



COMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of **THE ANNUAL MEETING** of Compton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7.00pm
for the transaction of the under mentioned business.

Present: Cllrs S Mallet, R Nagaty, K Hecker-Meschede, N Wyschna
4 members of the public
In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

The Harrow (agenda item 048/25): Close neighbours to the proposed development of 10 houses on the car park spoke of the issues surrounding this proposal, which were noted and agreed and discussed in more detail in the agenda. The Harrow public house is now in a very bad state of repair, the Clerk will raise this concern with GBC Enforcement.

- 040/25 **Election of Chairman:** Cllr S Mallet, Proposed by Cllr Nagaty, Seconded by Cllr Wyschna, all in favour.
- 041.25 **Apologies for Absence:** had been received from Cllrs Palca and Sharples
- 042/25 **Declarations of interest:** Cllrs Hecker-Meschede and Nagaty declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 049/25, Solar Farm, as being neighbours.
- 043/25 **Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr Nagaty, Proposed by Cllr Mallet, seconded by Cllr Hecker-Meschede, all in favour
- 044/25 **Appointment of Member's responsibilities:**
Local Plan – Mrs Karen Stephens
Highways and Traffic – Mr William Bagnell
Neighbourhood Plan – working group of Cllrs Mallet, R Nagaty, J Palca, Fiona Curtis and Karen Stephens.
Communications: Cllr Wyschna
Allotments and Environment: Cllr Sharples
Youth and Recreation: Cllr Wyschna and the Clerk
Watts Gallery and Cemetery, Cllr Palca and Nagaty and the Clerk
- 045/25 **Dates of future meetings:** *members agreed the current meeting date structure:* 3rd Wednesday of alternate months, starting January. Annual Parish meeting in April or May, Annual meeting in May, on 3rd Wednesday.
- 046/25 **Minutes of Meeting held 19th March 2025:** Agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
Minutes of extraordinary meeting held 1st April 2025: Agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
- 047/25 **Matters Arising:**
33/25a: Memorial to Ken Miller: cost information on a plaque at the Gallery is awaited. Costings for a memorial bench *deferred* to July meeting.
33/25b: Parish Council email addresses: the domain name has been approved and Stu Bevan will set up email addresses and the Parish Council website domain name over the next few days.
- 048/25 **The Harrow:** *planning application no: 25/P/00613* *Erection of 10 dwellings including 4 affordable dwellings, together with associated amenity space, car parking and landscaping,*
Following discussion with residents at the beginning of this meeting, members agreed to **object** to this application for the following reasons:
- Loss of privacy to neighbours caused by removal of trees.
 - Close proximity of 4 dwellings (the affordable housing) to residents' houses, in one case only 6ft away. These four houses could easily be positioned further away.
 - Lack of light, caused by close proximity of dwellings to neighbours.
 - Noise caused by close proximity to neighbours.

- The access road onto the busy B3000 is single track, which will make entering and leaving the development potentially dangerous.
- There is no parking on the development for visitors or deliveries, which will mean that cars will park on the Street or in the village hall layby.

In order to ensure that residents were aware of these issues concerning this proposed development and had the opportunity to make their comments to GBC Planning within the statutory timeframe, Cllr Wyschna would circulate these concerns to his email list.

049/25 **Solar Farm, Surrey University:** The Parish Council had received an update from the legal team engaged by the Parish Council to contest the decision by GBC to approve this application.

GBC had responded on the last day to the Pre-Action Protocol letter sent on our behalf, and had agreed to two of the three reasons for our action and that they would consent to judgement. The claim was filed by the solicitor in time but, due to an issue with the court's e-filing system, the claim was rejected. It was now necessary to make an application for extension to file out of time.

GBC have confirmed that they still do not intend to contest the claim, and will agree that the extension of time application should be granted. University of Surrey have not acknowledged service but appear to be seeking legal advice. Blackwell farm have not responded. SSE Energy Solutions have filed an Acknowledgement of Service and indicated that they intend to object to the application for extension of time.

Our barrister is currently writing to SSE, addressing their representations.

The judge will determine the application for extension of time at the same time as considering whether the substantive claim should be granted permission to proceed.

050/25 **Bummoor Copse**

- a) Responses from residents following the Annual Parish Meeting were noted.
- b) It was agreed to write to Alexander More-Molyneux, Michael More-Molyneux and the Estate Manager in charge of the work in Bummoor Copse, laying out the concerns of our residents and asking for a meeting to discuss how to address these and future works.

051/25 **Car Park for Compton:** It was agreed that a letter should initially be written to GBC, seeking their views on a small car park next to the playground, with its entrance opposite the village club. The car park would be fenced to prevent access to the Green.

052/25 **Reports from County Cllr:** not received.

053/25 **Report from Borough Cllrs:** not received

054/25 **Members Report: local Plan:** not received

055/25 **Members Report: Highways and traffic committee:** SCC's Placemaking Team have now sent the report of the Engagement results. They say that they are currently in the middle of reviewing the business case. Once it has been approved then they can carry on with the detail design –and that's when they will be able to inform the Parish Council what parts of the scheme they will be moving forward with. They are looking to start the detail design in the summer and will likely take between 6-9 months.

In addition, they are looking to work with the Traffic Committee and residents to design the village gateways and will provide more details on this later on in the year.

This will be discussed with the Highways and Traffic Committee and a formal complaint lodged on the amount of time this is taking, with very little result.

056/25 **Neighbourhood Plan:**

Notes from the meeting with the consultant had been circulated.;

Members agreed that the support from residents at the Annual Parish meeting had been encouraging, but were concerned about attracting sufficient volunteers to bring the Plan into being.

It was agreed to ask the consultant to undertake an audit of what they think the parish needs for a NP at a cost of £1000, and then volunteers could be sought to deal with specific areas, such as

green spaces, houses of historic interest, and so on. Proposed by Cllr Mallet, Seconded by Cllr Wyschna, all in favour.

057/25 **Members Report: Communications:** *Cllr Wyschna*

Cllr Wyschna has 79 villagers signed up to receive parish emails and was pleased to report that people were engaging with the email bulletins. There were 340 people in the Facebook group. When Cllr Wyschna received replies to bulletins, he always asked for the respondent's particular interest in the Parish.

058/25 **Members Report: Allotments and Environment:** *Cllr Sharples:* no report had been received.

059/25 **Members Report: youth and recreation:** *Clerk:* she had been unsuccessful with the Your Fund Surrey application as they were looking for more innovative projects than children's playgrounds.

Cllr Wyschna advised that there was £400 available as a grant for the new footpath into the playground. The Clerk will ask our handyman for the current status.

060/25 **Members Report: Watts Gallery and Cemetery:**

- a) Report from Gallery: not received.
- b) Report on data capture project to date: noted. The Clerk reported that she and Mr Herbert had finished mapping Section A this afternoon, the last and arguably most complicated section in the cemetery and that it would be possible to put the new map on the website shortly.
- c) Analysis of remaining work on cemetery data capture project: Mr Herbert had sent an extensive report, outlining the work done and that still outstanding. The estimated costs for finishing the project are in the region of £7,000. The Clerk advised that £6,500 of this has been budgeted for in this year's budget. It is estimated that the work will be completed by the end of August 2025. The report and the estimated costs were noted and agreed.
- d) It was agreed that, rather than spending an additional amount of capital now to train the Clerk to use the software, Mr Herbert will be retained for the foreseeable future to keep the map and spreadsheet updated, under her supervision. A manual will be devised during this period.

061/25 **Members Report: Planning:**

25/P/00530 Land between Harvest Bank House and Greystones, Down Lane

Application for permission in principle for one self build/custom build house

Members had no objection but Cllr Nagaty would ask Clive Smith, Surrey Hills, to take a look.

062/25 **Finance**

- a) Schedule of income and payments to end of financial year attached to the agenda and noted.
- b) *Management report to end March 2024* attached to the agenda and noted.
- c) *Standing orders:* members reviewed and approved the Council's Standing Orders,
- d) *Financial Regulations:* members reviewed and approved the Council's Financial regulations. The Clerk was asked to add a rider concerning the required three quotations, to make it clear that less could be accepted with extenuating circumstances.
- e) *Financial risk assessment:* These were reviewed and approved.
- f) **Internal Audit:**
 - i. *Internal Auditors report:* members noted the auditors report and the one action recommended, that the order and clarity of financial reports on the website is reviewed, so that it is possible to easily find the current year's statutory documents.

- ii. *Annual Governance Statement:* members considered and responded to the statements as set out, in conjunction with the internal Auditors report. The statement was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.
- iii. *Accounting statements 2024/25:* Members approved these in conjunction with the Internal Auditors report and the statements were signed by the Chairman and the Clerk and RFO.

063/25 **Councillors Business:** *any further business arising from the meeting, to be noted or dealt with on a future agenda*
No further matters were raised.

064/25 **Dates of meetings:**
All meeting dates for the year were agreed at this Annual Meeting
The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 16th July, 7pm.

The meeting closed at 20.35.