event for the new kissing gate was postponed due to the ill health of the landowner.
- Chairman reported that a parishioner had fallen on Bow Bridge due to the ice. Clerk to write to Highways and ask for bags of salt now that the roads are not gritted.
- Cllr Tobin said that it had been brought to his attention that the letterbox at Dunnet Farm had been closed. It was felt that the PC should have been notified by the Royal Mail. Also, the Victorian letterbox on Old Coach Rd had been badly damaged and Mr and Mrs Harrison mentioned that the post-box outside there house had not been maintained for many years. Cllr Tobin to contact the sorting office at Axbridge.

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.35
Next Meeting Wednesday 1st March 06 at 19.30**

Jan Tabrett
1/3/06

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on March 1st 2006



Present: Cllrs: Tabrett, Tobin, Dorber, Withecombe, Mohan, Rix and 8 parishioners.

Apologies: Cllr. Hay

In attendance: Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.35 after the public had spoken.

A parishioner raised concerns about the impact on the village due to the road closure through Banwell with the increase of traffic.

01/02/01 Minutes of the meeting held on February 1st 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

01/02/02 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

01/03/03 Matters Arising

Members Community Budget 2005/06: Noticeboards

Clerk has contacted Highways to issue a licence.

Bristol International Airport Expansion

It was discussed that current traffic corridors have not changed. It was agreed that no further action would be taken.

Annual Open Meeting Agenda

Clerk reported that Safecam would be giving a presentation but need the use of a white screen Cllr Withecombe to look into this.

Update on Letter Box

Cllr Tobin contacted Axbridge post master about the letter box in Old Coach Rd as the shield has fallen off. Discussed moving the post box at Dunnet Farm to replace the broken one, however, the expense of moving the box was a concern. Cllr Tobin offered to try and repair the shield. Cllr Tabrett said that nationally Royal Mail had no plans to service the boxes, repainting the other box in Old Coach Road was not likely.

Footpath: Rackley Lane

County footpaths officer had looked at the footpath, as it is County responsibility the PC will await to see what improvements are made.

01/03/04 New Matters

New Wording on the Agenda

Cllr Tobin proposed wording be amended to prevent issues raised of a personal nature, Cllr Mohan seconded.

Straying Sheep

Some sheep from the hill had destroyed a parishioner's front garden. Cllr Dorber said that the sheep had been escaping because there was no warning notice to close the gate at the hill at Dunnet Farm. Cllr Tobin said that 25 sheep had escaped under the broken fencing, which is owned by the NT. After contacting NT manager, Mark Courtiour Cllr Tobin was assured that the sheep would be coming off the hill after the farmer returns from his holiday.

Footpath Barton Road, Webbington

Concern has been expressed by parishioners about dead trees and thick undergrowth overhanging Barton Road from the Webbington Hotel boundary. Cllr Tobin had contacted the manager of the hotel and funding had been approved to cut the trees, Cllr Tobin to suggest someone local to do the work as the manager did not know of anyone and this was holding up the work.

Springfield Wildlife Site

Cllr Tabrett gave an update, new bench ready to be installed.

01/03/05 Financial

As it was the beginning of the month no bank statements have been received for February.

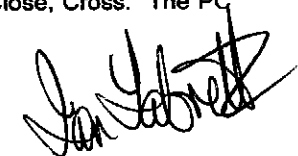
Income	Expenditure
Interest: Treasurer Acc. .21p	100299 clerk salary and expenses £216.12
Business Money Manager 0.00	100297 Cllr Tabrett Expenses £46.47
Community grant Alan Ham £300	100296 Timber Yard Kissing gate £399.50
Kissing gate grant £255.00	
Mr Byrne photocopying the minutes (80p and £3.90) £4.70	

Total income £559.91

Total Expenditure £662.09

01/03/06 Planning

Application 21/06/00003/Cg Erection of single storey rear extension. Mr and Mrs Hoyle 10 Springfield Close, Cross. The PC record the decision of no observation



Jan Sabrett

Application 21/06/00002/CJA Change of use of former telephone exchange to agricultural store, Cross Mrs J.Brinson. The Cllrs agreed that there was no change of exterior, no observation was recorded.

Enforcement Matters:

Mr and MRS Rawlings, Copperill Lodge: 2 Appeals relating to a field to the rear of Copperill Lodge. The Cllrs noted the decision of the Planning Inspectorate to dismiss the appeal and uphold the enforcement notice issued by SDC.

01/03/07 Correspondence

- The chairman reported that two letters addressed to the Parish Council chairman from a parishioner had been delivered to the clerk and some, but not all, councillors. Because of their content and the issues raised, legal advice was sought from the head of Sedgemoor District Council's legal and democratic services department and also from the Somerset Association of Local Councils. A detailed response had been received by e-mail from the Sedgemoor solicitor only shortly before the meeting, and when this had been studied, a reply would be sent to the parishioner.
- Scrutiny Committee Investigation – Planning Enforcement. Contents noted by the Cllrs
- Somerset Strategic Partnership – Clerk to file
- Letter from Mrs McCrea, Secretary for Cross Memorial Hall requesting representatives from the Council for the Hall committee. Cllr Withecombe kindly agreed to continue to offer photocopying and admin help. Clerk to email Mr Stuchbery to enquire if he is still able to represent the PC.

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.10
Next Meeting Wednesday 5th April 06 at 19.30**

Jan Sabrett
5/4/06

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on April 5th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tabrett, Tobin, Dorber, Withecombe, Mohan, Rix, Hay and 6 parishioners.

Apologies:

In attendance: Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.40 after the public had spoken.

A parishioner raised the matter of a broken stile near Rackley Lane where notices have gone up to say that livestock (which could include dogs) are not allowed on the land, Cllr Tobin to look into the matter with the landowners.

A parishioner mentioned that grit from a container on the verge by Bow Bridge was damaging the grass. Clerk instructed to contact Highways with a view of having it removed until next winter. Concerns were raised about the increased level of traffic on Old Coach Road following the closure of Barwell, parishioner suggested a notice should be displayed on the windscreen of inconsiderate parking.

05/04/01 Minutes of the meeting held on March 1st 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

05/04/02 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

05/04/03 Matters Arising

Annual Open Meeting

The agenda was agreed.

Post Boxes

Royal Mail said that the post box at Dunnett Farm had to be closed because of difficulty parking and they would consider repositioning the box at Church Lane. Cllr Tobin would draft a letter in agreement to the proposal.

Road Signs

Cllr Tobin reported that road signs were to be removed before the retirement of the area traffic manager, Mr Aston. Cllr Tobin to chase-up Highways department. Cllr Mohan to contact Cluster Group to highlight the scheme of removing redundant road signs in villages.

Hedge at the Webbington Hotel

A dangerous dead elm tree is overhanging into Barton Road and Cllr Tobin again to contact the manager of the Webbington Hotel to get the undergrowth cut urgently.

05/04/04 New Matters

Notice board – Church Lane

Clerk explained that the noticeboard had been vandalised and a replacement with a shatter-proof front would cost about £250. Cllr Hay proposed and Cllr Rix seconded to ordering a new noticeboard.

Grass cutting

The Chairman is now unable to cut the grass in the village, clerk instructed to get a quote from Tim Baker.

Representation of Cray Charity/Cross Memorial Hall

Mr John Stuchbery is willing to continue to represent the PC on the committee of these two charities if the cllrs are in agreement. The Cllrs unanimously thanked Mr Stuchbery for all his hard work. Clerk to write and thank him.

01/03/05 Financial

Income March 2006

Expenditure

Interest: Treasurer Acc. .16p	100303 clerk salary and expenses £204.74
Business Money Manager £25.89	
Mr Chris Byrne Minutes £1.00	

Total income £27.05

Total Expenditure £204.74

05/04/06 Planning

Application 21/06/00005/CJA Erection of Boundary walls, Shute Shelve. Mr and Mrs Woods.

Clerk read out an email from Carol Emory stating that more details of the wall were required in order to make a decision therefore the application would be withdrawn until all the details are obtained.

Application 21/06/00004 Erection of Hay barn and formation of track Mr B Flood Barn to the East of Crissana, Webbington Road. Clerk received an email from Carol Emory as no plans had been received for consideration. In the email from Ms Emory she states that that consultation will be carried out and full planning permission is required.

Application 21/06/00002/CJA Change of use of former telephone exchange to agricultural store, Cross Mrs J.Brinson. SDC granted permission.

Jan Sabett

Enforcement Matters:

Clerk reported an email from Carol Emory regarding the new 'Planning Breach Complaint form'; the form is to be used when making a complaint of this nature.

Mr and Mrs Rawlings, Copperill Lodge: 2 Appeals relating to a field to the rear of Copperill Lodge.
Nothing further to report

05/04/07 Correspondence

Chairman reporter that following lengthy discussions between the Parish Council and SDC's legal department regarding some recent correspondence from a parishioner, it was felt important to place on record the following:

*Any individual who contacts the council either by letter or email must accept they have no explicit or implicit expectation of privacy;

*Under the Freedom of Information Act, any parishioner can ask the Clerk in writing for disclosure of any correspondence dealt with by the council. The Sedgemoor Freedom of Information officer must then verify if this is a valid request.

Chairman received an email from Mrs Jordan commenting on the untidiness of the approach to Cross from Axbridge direction. Agreed to investigate the possibility of some planting in the bank opposite the New Inn.

Somerset Statement of community involvement – Submission to the Secretary of State. Clerk to file

05/04/08 Exclusion of the public and press (due to confidential nature of business regarding legal and staff matters)

On a resolution, the council agreed to exclude the public and press at this point in the meeting as stated in the PC agenda due to the of the business regarding legal and staff matters.

The Cllrs agreed to increase the clerk's hourly rate in line with the national salary scale.

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.30
Next Meeting Wednesday 3rd May 06 at 19.30**

Jan Sabett
3/5/06

M. Tobin

Compton Bishop Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Open Meeting held on Friday 22nd April 2005

The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Tabrett opened the meeting at 8pm. following the conclusion of Cross Memorial Hall – Annual General Meeting.

Present: Parish Councillors: Ian Tabrett, Michael Tobin, Jane Withecombe, and Jenny Hay. County Councillor Alan Ham and District Councillor John Denbee. Mr E Farley (Neighbourhood Watch), Mr J Warner (Cray Charity), Mr K Mitcham (Community Fire Safety Officer), Sarah Ayling (Springfield Wildlife Site) and the Clerk: Sandra Broadbent. Electors 40.

Apologies for Absence: Mr & Mrs B Lovell, Laelia Gold, Dr and Mrs Lewis, Mr & Mrs J Cockshott, Peter and Jenny Blower, Brenda Sharp, Mike Fields, Pete Murray, Eleanor & Gordon, Mr & Mrs Partridge.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st April 2004 had been circulated at the meeting and were approved. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Parish Council Reports

The Vice-Chairman reported that the year 2004-05 had been a busy one for village activities.

- The resignation of three members of the council; The Chairman, Cllr Patrick Simpson, Cllr John Stuchbery and Cllr Barney Lovell, who were all thanked for their contributions over a number of years. Jerry Dorber had been co-opted to fill one of the vacant seats and the other two vacancies would be advertised through the legal process with Sedgemoor.
- An increase in the precept of £1,000 was necessary in the event of a by-election.
- There were 12 planning applications during the year. The councillors can only comment on “valid planning reasons” for recommending either approval or refusal.
- The 13 mile network of footpaths and bridleways is in good condition. The parish council without success has been trying to achieve safer conditions for people walking between Cross and Axbridge.
- Maintenance has been carried out on the bus shelters, notice boards and public seat.
- The signing of the first partnership management agreement for the Springfield Wildlife Site took place in the year. The agreement will become a model for the district.
- An increasingly large amount of litter along the roadside has been causing concern. In the Spring of 2004 the council and the National Trust joined forces to organise a litter-pick in Webbington Road but the situation in 2005 has been so bad that Sedgemoor Council had to be asked to act.
- Thanks to Cllr Withecombe for setting-up the parish website. This will help the council to strive towards becoming a quality council and to provide quality service.
- A Yearbook for 2005 has been published and delivered to every household in the parish and it is a credit to Cllr Simpson and Cllr Stuchbury. Also, quarterly parish newsletters.
- Bad weather forced the cancellation of the village family fun day but the Christmas carol singing was a great success thanks to Dave Williams at the White Hart for all his help.

M. Tobin

Parking in Old Coach Road, to consider SCC Area Traffic Manager's Report

The Vice-Chairman discussed complaints about the narrow section to Old Coach Rd and the history to the background of the problem. Mr Brian Aston's report was circulated in which he proposed two options either white lines down one side of the road or double yellow lines down one side. Cllr Tobin explained that there was no legal enforcement to white Lines so they are useless. Double yellow lines are enforceable but police do not want to enforce short sections of yellow lines. A discussion then took place.

Rural Community Development Project – Katharine Armstrong

Ms Armstrong spoke about a new charity set-up to improve confidence of individuals and groups to increase the viability of voluntary groups, a contact for communities.

An Outline of the work by the Safety Camera Partnership – David Gollicker

The partnership was introduced in 1992 and the fines pay for the partnership. In 2007 the partnership structure will change with the introduction of the local transport plan.

The Cray Charity report

Mr Jim Warner reported that the financial situation was secure because a plot of land had been sold and the proceeds invested making £1,000 in interest a year. There had been three applications this year for funding.

Neighbourhood Watch report

Mr Farley circulated the Neighbourhood Watch Report April 2006 and reported that during the 12 months there had been very little crime in our area.

Somerset County Council

Councillor Alan Ham reported that there was a 5% increase in Council Tax, higher charges for home help, fewer Trading Standards officers, schools now get their money from Local Government. Police had a good year burglary and robbery was substantially down. There will be a review of council tax. The Community Grant this year was £5,000 should be the same for next year. Highway Authority is aware of the dangers of the A38 junction but there is no funding available for improvements, as the authority had spent the money on road signs and speed limits. Resurfacing of A38, all surfacing would be reviewed over a 10-year period. Can not convince Highway about the noise effect of the road.

Sedgemoor District Council

Councillor John Denbee said that Council Tax increased by 4.5% and that the District Council was a debt free authority. Planners are looking at the Local Development Framework 2011. There is very little land for commercial development and land close to the M5 will be released. Residential Development is on the back burner, no land to be released in small villages emphasis is on larger conurbation's. Changes in local government expected with unitary authorities likely to be formed. Either County Councils or District Councils to be abolished or could be amalgamated: ministers are not happy with the two tier system. Parish Councils will remain the same. Airport Expansion's priority is about improving access, the A370 will receive improvements a new bi-pass road in the Barrow Guerne area will reduce traffic on the A38.

The Vice-Chairman thanked all the contributors and closed the meeting at 21:35. The next meeting will be on Friday 20th April 2007

M. Tobin

M. Tobin

Somerset Fire and Rescue

Mr Kevin Mitcham spoke about the home fire safety scheme, which is a Somerset County Council and Government initiative. The scheme targets the over 60's and disabled and recommends a smoke detector on every floor.

The Cray Charity report

Mr Jim Warner reported that the financial situation was secure because a plot of land had been sold and the proceeds invested. For the past year there had been no applications for grants for students in the village.

Neighbourhood Watch report

Mr Farley reported that there were 38 notifications from the district co-ordinator of criminal activities in the area but not necessarily in the parish. 10 groups were active in Cross and 6 in Compton Bishop, Wavering Rise was not interested in Neighbourhood Watch. His report was distributed.

The Vice-Chairman thanked Mr Farley and Mr Robinson for all the hard work in connection with Neighbourhood Watch.

Springfield Wildlife Site

Sarah Ayling gave a detailed account of the flora and fauna seen at the site, where a hedge had been planted along the eastern boundary. There had been two bird watching evenings.

Somerset County Council

Councillor Alan Ham reported on the effect of reduced Government contributions on Somerset's council tax. He also spoke on policing levels and crime statistics and said speed limits on the A38 were to be reviewed. There was concern locally about the standard of road maintenance and there is an arrangement for an officer at the Dunball area office to look around villages. The footpath at Cross Lane is in the mind of Local Transport plan for financing the scheme.

Sedgemoor District Council

As part of his report Councillor John Denbee said the District Local Plan was formally adopted for the period up to 2011. There was concern about the number of applications for stables; in general, planning applications had been decided more rapidly.

The National Trust

Mark Courtiour spoke of the problems with management of their Crook Peak land caused by an increase in scrub. Their aim was to increase grazing but in future the NT would make sure cattle are off the hill between December and March. They hoped sheep and a small herd of Exmoor ponies would help in controlling scrub growth but the NT, as a conservation body, is not in favour of burning bracken as it can damage the habitat of birds and other wildlife.

The Vice-Chairman thanked all the contributors and closed the meeting at 21:40. The next meeting will be on Friday 21 April 2006

M. Tobin

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on May 3rd 2006
Annual meeting of the Council

Present: Cllrs: Tabrett, Tobin, Dorber, Mohan, Rix, Hay and 10 parishioners and PC Stuart Bullett
Apologies: Cllr Withecombe
In attendance: Clerk
The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30

03/05/01 Minutes of the meeting held on April 5th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

03/05/02 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Chairman Ian Tabrett proposed Cllr Tobin as the new chairman and Cllr Dorber seconded the proposal, which was unanimously carried.
Cllr Tobin thanked all the members of the PC for electing him and went on to congratulate Cllr Tabrett on behalf of the Parish Council for all his hard efforts.
The position of Vice Chairman to be deferred until next meeting.

The Chairman then invited the public to speak:

Mr Jordan said that he was pleased that Wavering Down House Open Days was on the agenda as he had concerns about the scale of the operation and the road dangers as a result. Mr Chris Byrne said that he had written a letter to the PC addressing some of the concerns.

03/05/03 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

03/05/04 Matters Arising

Update on Annual Open Meeting

There was no majority decision on improving the situation of parking in Old Coach Road. The Chairman queried the necessity of a further survey as to what it would achieve. PC Stuart Bullett to look at speed equipment and temporary flashing speed machine. Inconsiderate parking causing congestion was mentioned as a major problem, Cllr Rix to look at the obstruction and report back. Re the problems at the crossroads on the A38, PC instructed Clerk to write to Highways and copy Alan Ham. Cllrs favoured a roundabout for the crossing.

Noticeboard and Bus Shelter

Clerk received a quote to rebuild the bus shelter for £3000, this has been included in the PC insurance. Mr Bob Andrews had repaired the damaged caused by vandals to the bus shelter in Church Lane at a cost £198.60. The Licence agreement for Kennel Lane had been signed by the previous chairman and the noticeboards have been ordered.

Grass Cutting

Mr Tim Baker agreed to cut the PC grass at £10.00 per hour plus fuel. Cllr Rix proposed and Cllr Dorber seconded hiring Mr Baker, which was unanimously agreed.

Post Boxes

Mr Harris was still investigating the repair to the Victorian box in Old Coach Road.

Hedge at the Webbington Hotel

The Manager agreed to cut down the dangerous dead elm tree, which is overhanging, into Barton Road, Sedgemoor Highways to chase-up.

Redundant Road Signs

All redundant road signs have been removed. The Chairman recorded a verdict of success.

03/05/05 New Matters

Wavering Down House Open Days

Chairman acknowledged receipt of a letter from Ms Brenda Sharp, an email from Mr B Jordan and several telephone complaints regarding issues relating to the open days at Wavering Down. Complaints included traffic congestion and danger of parked cars, the road signs and visitors urinating in the hedge. Mr Byrne had written a letter to the PC and addressed some of these traffic concerns. The Chairman instructed the clerk to put Mr Byrne's letter on the noticeboard and make copies available for parishioners. It was agreed that parking problems and congestion which occurred at the Open Day during the Easter Holidays may be an exception as there had been a number of complaints made and no calls since, the situation would be monitored.

Broken Stile

Cllr Tabrett to approach the landowner of the Stile off Rackley Lane.

Reallocation of Cllr responsibilities – Rural Issue and Highways

Cllr Tobin to retain responsibility for Highways and rural issues.

03/05/06 Financial

M. Tobin

M. Tobin

No financial reconciliation this month as bank statement had not arrived.

Clerk reported that the first instalment of the PC precept of £3000 had been received
The chairman signed insurance premium of £418.02
Renewal of booking hall for meetings at a cost of £11.50 per meeting for the large room.
Renewal of Community Council for Somerset – Cllr Tobin to review whether to renew.

03/05/07 Planning

Application 21/06/000035/CG Mr and Mrs Hoyle. Erection of single story rear extension. 10 Springfield Close. SDC Granted permission.

Enforcement Matters:

Mr and Mrs Rawlings, Copperill Lodge: Land to the rear of Copperill Lodge. Chairman acknowledged receipt of a letter dated 24th April from Mr P Morrissey, Senior Enforcement Officer concerning the use of the caravan.

03/05/08 Correspondence

Letter from SCC Installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) and Automatic Number Plate Recognition on Household Waste recycling centres to be installed in Cheddar.

Letter from Mr Alf Small thanking the PC for the donation of £240 towards the funding of Contact Magazine.

Clerk distributed SALC 'newsletter' to all Councillors

Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan – comments to be received by 28/7/06

Details of the PC's allocation of the 106 Agreement funding – Cllr Rix to review

Clerk showed the Cllrs Statement of Accounts for the William Cray Foundation – clerk to file.

03/05/09 Exclusion of the public and press (due to confidential nature of business regarding legal and staff matters)

On a resolution, the council agreed to exclude the public and press at this point in the meeting as stated in the PC agenda due to the of the business regarding legal and staff matters.

A discussion took place of a letter sent by Ms Sutherland acting for her clients, Mr and Mrs Rawlings. It was decided that the Chairman would respond on behalf of the PC

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 21.00
Next Meeting Wednesday 7th June 19.30**

M. Tobin

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on June 7th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Mohan, Rix, Hay, Withecombe, 8 parishioners and County Councillor Alan Ham

Apologies: Cllr Tabrett

In attendance: Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.40 after the public had spoken.

A parishioner, Mrs P Williams handed the Chairman a petition against yellow lines in Old Coach Road.

07/06/01 Minutes of the meeting held on May 3rd 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

07/06/02 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

07/06/03 Matters Arising

Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Jerry Dorber was unanimously elected Vice Chairman, Cllr Michael Tobin proposed and Cllr Patrick Mohan seconded the appointment. Cllr Dorber signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' form.

Frankie Howerd Museum

The PC received a letter of complaint from Mr J Gravell concerning traffic and road congestion, loss of privacy, fly posting and traffic cones, degradation of the area, quality of life and noise resulting from the events taking place at Wavering Down. The Chairman agreed to write to Mr Gravell.

The Chairman reported meeting a traffic engineer from SCC, Mr Betty with the Vice Chairman. A number of suggestions were made by Mr Betty to improve road safety. The enforcement office at SDC has been in contact with Mr Byrne concerning the advertising signs along the A38, planning permission needs to be sought to display these signs.

Noticeboard in Church Lane

Deferred until next meeting.

Post Boxes

An email was received from Mr Harrison but as he is away, the matter is deferred until next meeting.

Hedge at the Webbington Hotel

No reply so matter deferred.

Broken Stile

Still broken so matter will be reported to Cllr Tabrett.

07/06/04 New Matters

Christmas Cards

Cllrs agreed to purchase 300 cards from Friends of Compton Bishop Church, clerk to inform Mr Jordan. It was agreed that there would be no printing of the diary.

Springfield Wildlife Site

Clerk reported in Cllr Tabrett's absence that Mr Harley Cook was delighted that SDC funds had been used to purchase the bench and bird box.

Community Council for Somerset

It was agreed to subscribe to this organisation at a cost of £25.00 per annum

SCC/Parish Council Meeting on 5th June

Chairman reported on a meeting he attended.

Parish Lengthsman

The Parish Lengthsman is hired on a self-employed basis and each parish pays for a part of his time to undertake maintenance/grass cutting in the parish. Matter deferred until next meeting, clerk instructed to report on PC maintenance spend over the past three years before a decision can be made.

07/06/05 Financial

Clerk reported on the monthly reconciliation for May 2006.

Income	Expenditure
Interest: Treasurer Acc. .31	100304 Contact Magazine donation £240.00
Business Money Manager 0.00	100305 Cross Memorial Hall £27.00
Minutes Ms Sutherland £2.00	100310 Clerk's expenses for April £161.04
Mr Byrne 'FOI' £2.80	100311 Clerks salary for April £192.00
	100308 repair of the bus shelter £198.60
	100309 Insurance renewal £418.02

Total income £5.11

Total Expenditure £1236.66

M. Tobin

N. Tobin

Cllrs Tobin, Dorber, Hay and the Clerk signed the 'Society Mandate bank form' necessary for signing the PC cheques.

07/06/06 Planning

Application 21/06/00006/CJA Mr N D Hooper 9 Wavering Down Rise, Shute Shelve, Erection of dwelling (alternative scheme).
Cllrs had no observation to make.

Enforcement Matters:

Appeal Mrs Head, Land at Clover Farm.

The cllrs voted on a resolution not to contact the Inspectorate about this appeal, as the PC had received no complaints.

07/06/07 Correspondence

Cllr Tobin reported that a parishioner, Mr S Mc Colgan suggested a village forum meeting in September. The idea would be that there are no outside speakers and it would be a talking shop organised by the PC for parishioners to discuss problems in the parish with other parishioners. The clerk to mention the forum in the summer newsletter to ascertain parishioners response.

Local Authority Byelaws in England: A discussion paper – Clerk instructed to circulate to all Cllrs.

Publication called 'Making a difference' from SCC – Clerk to circulate to Cllrs

Chairman reported on a letter received from Mr Farley concerning the A38 junction with Old Coach Road, Cllr Tobin replied to Mr Farley, clerk to file.

Two letters received from Mr Farley regarding Neighbourhood Watch.

Somerset Funding Fair on June 29th. Clerk to advertise in Noticeboard

Letter from Weare Scout Group asking for a donation, clerk to contact the group to ask about the size of the donation.

Notice about large litter collection packs from SDC

07/06/08 Exclusion of the public and press (due to confidential nature of business regarding legal and staff matters)

On a resolution, the council agreed to exclude the public and press at this point in the meeting as stated in the PC agenda due to the of the business regarding legal and staff matters.

A discussion took place of a letter sent by Ms Sutherland acting for her clients, Mr and Mrs Rawlings. The Chairman would respond on behalf of the PC

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.50
Next Meeting Wednesday 5th July 19.30**

N. Tobin
5/7/06

M. Tobin

**Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council planning meeting held on June 14th
2006 at 7:30 pm**

Present: Cllrs Tobin Tabrett, Dorber, Rix,

In attendance: Parish Clerk, applicants Mr and Mrs Rawlings and their agent Ms A. Sutherland and 18 parishioners.

Apologies: Cllrs Hay, Mohan and Withecombe

Declaration of Interests:

Nothing to declare

Chairman of the meeting: Cllr Tobin opened the meeting at 7:33 pm

Proposal: 21/06/00010/CJM Erection of hay barn/machinery store on land to the rear of Copperill Lodge, Old Coach Road, Cross for Mr and Mrs Rawlings.

Parishioners put a number of questions and concerns to the agent Ms Sutherland who responded on behalf of Mr and Mrs Rawlings.

After the agent responded to questions the Chairman declared that the committee would go into formal session. The Chairman recorded that the PC can only make a recommendation to SDC as they have no planning powers.

The Chairman asked each Cllr to give their views on the application. Concerns were expressed that the proposed barn was situated too close to neighbour's house; that the size of the barn seemed excessive for a single field; that it would be prominent in the landscape from both Old Coach Road and from Cross Plain in the AONB, and that surface water run-off could contaminate the Cross Rhynes County Wildlife Site.

- 1) Inappropriately sited close to residential property not in applicant's ownership (VDS)
- 2) Prominent in landscape when viewed from much of Old Coach Road and especially the ANOB;
- 3) No proven agricultural need for hay barn/machinery store of such a large size to service the indicated area of land;
- 4) Serious concern that proposed surface water run-off could become contaminated by fuel oil, other chemicals or silage liquor and thus Pollute the adjoining Cross Rhynes County Wildlife Site.

Because of concern by Cllrs and public SDC be informed ~~that~~ should the Development Control Committee be minded to approve this application, the Parish Council would strongly urge the following conditions:

- No exterior lighting or audible security alarm system without prior planning consent;
- Landscaping and planting of mature or semi-mature species to the east, north and west.
- No installation of engineering/repair equipment other than to carry out light routine maintenance to stored agricultural machinery.
- Bunding or other suitable precautions to prevent any possible contamination by the spillage of fuel oil or silage liquor of the surrounding scheduled Cross Rhynes County Wildlife Site.

Decision Unanimous vote to recommend that the application be refused for the reasons given above.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm

M. Tobin
5/1/06

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on July 5th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Mohan, Tabrett, Hay, Withecombe, 6 parishioners and PC Stuart Bullett

Apologies: Cllr Rix

In attendance: Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.43 after the public had spoken.

A parishioner, Mr Byrne complained that he did not receive a response to a letter he had written to the PC in February. The Chairman said that he would look into it. Mr Byrne also spoke about a visit he had received from Somerset Highways traffic manager.

05/07/01 Minutes of the meeting held on June 7th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman and entered in the Minute Book.

05/07/02 Declaration of Interests

Nothing to Declare

05/07/03 Matters Arising

Parking in Old Coach Road and Petition

The chairman thanked PC Bullett for attending the PC meeting on his day off and recorded the receipt of a petition containing 44 names against yellow lines in Cross village. This supports the view at the Annual Open meeting that there is strong opposition to yellow lines but no consensus on any particular solution. PC Bullett said that it was unlikely that a speed camera would be approved for Old Coach Road, as it was so close to the one on Shute Shelve. He advised that SCC may be able to offer ideas on alternatives such as flashing speed indicators. The chairman to contact Somerset Highways.

Post Boxes

Royal Mail will install a new post box by the bus shelter at the corner of Church Lane, this will take about 2 months.

Hedge at the Webbington Hotel

The Chairman to contact Somerset Highways to see what progress they have may on this.

Broken Stile

Cllr Tabrett to contact Mr Flood. Cllr Dorber reported a broken stile on an overgrown footpath between Rackley Lane and Kennel Lane – Cllr Tabrett to deal with this.

Cllr Tabrett reported on a leaflet, 'Reporting a Problem on a Public Right of Way', clerk to put on noticeboard.

Parish Lengthsman

Clerk reported on the PC grass cutting and maintenance spend over the last 3 years. Cllrs agreed to review in 12 months.

Village Forum

It was agreed to hold a village forum in October, Clerk to advertise the event in the summer newsletter and book the Memorial Hall.

Donation to Weare Scout Group

Cllr Dorber proposed donating £40.00 to the scout group, Cllr Mohan seconded the motion all cllrs agreed.

07/06/04 New Matters

Meeting with Bev Norman – Senior Highways Officer

Chairman reviewed meeting with the Highways officer. Conclusion reached was to look at changing road markings. There is no money for road improvements. Mrs Norman is to report back to the PC with recommendations and conclusions.

Quarry

A dangerous bolder at the quarry was dealt with by National Trust contractors. The quarry area is now safe.

Bristol Airport Expansion and AONB Partnership

CAA approved new controlled airspace.

Clerk to write to the AONB concerning the partnership meeting.

05/07/05 Financial

Clerk was unable to report on the monthly reconciliation as the bank statement had not been received..

Chairman signed current invoices

05/07/06 Planning

Application 21/06/000011/CJA Mrs J Brinson, SouthCroft Farm, Cross. Erection of agricultural building. Cllrs agreed that there was no observation.

- Mr & Mrs McCrea-Steele, Increase in height of Eastern boundary fence to 2.44 meters – Bridge End, Old Coach Rd, Clerk reported that SDC Granted Permission.
- Dunnett Cottage, Rackley Lane, Erection of two storey extension to West elevation, Mr&Mrs Chalmers – SDC Grated Permission
- Coombe Cottage, Coombe Lane, Erection of store/workshop, SDC Granted Permission

M. Tobin

M. Tolim

05/07/07 Correspondence

- Letter from Mrs Brinson to Planning Enforcement regarding the touring caravan at Southcroft Farm. Clerk to file.
- Charter 88 clerk to file
- Two letters from Mr Byrne dated 12th and 13th June addressed to the clerk. The PC to prepare replies. Also received a copy of a letter from Mr Byrne to Mrs Sue Ham, for information.
- Clerk distributed an article, which appeared in 'Compass' about local elections.

A parishioner at the end of the meeting raised concerns about human excrement found in the bus shelter at the corner of Church Lane and graffiti in both bus shelters. Clerk to raise matter with SDC.

05/07/08 Exclusion of the public and press (due to confidential nature of business regarding legal and staff matters)

On a resolution, the council agreed to exclude the public and press at this point in the meeting as stated in the PC agenda due to the of the business regarding legal and staff matters.

A discussion took place of a letter sent by Ms Sutherland acting for her clients, Mr and Mrs Rawlings. The PC has agreed that, in view of the content of the letter it should be referred for a legal opinion. A reply would be prepared after this opinion is received and discussed.

The PC made a small change to the Clerk's Employment Contract.

**The Chairman closed the Meeting at 20.45
Next Meeting Wednesday 7th September 19.30**

M. Tolim

M. Tobin

**Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council planning meeting held on July 29th
2006 at 15.00**

Present: Cllrs Tobin Tabrett, Rix,

In attendance: Mr and Mrs Wilson and 13 members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs: Dorber, Mohan, Withecombe, Hay and the Clerk

Declaration of Interests: Nothing to declare

Chairman of the meeting: Cllr Tobin

Proposal: 21/06/00012/CG Erection of 10 timber chalets, formation of access, parking and landscaping. Land to the East of Manor Farm, Cross, Axbridge

Prior to the PC meeting there was a full discussion and question session during which a representative of the Wavering Down Rise group gave a copy of a document produced by a company of Planning Consultants to each Parish Councillor. This will be filed with the application.

The Chairman opened the formal part of the meeting at 15.20.

Chairman asked for views from Cllrs. Cllr Tabrett felt that the application was well produced but would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the area and would have an impact on the Mendip Hills AONB. He also felt that access from the site onto the A38 would be extremely unsafe.

Cllr Rix agreed with Cllr Tabrett and further pointed out that traffic could not turn right out of the exit without cutting across both lanes of the A38.

Cllr Tobin agreed that the traffic considerations were very severe but felt that the application otherwise had merit and would be appropriate in that position in view of the other farming and industrial activities including the New Inn which is a tourist pub.

On a proposal from Cllr Tabrett, seconded by Cllr Rix, by a majority vote, the council decided to recommend the application for refusal on the following grounds:

- 1) It would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the area and would impact the Mendip Hills AONB.
- 2) The access onto the A38 would be unsafe

The Chairman closed the meeting at 15.30

M. Tobin

U. Tobin
4/10/06

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on September 6th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Hay, Mohan and Rix, PC Bullett and 6 Parishioners

Apologies: Cllrs: Tabrett and Withecombe

Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30

06/09/01 Minutes of the meeting held on July 5th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the chairman, Michael Tobin and entered into the minute book.

06/09/02 Code of Conduct

Nothing to declare but Cllr Rix said that she was linked to the first agenda item, as someone wanted to find out about planning application at her property.

06/09/03 Matters Arising

Cllr Tabrett Imposter

It was reported that someone contacted SDC planners, posing as Cllr Tabrett to obtain information about the status of a planning matter at Condoric. PC Bullett said that he would enquire whether it was an offence to impersonate a Cllr. He said that it was difficult to trace mobile phone numbers due to Data Protection Act. The chairman mentioned that there had been reports of poison pen letters in the parish.

Parking for Jazz in the garden event at Wavering Down House

The chairman said that there had been further complaints and a report of about 140 cars parked around the village and only 10 cars in the car park. The SCC Traffic Engineer, Mr Betty, had agreed a plan to manage the parking but the plan had broken down on the night. PC Stuart Bullett explained that the plan is difficult to enforce, as there are no yellow lines in the village.

Whilst PC Bullett was explaining what action he could take, a parishioner, Mr C Byrne, interrupted the Meeting by attempting to speak. The Chairman advised him that he could not speak during the Meeting but he continued to do so. Despite issuing several warnings that the Meeting would have to be closed if Mr Byrne continued with his interruptions, the Chairman was forced to close the Meeting at that point.

The Chairman abandoned the meeting at 19.45 p.m
Next Meeting Wednesday 4th October 2006 at 19.30

U. Tobin
4/10/06.

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on October 4th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Hay, Mohan, Withecombe and Rix, PC Elaine Lynham and 15 Parishioners

Apologies: Cllrs: Tabrett

In attendance: The Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.40

In the time allotted for members of the public to speak; the Chairman asked if Mr Flood or Mr Dean wished to speak, at that point, about Mr Flood's planning application. They advised that they would both prefer to speak when the item came up on the agenda. A parishioner, Mrs Rawlings, said that she disagreed with some of the statements made in the Parish Newsletter concerning the abandoned meeting in September.

04/10/01 Minutes of the meeting held on September 6th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman, Michael Tobin and entered into the minute book.

04/10/02 Code of Conduct

The Chairman declared an interest in Mr Flood's planning applications as the proposed agricultural development could be seen from his property.

04/10/03 Matters Arising

Parish Council Meeting on the 6th September

The Chairman reported that the PC had initiated a solicitor's letter to Mr Byrne in response to the disrupted meeting in September.

Parking near Wavering Down House

The PC did not receive any new complaints about parking during the Up Pompeii event at Wavering Down and parking for the Carnival in Axbridge did not affect Cross Village.

Benches

The new bench is in place at Old Coach Road, Clerk has sent an invoice for the replacement cost to the driver who destroyed the bench but so far has had no response. A parishioner has requested that she would like to make a financial contribution and put a plaque on the bench in memory of her husband. PC decided to wait and see if the driver pays for the bench. The PC is planning to put a bench in Compton Bishop village. A licence is required, which the clerk has applied for.

A38 Crossroads

Chairman reported that Cross Lane will be closed for a week at the end of October for resurfacing work. Due to the recent accidents at the Crossroads the Police Road Traffic Dept has requested a site meeting with Somerset Highways. The police have suggested that Old Coach Road is made one way but the Council felt that this would have a detrimental effect on the two pubs in Cross.

Donation to Weare School

Matter deferred until next meeting as Clerk instructed to find out if the PC could financially support a publicly funded body.

Hedge at the Webbington Hotel

Clerk contacted Somerset County Council, which has written to the Webbington Hotel and is now waiting for action to be taken. Item to be carried forward to next PC meeting.

Letter to Ms Sutherland

PC reported that a reply had been sent to Ms Sutherland's letter of 14 June.

04/10/04 New Matters

Community Budget 06/07

Deferred until next meeting as Chairman asked Cllrs to suggest ideas that could be used as the basis for an application for funds.

M. Tobin

M. Tolin

04/10/05 Financial

The Chairman explained that the Internal Auditor made some comments in his report:

1. The accounts were a credit to the Parish Council for which the Chairman thanked the clerk.
2. Suggested a method of getting more money into a savings account
3. Recommendations on documents to be filed together.
4. Mr Tyas suggested that he would like to make this his last year as a fresh view might be useful. The Chairman proposed that Mr Tyas be asked to continue for one more year, to the end of the present council's term. Proposed Cllr Dorber and Seconded Cllr Hay. The Chairman to write to and thank Mr Tyas for all his hard work.

Cllrs approved the Parish Annual accounts.

Income Sept 06
Business Account £26.67

Expenditure
10030 Grass cutting £30
100321 clerk's expenses/salary august £215.10
100323 Clerks's expenses/salary sept £228.58

04/10/06 Planning

New Applications:

At this point the Chairman left the room, as he had declared an interest. The Vice-Chairman, Jerry Dorber took the Chair. He asked Mr Flood and Mr Dean of Dunnett Farm to comment on the applications before the Cllrs discussed the matters.

21/06/00013/CG erection of livestock building, Mr Flood, 21/06/00014/CG – erection of hay fodder store, Mr Flood, 21/06/00015/CG erection of implement store, Mr Flood, 21/06/00016/CG – use of land to site agricultural workers mobile home, Mr Flood.

The Cllrs had no objections and recorded No Observation to make.

The Chairman resumed the chair at this point but asked whether Cllr Rix wished to declare an interest in a Notice, just received by the Council, concerning her and Mr Rix's appeal against an enforcement matter. Cllr Rix declared an interest and left the room., As the PC had not been involved in the Enforcement and as no complaints had been received about the matter, a resolution was proposed that no representation would be made to the appeal Inspector. Proposer Cllr Mohan and Seconder Cllr Withecombe the motion was carried.

Previous Applications

- 21/06/0006 Mr Hooper – SDC Granted Permission
- 21/06/00010 – Mr & Mrs Rawlings – SDC Granted Permission
- 21/06/00012 Mrs Wilson – SDC Refused Permission
- 21/06/00011 Mrs Brinson – SDC Granted Permission

04/10/06 Correspondence

Letter from Mr and Mrs Veale. Complaint against the Jazz in the Garden event at Wavering Down, which mentioned parking, loud music and fireworks.

Email from Mr Grant – who objected to the PC's handling of complaints about parking in Old Coach Road. The Chairman responded by letter dated 21 September 06

Letter from Axbridge Town Council regarding controlled airspace for air traffic corridors.

The Kings of Wessex invitation to Politician's morning on 19th October 06.

Letters from Mr Heymer addressed to 'Dear Member of the Community'. As the letters are personal in nature and not addressed to the PC, a resolution was called to return the letters to Mr Heymer, Cllr Withecombe Proposed and Cllr Mohan Seconded – a unanimous vote was carried.

A Newsletter from Mr Byrne was addressed to "Dear Parishioners". A resolution was called not to respond to the correspondence, as it was not addressed to the Parish Council. Cllr Dorber proposed and Cllr Rix seconded – the vote was unanimous.

Complaints made about four Cllrs to The Standards Board for England by Ms Amanda Sutherland. The decision by the Board in each case was that the complaints should not be investigated.

Letter from Mr Byrne dated 26th September to be copied to all cllrs and brought forward next month.

Letter from Mr Warner – to be copied to all cllrs and brought forward to next month.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22.55 p.m
Next Meeting Wednesday 1st November 2006 at 19.30

M. Tolin
11/10/06

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on November 1st 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Tabrett, Hay, Mohan, Withecombe and Rix, and 13 Parishioners

Apologies: none

In attendance: The Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.33

In the time allotted for members of the public to speak, a parishioner Mrs Woolley spoke about training opportunities available in Cheddar. The Clerk to mention them in next Newsletter.

01/11/01 Minutes of the meeting held on October 4th 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman, Michael Tobin and entered into the minute book.

01/11/02 Code of Conduct

The Chairman declared an interest in Mr Flood's planning applications, as the proposed agricultural development could be seen from his property, and in Mrs Howard's application at Spindleberry Cottage. Cllr Hay declared an interest in Mrs Howard's application at Spindleberry cottage.

Cllr Tabrett declared a non-financial interest in the Donation to Weare School.

01/11/03 Matters Arising

Cross Roads A38

Chairman noted that the New Inn commented in an article in the Cheddar Valley Gazette about the risk of a one way system to their business. The chairman had received 4 phone calls discussing the proposals. The PC favoured a roundabout, but EU regulations and cost make this option unlikely. The Highways engineer is only proposing to redo road markings. Chairman tabled an alternative road plan as a suggestion for the layout of the crossroads. Chairman to propose another debate with Highways but it was emphasised that no decision would be taken without full documentation sent to all parishioners and convening a special meeting. Two letters from SCC Highways were noted: 1) A371 Cross Lane closure is now scheduled for 20th November for one week. Clerk to put on noticeboard 2) Temporary speed visor sign will be installed near the corner of the Memorial Hall.

Benches

A Parishioner, Mrs Lodge has agreed to pay for the cost of the bench in Old Coach Road and place a memorial plaque in memory of her late husband. The clerk was instructed to chase-up the driver who destroyed the bench and contact his insurance company, if not successful, retrieve the money in the small claims court. The agenda item Community Budget 06/07 was brought forward and it was decided to ask Cllr Ham for a grant of £500 towards the new bench in Compton Bishop. Mr John Buckler to be asked to help select the bench and clerk instructed to get a quote from Mr Andrews to construct a plinth.

Donation to Weare School

At this point Cllr Tabrett left the room as he declared a non-financial interest. The PC's advice from SALC was that it is difficult for one publicly funded body to fund another publicly funded body. Cllr Hay proposed that the PC does not go ahead and donate £200 to help forge a link between Weare School and Comps. Cllr Mohan seconded the proposal and it was a unanimous decision not to make a donation. Chairman to write to Weare First School.

Hedge at the Webbington Road

Cllr Tabrett rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Dorber reported that the hedge had been hacked and that one of the rotting elms is now in danger of falling down. Clerk to contact SCC again.

Community Budget 2006/07

Dealt with under Benches.

Letter to Ms Sutherland

Chairman noted that there were 4 points in the letter, which required a response. A letter to be drafted from the PC. Cllr Dorber said that the PC at no time specifically mentioned that we obtained legal opinion from SDC. The PC obtains advice from several sources as required. The PC noted that Ms Sutherland had appealed against the decisions of the Standards Board of 30th August. The response by the Board was to dismiss the appeal, following which the matter is now closed. Clerk to file

M. Tobin

A. T. Oliver

01/11/04 New Matters

Amenity grant

The Chairman reported a cut in the amenity grant of 83%, after talking to Carol Ensor at SDC. Compton Bishop can only claim for grass cutting as the award is now divided between facilities maintenance and Halls. Chairman to chase-up Cllr Lillian Cartwright for an explanation as to why the PC was awarded such a small amount. Clerk to ask the Memorial Hall Management Committee if the PC can donate a grant for the hall hire of the equivalent of 11 meetings a year, so that we can try to reclaim the money.

Post Box

The local post office has withdrawn an offer to repair the Victorian post box in Old Coach Road as they had received a complaint from a parishioner. As the offer to repair it was on an unofficial basis the repair can now not be made. Royal Mail has warned that the old box may now be scrapped.

PC Procedure

Cllr Rix proposed the adoption of the PC Procedure and Cllr Hay seconded, Cllrs unanimously adopted the procedure.

Update on Footpaths

Cllr Tabrett reported that the Rackley to Kennel Lane footpath had been cleared by the County rights of way team and it will be cleared twice a year during the growing season from now on. Cllr Tabrett mentioned the importance of encouraging people to use the path. He proposed that the PC write to Guy Manning to thank him and his team and copy letter to CC Ham.

01/11/05 Financial

There was no reconciliation, as the clerk had not received a bank statement.

01/11/06 Planning

New Applications:

At this point the Chairman and Cllr Hay left the room, as they had declared an interest. The Vice-Chairman, Jerry Dorber took the Chair.

21/06/000176/ML Spindleberry Cottage, Church Lane Ms P Howard – First floor extension to side and rear together with new detached garage. Cllr Rix proposed supporting the application, Cllr Withecombe seconded and the proposal was unanimously carried.

Cllr Hay rejoined the meeting for the second application 21/06/00018 Erection of bridge over River Yeo for Mr Brendan Flood on OS Grid ref ST400546 at field no 1666 (South of Webbington Rd).

Cllr Tabrett suggested that the PC request that kissing gates replace stiles. Cllr Rix proposed supporting the application and Cllr Mohan seconded. The Cllrs unanimously supported the application with the amendment of the kissing gates.

01/11/07 Correspondence

Chairman passed a leaflet to Cllr Tabrett on 'How to Plough a Right of Way'.

Chairman reported good news in a letter from Mrs Sue Ham advising that Cross Memorial Hall has won the cup awarded by the Community Council for Somerset for 'the Best run Village Hall in Somerset for 2006'. Clerk to mention in the winter newsletter, advertise the letter on the noticeboard and Chairman to write a letter of congratulations.

PC received an anonymous letter. As there is no address or signature the PC can not acknowledge or respond to the letter.

PC received several letters from Mr Byrne on 26th Sept, 9th October, one received in October which was undated, 12th October, 2 on the 15th October, 27th October and an envelope with 36 pages of scanned documents. PC has replied to some letters. It was mentioned that the letter on 27th October was so insulting that it should be ignored. The Cllrs decided to acknowledge the letters but ignore the contents.

Letter from Axbridge Town Council regarding Introduction of Class D Controlled Airspace in the vicinity of Bristol and Cardiff Airports. Clerk to file.

Letter from Ms Ayling to the Planning Inspectorate, clerk to file with Appeal notice

Subscription to Local Council Update, Clerk reported that it was too detailed to be of benefit to the PC.

Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45 p.m
Next Meeting Wednesday 6th December 2006 at 19.30

A. T. Oliver
6/12/06.

M. Tobin

Minutes of Compton Bishop Parish Council Meeting held on December 6th 2006

Present: Cllrs: Tobin, Dorber, Tabrett, Hay, Withecombe and County Cllr Alan Ham and 10 Parishioners

Apologies: Cllr Rix and Mohan

In attendance: The Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8 p.m. after the public had spoken

In the time allotted for members of the public to speak, Mr Steve Brinson proposed a new layout for the A38 Cross Roads, including a roundabout which he would help to finance, in return for development rights to build new housing. CC Ham said that the development was outside the limits of the settlement of Cross and Compton Bishop and would be subject of a 106 agreement. However, he would discuss it with the CC Highways Dept and pass their views to Mr Brinson. The Chairman thanked Mr Brinson for his offer.

Mrs Woolley mentioned that she had interviewed Mr Flood, a local farmer, for a Japanese television company, which would be broadcast in Japan. Mr Byrne made a number of points, regarding the Freedom of Information Act, PC Bullett and a further personal issue. Mr Byrne and Mrs Rawlings also questioned the PC's handling of Cllr Rix's appeal against an enforcement notice.

06/12/01 Minutes of the meeting held on November 1st 2006 were approved. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman, Michael Tobin and entered into the minute book.

06/12/02 Code of Conduct

Nothing to declare

06/12/03 Matters Arising

Cross Roads A38

The Chairman reported that a meeting will take place in December between the Police Safety advisers and Somerset Highways. Any outcome from the meeting will be reported at a future PC meeting. If Mr Brinson submits plans for his scheme to the planning dept at SDC, the Parish Councillors and CC Ham can make a formal comment.

Parish Reception at SDC in Bridgwater

The item was brought forward in the agenda. The chairman and clerk attended the reception at which the main items were the Local Government White Paper and the plan by SCC to apply to be the unitary authority for Somerset. Cllr Tobin outlined the salient points made at the reception and asked CC Ham to comment. Cllr Ham said that at present there is a 3 tiered system in Somerset and he opposes a two tiered system. He believes that the wide diversity in Somerset and its large geographic area make it unsuitable for centralised control. He asked the PC consider the subject and communicate their view to SCC and to Ruth Kelly's Dept.

Benches

The driver of the car which damaged the bench in OCR has not been traced. Clerk to ask the police for help. Clerk reported that she had not received a quote for the plinth in Compton Bishop. She was asked to chase-up.

Amenity Grant

Cllr Tobin reported that he contacted Cllr Dawn Hill to look into the reason for the small grant awarded to us this year.

06/11/04 New Matters

Noticeboards

Clerk reported that the Insurance Company paid £79 in compensation for the damaged notice board at Church Lane. There are now two new noticeboards, one at Church Lane and Kennel Lane.

Cluster Group Meeting

Cllr Hay updated the PC on the latest meeting and asked for a publication on Volunteering Opportunities to be made available to interested parishioners.

Spring Field Wildlife Site

Cllr Tabrett distributed the Annual Report 05/06 to Cllrs and asked the clerk to attach it to the minutes as an appendix

Public Rights of Way

Cllr Tabrett was nominated the PC Public Rights of Way representative.

M. Tobin

06/12/05 Financial

There was no reconciliation, as the clerk had only just received a bank statement.

The Budget 2007/08 was discussed and the clerk was asked to make a few amendments and find out if the PC has to pay for the elections in May.

It was agreed that the precept would not be increased in 2007/08, proposed by Cllr Withecombe and seconded by Cllr Hay and unanimously agreed that the precept remains at £6,000

01/11/06 Planning

New Applications:

21/06/000176/ML Spindleberry Cottage, Church Lane Ms P Howard – SDC Granted this application

21/06/00014 Mr Flood erection of hay/fodder store. SDC Granted permission for this application.

21/06/00016 Mr Flood Use of land to site an agricultural workers mobile home and formation of access, SDC refused this application

21/06/00013 Mr Flood, Erection of livestock building SDC Granted this application

21/06/00015 Mr Flood Erection of implement store SDC Granted this application

06/12/07 Correspondence

SALC meeting on the White Paper on 14th December at Burnham-On-Sea

SCC- Localisation and Frontline Councillors – clerk to photocopy for all cllrs and put it on next months agenda

Letter from SCC Highways concerning the lack of gritting to be undertaken in the parish.

SCC – Parish Emergency Plans – clerk to file

SDC Parish Plan – Village Facility – Chairman deferred the matter for the new Council in May

SCC – Local Area Agreement meetings to be arranged

SDC – Core Strategy policy 2006 – clerk to file

A letter from Mr Small, to ask the PC for a donation to help with the cost of printing Contact magazine over the Christmas period. Clerk to write back and explain that the matter will be brought up in the March PC meeting.

3 letters from Mr Byrne. One dated 7 November for reply. One addressed to Mr B Brown at SDC and the other a letter listing the charities Mr Byrne claims to have raised money for.

Letter from Mr Dave Williams, Head of Weare School, replying to the PC's decision not to make a donation to the School.

A letter from Mr Jordan raising concerns over possible new plans for the A38 Cross Roads

Two emails from Mr Parker also raising concerns over the A38 Cross Roads and an email from Mrs Sally Mohan asking that lights be installed at the crossroads

Letter from Peggy Farley. The cost of hiring the hall will be increased to meet the increased costs of gas, electricity and insurance. Also, that the request that the PC pays a one off payment for the hall hire will be discussed at next hall committee meeting.

Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00 p.m
Next Meeting Wednesday 3rd January 2007 at 19.30