

**COMPTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES of  
MEETINGS ON WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017:**

**In Attendance  
Jude Coupe (Chairman), C McHenry, S Ryan, and C. Owen  
2 members of the public  
No County or District Councillors**

**MINUTES OF AGM**

The meeting commenced immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting which commenced at 7pm and was closed at 7.30pm. At the Annual Parish Meeting the Chairman thanked various members of the community for their efforts throughout the year. The Community Abbas and Twyford Social Club (CATS) gave a report and it was agreed that the swings beside the Church should be moved to Fanners Field. It was further agreed that the Parish Council, CATS and the Parochial Parish Council would arrange to meet to discuss the requirements of the village and to put together a survey asking for the community's views on what they would like within the village.

**AGM17/05/01 Election of Chairman**

The Chairman and Vice Chairman stood down. It was proposed by Cllr. McHenry proposed that Judith Coupe should be re-elected as the Chairman. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Ryan and Judith Coupe having agreed to act was unanimously re-elected as the Chairman.

The remainder of the items for the AGM were considered after the co-option of Trevor Clements to the Council.

**AGM17/05/02 Election of Vice Chairman**

**AGM17/05/03 Declarations of Acceptance of Office – to be circulated by the Clerk**

**AGM17/05/04 Appointment of Parish Officers**

**AGM17/05/05 Councillors responsibilities:**

- Community – Fanners Field/Villages Committee – with PCC & CATS
- Planning/Footpaths – Marianne has recently attended a planning training/advisory session and can provide background assistance
- St James Common
- Highways
- Airfield
- Assets – bus shelters/grit boxes/notice boards

**There being no further business the AGM was closed at 7.36**

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

The meeting commenced immediately following the AGM

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

There will then be an opportunity before the Council meeting opens for residents to speak on any items on the Agenda or other matters of interest or concern that they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.

- 17/05/01 Apologises  
Apologises were received from Graham Carr-Jones (County Councillor and Catherine Langham (District Councillor)
- 17/05/02 Declarations of Interest  
There were no declarations of interest.
- 17/05/03 Approval of Minutes held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
The minutes had been circulated to the Councillors and were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 17/05/04 Matters arising from previous minutes  
There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
- 17/05/05 Vacancies – co-option  
The Chairman proposed that Trevor Clements should be co-opted to the Council and the Parish Council unanimously agreed to his election. Colin McHenry was unanimously elected to be the Vice Chairman. The following Councillors accepted the following responsibilities:
- Community – Fanners Field/Villages Committee – with PCC & CATS – Jude Coupe and Caroline Owen
  - Planning/Footpaths – Trevor Clements
  - St James Common – Sue Ryan
  - Highways – Jude Coupe
  - Airfield – Caroline Owen
  - Assets – bus shelters/grit boxes/notice boards – Colin McHenry
- 17/05/06 Reports from County Councillor – reports has been circulated to the Councillors. The main item it was reported that as a result of the General Election the consultation meetings on the A350 had been postponed and were now due to take place in June 2017. The decision by the Secretary of State regarding the Unitary Authority had also been postponed.
- 17/05/07 Finance
- a. Trevor Clements had undertaken the internal audit and had nothing to report. The Clerk had circulated the year end figures for 2016/2017 and S1 & 2 of the audit statement and asked that these are approved. The end of year accounts and S1 & 2 statements were unanimously approved. The Parish Council were asked to consider who would be able to do the internal audit the following year given that Trevor Clements was now a Councillor.
  - b. Bills to be paid – the following bills were approved for payment D. Malley – bookkeeper £58.00 invoice for 2017/18, M Wheatley £315 for April to June 2017 and £150 for play area inspection.
  - c. Update on bank account – The bank has now changed the correspondence address. The Chairman suggested all of the Councillors met up on a date to be agreed so that the mandates could be completed so that there were current signatories on the account, the Parish Council could set up the standing order for the Clerk and can obtain read only access to the account.
  - d. The Clerk confirmed that she had received the insurance renewal. The Council entered into a long term renewal agreement to 2019 and therefore the policy will automatically renew. It was agreed that the premium of £325.07 should be paid.

17/05/08 Fanners Field – it had been suggested that the Parish Council should apply for Fanners Field to be designated as a green space. This would mean that this site would be protected from future development. However as the Parish Council in fact owns this site and can therefore control any development on the same the benefits of obtaining this designation were not clear. The Chairman agreed to consider this further.

The inspection of the Play area has been undertaken. With regard to the swings in the Churchyard there were no high risk factors but they do need overhauling and assuming the joints have not been inspected in the last 3 years this needed to be inspected. Tim Kerridge had agreed during the course of the Annual Parish Meeting to overhaul the swings and it had been agreed that volunteers would be sort to move the same initially to his workshop and ultimately to Fanners Field. The Chairman had agreed to notify Jamie Miura and Colin McHenry agreed to notify the PCC.

With regard to the equipment in Fanners Field essentially the play equipment needed to be repaired/replaced. The report said there was a moderate risk for all of the items of play equipment so until it is repaired it was agreed that notices would be put up advising that the equipment needed to be repaired but for the time being should not be used. The Parish Council would obtain estimates for the repair of the equipment and would take into account the views of the village through the survey to be circulated whether the equipment should be replaced and if so with what.

It was agreed that as well as cutting the grass and maintaining some of the hedges Basil Lane should be asked to pull the weeds out and later on in the year to spray the weeds in the play area. The Clerk confirmed she would email him and ask him to do this. In the meantime Alex Fairchild was putting down wood chippings which were a by-product of his business.

The Chairman asked Denise Parsons whether CATS were still interested in having a shed on the field. She confirmed she would ask the committee. The Parish Council had previously agreed to give CATS £250 for the shed. It was agreed that if CATS still wanted a shed the Parish Council would give them this sum.

With regard to providing car parking in the field it was agreed to postpone any further consideration of the same pending the outcome of the Church's proposal for additional parking. Bill Honour advised the Parish Council that the hardcore on the side of the track down to Willis Farm was he believed owned by the Parish or District Council and if the trees were cut back would provided additional parking. The Clerk confirmed she would look into the ownership of this land.

17/05/09 Planning/Tree Works

a. The Parish Council had considered an application in respect of Tuckers Lodge , Lower Lane, Compton Abbas, SP7 0NH to Remove Condition No. 5 of Planning Permission 2/2016/0091/FUL to allow first 5 metres to be laid out and constructed to the approval of local authority. The Parish Council did not object to this application.

b. NDDC had looked at the trees overhanging the A350 and had recommended that the dead tree is felled & that the large infected tree is either felled or significantly reduced. Also that all overhanging branches of other trees are cut back to 5.2m above the public highway. NDDC are going to write to the landowner and ultimately if the landowner does not sort the trees NDDC will and will charge him. The Chairman confirmed that all of the trees overhanging the roads should be cut back and asked everyone to notify the residents accordingly.

c. The Parish Council had also been notified that with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 it will not be notified of applications for tree works. Site notices will also not necessarily be posted. The Parish Council have been referred to the Dorset for You website to review the register of applications and conservation area notifications. The Clerk will endeavour to review this register on a regular basis. If any notices are seen by members of the village and the village wished to object to the tree works being proposed they should let the Clerk know.

17/05/010

Footpaths/Rights of Way – there was nothing to report.

17/05/011

Highways

a. After the last meeting the Chairman had contacted Corinne Holbrook from DCC Highways and they had walked the village. All of the repairs that needed doing were pointed out and they had discussed the dead trees overhanging the A350. Corinne has confirmed she has added a lot of the lanes round CA on the register for consideration for future works and is waiting for a report from the tree officer regarding the dead trees.

b. Public Consultations are due to take place regarding the proposed improvements to the A350/C13. The proposals are generally to have village gateways and to standardise the speed limits on the A350 to 50mph and 30 mph through the villages. The Chairman had reviewed the proposals for Compton Abbas and was disappointed that no consideration had been given to highlighting the access points onto the A350 in Compton Abbas which were all on bends with poor visibility. She had therefore asked Highways to review the junctions onto the A350 used by the residents. As indicated above these meetings have been postponed pending the outcome of the General Election and it is anticipated they will take place in June. The Chairman encouraged the villagers to go to one of the meetings to ensure they are in agreement with the proposals for the A350 through Compton Abbas.

c. The Parish Council had also been informed that roadworks are about to start on the A350 as follows:

**A350, Sturminster Marshall (weekdays only)**

daytime closures 9am to 3.30pm, Wednesday 10 May to Friday 19 May

daytime closures 9am to 3.30pm, Monday 29 May to Wednesday 7 June

official diversion A31 & A354

**A350, Fontmell Magna**

daytime closures 9am to 4pm, Monday 22 May to Sunday 28 May

official diversion A357 & A30

The Chairman confirmed she would speak to the the “gatewaymen” who will be in situ at the road closure points to agree access points during the work.

17/05/012

Travellers – the Chairman had emailed Paula Clover to ask when the Travellers would be moved on and she had confirmed that she had issued needs audits and will then request a Notice to Quit from the solicitor. They normally would give the travellers one week to leave then apply for a court date. She could not be 100 percent sure of the date but providing there is space in the courts she should get a date in early June, the order if she gets it will be a forthwith order. So hopefully all being well the Common should be clear by July. The vardos and horses have already left the Common. The Chairman had also been copied in to correspondence sent by MA&CGPC chairman William Keneally who wrote to the police with regards to the suspected activities taking place at the common and the lack of response by the police in dealing with the matter.

17/05/013

Westminster Memorial Hospital – the campaign is on going.

17/05/014

Correspondence – The PPC had confirmed that they don't really have enough room in the Church Hall to store the PC filing cabinet. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk would go through the archived material and once they knew how much needed to be stored would consider the matter further.

17/05/015

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017.