



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of a MEETING of Compton Parish Council
held on **Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 7pm**

At Pucks Oak Barn

For the transaction of the under mentioned business

Present: Cllr Nagaty (in the chair), Cllrs K Hecker-Meschede, C Sharples, N Wyschna.
3 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

Public Session:

1. *Harrow:* GBC Enforcement had ceased enforcement action, stating that the outstanding works had been done. Very little had in fact been done and the Clerk had written to Enforcement accordingly.
2. *Harrow:* The Clerk will ask our Borough Cllrs to ensure that their latest application is taken to committee. There is no update from Highways regarding access, and noted that all vehicles must exit the site forwards, so the turning circle must be adequate.
3. *Parking at the hall:* some cars parked in such a way as to make access onto the road from properties behind the Harrow very dangerous. Our County Cllr will be asked for yellow lines in this position.
4. *Smart meters:* Thames Water is advising that these will be installed in case of drought, but they will not work because there are no masts, and as a consequence they are read manually twice a year.
5. *Traffic Calming project:* the following points were made regarding the project:
 - i. There is no value impact analysis on those most directly affected.
 - ii. The survey methodology was deeply flawed, the terminology used was misleading.
 - iii. Speed humps and cushions were not mentioned in the survey.These comments will be passed to the Traffic Committee.

001/26 Apologies for Absence: were received from Cllrs S Mallet and J Palca.

002/26 Declarations of interest:

Cllr Ramsey and Cllr Hecker-Meschede declared a pecuniary interest in 009/26 Solar Farm, as a close neighbour.

Cllr Sharples declared a pecuniary interest in 018/26 as an employee of the Gallery.

003/26 Minutes of Meeting held 19th November were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

004/26 Matters arising: all matters are covered by the agenda.

005/26 Report from County Cllr: Cllr Furniss had given his apologies and reported on the latest update of the traffic calming project:
Summary of approved scheme at business case

Key elements include:

- Three raised tables
 - At the Junction of The Street/Down Lane
 - At the Junction of The Street/ Spiceall
 - At the Junction of The Street/Polsted Lane
- 20mph along Down Lane and The Street
- Extending the pedestrian path from the Watts Chapel to the junction with The Street
- Bus stop improvements on Down Lane
- Village Boundary signs at
 - The B3000 roundabout
 - New Pond Road
 - Down Lane

Changes made

- The raised table at The Avenue has been removed from this scheme; it will instead be delivered as part of the Farncombe LSI scheme.
- A new zebra crossing outside St Nicholas Church, linking the church to the car park, has been included in the scheme as an outcome from the stakeholder meetings where this was strongly emphasised as a priority.
- 8 speed cushions have been included into the scheme as advised by the highway designers to effectively reduce vehicle speeds.
 - 4 speed cushions between Down Lane and St Nicholas Church
 - 4 speed cushions between St Nicholas Church and Spiceall
- The 20mph speed limit, originally planned from the B3000 roundabout to Spiceall, will now extend from the B3000 roundabout to Polsted Lane
- An application has been submitted to Waverley Borough Council for a £45,000 contribution through CIL funding, which we are currently awaiting a response on.

Current Status

- Detailed Design to be completed in February.
- Design options for the village boundary sign will be completed in February, with resident engagement planned immediately after.
- TRO consultation to begin in May; after the elections.
- Construction programmed to start in Autumn 2026.

Stakeholder engagement

A stakeholder group meets every six weeks to address resident concerns and queries. The group also acts as the main point of contact for the residents in the village, provides feedback, and receives regular progress updates that they can share with the wider village.

006/26

Report from Borough Cllrs: no report had been received by the time of the meeting, but was received afterwards and is shown below:

Climate Hub on GBC Website

The new Guildford Borough Climate Hub is a great place to find out more about what Guildford is doing to tackle climate change in the borough and to promote the benefits of a sustainable lifestyle. It has helpful information on ways that the public can get involved to make climate-friendly choices.

Internal Carbon Pricing

Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils have both introduced Internal Carbon Pricing, an innovative way to measure, in carbon terms, how much council activities cost. This will give helpful data to measure becoming a carbon neutral council by 2030. Other Surrey councils are watching with interest at this trailblazing innovation.

Clean Air Night Thursday 22nd January

Clean Air Night is a national initiative which Guildford Borough Council are promoting in order to inform residents about the health benefits of **not** using a wood burner, which is one of the most polluting ways to heat your home. Tiny particles from smoke can enter your bloodstream and affect your heart and lungs.

West Surrey Council (Unitary Authority) - Joint Committee

The West Surrey Council Joint Committee met for the first time on Friday 16th January. The committee is made up of Chief Executives and councillors from all six borough councils and Surrey County Council.

The committee will meet monthly to work on the implementation of development plans for the new councils.

Local Plan workshops for Parish Councils

Guildford Borough Council are organising workshops this month for Parish Councils for information regarding the ongoing work on the Local Plan. The Local Plan is at an early stage of preparation and this document will help shape the borough, so it's important that Parish Councils have the opportunity to attend.

New, modern car park equipment for town centre car parks.

New parking equipment has been installed in the car park which involves new, modern payment machines being installed, this will be updated in the town centre car parks. It will make it easier to pay with cash, card, contactless and app payments.

The Mayors Award for Service.

Nominations for the Mayors Award for Service to the community are now open. If you know of any volunteer groups, charity, school, business or community organisations that should be celebrated then please use the link below to enter an individual or organisation.

The deadline is Monday 9 February 2026.

007/26 Highways and traffic committee: Mr Bagnall had reported as follows:

'All of the stakeholder members plus Stephen will be attending the meeting with SCC at 11.00 on Mon 26th Jan, to be held in the village hall.

We understand that there will be detailed proposals presented and Deveena has told me the designer will be present.

'I think this is a critical meeting where we can make sure we fully understand what is proposed and subject it to rigorous examination. The main areas we anticipate discussing are a 20mph zone, raised tables, speed cushions, a pedestrian crossing, village gates and signs and any traffic calming for the eastern end of the village.

'We will fully report to the parish council after the meeting so decisions can be made how to react to the proposals, how to seek village residents' views and whether to involve our MP. I understand that in due course SCC will be asking for village views through the commonplace website.'

008/26 The Harrow: GBC enforcement have closed the file on the Harrow, as they believe that remedial work has been satisfactorily completed. The Clerk has written to Enforcement advising of the Parish Council's objection to this decision.

009/26 Solar Farm

Following the High Court's permission to apply for a judicial review, and for an extension of time, and agreement from SSE that they would not contest GBC's decision to withdraw consent for the Solar Farm, our solicitors are finalising the Consent Order. In order to re-claim Parish Council costs for this claim and the associated work, it will be necessary for the costs to be paid, and our solicitors have set out the various stages and the fees involved, which total in the region of £15,000, with a further £6,200 of Counsel's costs.

Members agreed that these should be paid in the stages set out, as follows:

Stage 1 – fees for initial advice and PAP letter: Balance of £1595

Stage 2 - Preparation of submission of original claim: £3,500, Counsel £700, court fee £169

Stage 3 – resubmission of the claim and application for extension of time: £4500

Stage 4 – Review of acknowledgement of service: £1500 , Counsel £2000

Stage 5 – Ongoing advice: £2000

Stage 6 – work relating to settling of claim: £2000, court fee of £874, Consent Order £160

Approval to be sought in the usual manner before each invoice is paid.

Proposed by Cllr Hecker-Meschede, Seconded by Cllr Nagaty, all in favour.

010/26 Loseley Estate: Report from Alexander More-Molyineux:

The FarMM shop and café on Home Farm, GU3 1HS continues to grow and expand and is open daily 8.30-4.00 Monday to Friday and on Saturdays on 9.00-3.00, please do drop by and say hello.

Delicious coffee, homemade baked goods and light offering for lunch plus selling FarMM produce.

General maintenance is being carried out in the Winter months including hedge laying which is taking place across the Estate.

There will be a footpath diversion in place while SCC repair part of the North Downs Way, dates TBC.

The Clerk was asked to follow up with the Estate regarding the stream blockage previously discussed.

- 011/26 Neighbourhood Plan:** members to determine whether to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan and are referred to the discussion under minute number 118/25 at the November meeting of the Council.
After discussion, it was agreed to make a decision after attending a Teams meeting on this subject, offered to the Parish Council by GBC Planning.
- 012/26 Car Park on Green:** pre-planning advice had been given and was agreed to be helpful, if not very conclusive. It was agreed to continue to a full planning application, once professional advice had been sought on an appropriate car park for the site and quotations received. Cllr Sharples abstained.
- 013/26 Bench in commemoration of Ken Miller:** It was agreed to place a bench outside the playground, against the fence and facing the Green. The bench, before fixings and plaque, to cost no more than £1,000. Proposed by Cllr Wyschna, Seconded by Cllr Sharples, all in favour.
- 014/26 Members report: Local Plan**
Surrey Hills National Landscape Boundary Extension
The deadline for final representations on the Surrey Hills boundary extension ended on January 14. Compton PC made a representation for the land west of Blackwell Farm on the Hog's Back to be reinstated in the boundary. This land had been included in Natural England's first report, but then excluded in its later report (Deletion 15) due to a planning application to Guildford Borough Council (24/P/00441) for a solar farm.
Solar Farm Planning Application
Scottish Southern Electric's solicitors have confirmed that, subject to agreeing the terms of the Consent Order, on a without prejudice basis, they do not intend to contest Compton PC's legal challenge of GBCV's decision to approve planning permission for the solar farm west of Blackwell Farm. (24/P/00441). This means that all the parties to the judicial review claim have confirmed that the planning permission will be quashed subject to agreeing the final terms of the Consent Order. This information was passed onto Natural England on January 14 as an addendum to Compton PC's representation on the boundary review.
Local Plan timetable
GBC has now published an updated schedule for its review of the Local Plan, which can be found on the Council's website at www.guildford.gov.uk/lds. GBC does not have a 5 year housing supply, which leaves it open to speculative planning. CPRE are asking people to take photographs of Grey Belt sites to prove that they are in fact Green Belt.
- 015/26 Planning:**
One application had been received, for Kinnaslea, in Priorsfield road, for a detached garage with office/storage space in the roof. Cllr Nagaty would take a look and report any concerns to the Clerk.
- 016/26 Members report: Allotments and Environment : Cllr Sharples**
a) *Trees:* the trees from SCC's tree planting scheme have been planted, under the direction of Cllr Sharples
- 017/26 Members report: Youth and Recreation: The Clerk**
Nothing new to report.
- 018/26 Members report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery**

- a) Report from Gallery: the report, which encompassed the following, was noted:
 - i. Christmas period had been busy
 - ii. Interviews for new director had so far not been successful.
 - iii. Tree work: both beeches in the Cemetery are being monitored, a tree risk assessment was completed last summer across the whole site.
 - iv. Physical Energy: the site should be finished in March and a donor event held shortly after.

019/26 Members report: **Communications**

Communications are successful, as always Cllr Wyschna is happy to report any parish business.

020/26 **Finance**

- a) Schedule of payments to end December: members noted and agreed the expenditure for the period of £15,425,54.
- b) *Management report to end December*: noted and agreed.
- c) *Bank reconciliation as of December*: was reviewed and verified against the bank statement by a Member during the meeting.
- d) *Draft budget 2026/27*: members approved the budget and proposed 5% increase in the precept request. Proposed by Cllr Hecker-Meschede, Seconded by Cllr Wyschna, all in favour.
- e) *Insurance*: to be renewed in April. members agreed to a long term agreement of 3 years, at a premium of £1,291. A single year renewal will cost £1412.65.

021/26 **Councillors Business:** any further business arising from the meeting to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda.

- a) *Traffic Calming scheme*: Cllr Sharples wish to state his dissatisfaction with the whole process.
- b) *Litter pick*: The Clerk to purchase 2 dozen litter pickers and some more hi-viz jackets.

022/26 **Date of next meeting:**

18th March 2026 7pm.

Date of Annual Parish meeting and venue: 15th April, 7pm, at the village club.

Date of annual litter pick: 21st March, starting at the Club at 10.30 and returning there for soup.

The meeting closed at 20.35