



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on Monday 4th November 2024 in the Wilkins Centre, Compton. Commencing at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Councillor Dave Aldis, Chair
Councillor Rebecca Pinfold, Deputy Chair
Councillor Jude Cunningham
Councillor Linda Moss
Councillor Sharon Tiller
Councillor Ian Tong (from 7:07 pm)

Members Absent: Councillor Stephen Dearn
Councillor Alison Strong

Officers Present: Sarah Marshman, Clerk/RFO

In Attendance: Carlyne Culver, District Councillor
Compton Flood Warden
0 Members of the Public

Minutes

- 24/099 To receive, and consider for acceptance, apologies for absence from Members of the Council**
Resolved: To accept apologies from Councillors Stephen Dearn and Alison Strong for the reasons provided to the council.
- 24/100 To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests and to consider any requests for dispensation from Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest**
There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.
- 24/101 To receive:**
Questions or comments from members of the public regarding items on the agenda
Representations from any member who has declared an Other Registerable Interest or a Non-Registerable Interest

The Flood Warden provided an update. The groundwater is at the highest level it has been known to be at this time of year so it is very likely the Pang will flow through Compton from mid-December which is earlier than usual– likely start to flow mid-Dec. Those with riparian responsibilities for the Pang and the Roden should make sure they have cleared their section of the ditch.

Councillor Tong arrived at 7:07 pm.

24/102 To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7th October 2024
Resolved: Members agreed the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true record. The Chair signed the minutes.

24/103 To discuss any matters arising from the previous meeting
There were no matters arising.

24/104 To receive a report from the District Councillor
The consultation on the potential development of the Baxter site on Wallingford Road was discussed. A consultation on West Berkshire Council’s budget begins next week.

24/105 To review the minutes and recommendations from the following committees:

Committee	Date	Minute Numbers	Recommendations to Full Council
Planning	None		
Personnel	21/10/24	PER24/011-PER24/025	To set the following budget figures for 2025/26 - Staff costs £23,650, Staff expenses £200, Office £1,056, Employee Training £500, Councillor Training £500. To put any unspent funds from the training budget line into an earmarked reserve at the end of each year.

24/106 To receive an update and review recommendations from the following working parties:
Street lighting – The Clerk will seek three quotes for the remaining lights.
Allotments – there have been some incidents of vandalism, with pumpkins smashed.

24/107 Planning Applications:

24/107.1 To consider whether to refer any planning applications for further response from the Council’s planning consultants
There were no new planning applications.

24/107.2 To consider whether to request the District Councillor calls in any planning applications to the Western Area Planning Committee
There were no applications requiring call in.

24/107.3 To consider whether to refer any planning applications for further response from the Council's planning consultants

Resolved: The Clerk should automatically refer the planning application for the redevelopment of the Baxter Healthcare site to Master Land and Planning when notification of it is received.

24/107.4 To receive a report on recent planning decisions taken by West Berkshire Council
West Berkshire Council has reported the following decision since the last Parish Council meeting:

- 24/00998/HOUSE 18 Manor Crescent, Compton, RG20 6NR - Erect an enclosed wooden framed lean-to to side of house. Extend width of front porch by 3m. Erect 25 m², 2.8m high workshop in back garden. Approved.
- 24/01167/HOUSE Hillfoot Farm, Aldworth Road, Compton, RG20 6RD - Single storey rear extension, Side Porch and Detached Home Office. Approved.
- 24/01525/HOUSE Boundary House, Churn Road, Compton, RG20 6PP - Installation of a 16kw Samsung EHS Gen7 R290 air source heat pump on the southern wall of my house. British gas will be completing the installation and advised that as the Samsung unit dimensions are 1.018m high x 1.27m Wide x 0.53m deep its volume is 0.685 cu.m and thus larger than the 0.6cu.m threshold for permitted development. Approved.
- 24/01639/COND 23 Tithe Barn Close, Compton, RG20 6AA - Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 14 (remediation measures) of planning permission 22/00614/FULD - Section 73a Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 17/02861/FULD: Demolition of Manor Barn and construction of a pair semi-detached dwellings with associated parking, landscaping and amenity space. Approved.
- 24/01738/HOUSE 9 Newbury Lane, Compton, RG20 6PB - Proposed two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension with associated alterations. Approved.

24/108 Finance:

24/108.1 To consider approving the payments listed on the Finance Report

Resolved: To approve the payments listed in the Finance Report in Appendix 1.

24/108.2 To note the most recent Bank Reconciliation

Resolved: To note the bank reconciliation figures as provided in the Finance Report in Appendix 1.

24/108.3 To receive any reports from the Internal Controller

The Internal Controller has inspected the accounts to the end of April 2024.

24/108.4 To note the Quarterly Budget Report

The quarterly budget report to 30th September 2024 was noted.

24/109 To consider quotes for fencing at Newbury Lane allotments

This was deferred in order to follow up on requested quotes.

- 24/110 To consider the purchase of weed control sheets for the allotments**
Resolved: To purchase up to 6 rolls at an expected cost of £117.
- 24/111 To consider a response to the consultation on the Baxter Healthcare site**
Resolved: To submit the response given in Appendix 2.
- 24/112 To review Councillor training**
The Clerk was requested to provide a list of available training to Councillors.
- 24/113 To receive an update on vandalism and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the village**
There have been more reports of a small child being carried on a quadbike.
- 24/114 To receive reports on the following:**
Recreation Ground – one of the gates needs repair. The Clerk will arrange this.
- 24/115 To discuss matters for future consideration or information**
The broken fencing on Aldworth Road has been reported to WBC who will repair it.
- The Clerk was requested to find out more about running a Housing Need Survey.
- The impact of the West Berkshire Council budget consultation was discussed. This includes a proposal to remove the Downland Sports Centre from the Leisure Management Contract.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:50 pm.

Date and time of next scheduled meeting:
Full Council: Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7 pm

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Appendix 1: Finance Report

Status at last bank reconciliation 30th September 2024	
Account	Amount
Unity Trust Current Account	£14,940.86
Unity Trust Savings Account	£59,311.49
Lloyds Multipay Corporate Card	-£29.35
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£25,000.00
Total	£99,223.00

Income received 30th September - 27th October 2024		
Account	Income Detail	Amount
Current	Precept	£33,272.00
Current	HMRC VAT refund (Apr-Sep)	£897.46
Current	Interest from CCLA account	£102.64
Current	Pitch/Pavilion Hire	£365.00
Current	Compilations advertising	£62.00
Savings	Interest	£408.29
Total		£35,107.39

Payments made on Lloyds Corporate Card to be approved				
Method	Date	Payee	Payment Detail	Amount
CC	02-Oct-24	Lloyds Bank	Card fees	£3.00
CC	14-Oct-24	Amazon	Padlock	£18.97
CC	14-Oct-24	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreaths	£63.00
				£84.97

Payments from Unity Trust Current Account to be approved				
Method	Date	Payee	Payment Detail	Amount
BACS	30-Sep-24	Unity Trust Bank	Service fee	£18.00
BACS	10-Oct-24	West Berkshire Council	Compilations Oct	£492.00
BACS	10-Oct-24	Tactical Facilities Management	Refuse disposal Sep	£245.62
DD	18-Oct-24	Vodafone	Phone Oct	£26.20
BACS	24-Oct-24	ABC to Read	Grant	£50.00
BACS	24-Oct-24	Autumn Group	Grant	£243.00
BACS	24-Oct-24	Life Education Wessex and Thames Valley	Grant	£50.00
BACS	24-Oct-24	Friends of Compton Primary School	Grant	£150.00
BACS	24-Oct-24	Compton Players	Grant	£150.00
BACS	24-Oct-24	1st Compton Scouts	Grant	£150.00
BACS	25-Oct-24	SSE Energy Supply	Lighting electricity Sep	£629.79

BACS	04-Nov-24	Royal British Legion - Compton, Ilsleys & Norreys Branch	Donation	£50.00
Total				£2,254.61

Transfers				
Method	Date	From Account	To Account	Amount
DD	16-Oct-24	Unity Current	Lloyds	£32.35
Total				£32.35

Appendix 2: Response to the consultation on the Baxter Healthcare site

1. Access and Highways

The council raised concerns regarding the access restrictions to the site. Access to the site, provided via Cheap Street or Horn Street, is via narrow roads. There is only one access route into the site and groundwater flooding can have an impact on this access, with water bubbling up from the road in this location at times of high groundwater.

2. Thames Water Infrastructure

The effect of an additional 40 houses on the already struggling infrastructure provided by Thames Water must be addressed. No occupation of properties should be allowed until the foul water network upgrade has been completed.

3. Groundwater Flooding

The impact of the site on groundwater flooding must be assessed, particularly with regard to the pond that forms on the land opposite the site and the water that bubbles up from the road in the area of the site entrance during times of high groundwater.

4. Housing Density

The Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan states that Compton has a range of housing densities between 11 and 21 dwellings per hectare. To prevent any adverse impact on the AONB that surrounds the village, a housing density of no greater than 20 dwellings per hectare should be employed on this site.

5. Loss of Significant Open Space

The development will result in the loss of significant open space currently maintained by the carpark. The carpark's flat design minimises its impact on the AONB to the north and from the higher windmill ridge to the east. Both the AONB and the windmill ridge hold historical value to the parish.

6. Local Lettings Policy

In line with the Compton NDP Policy C5, the council seeks a local lettings policy be implemented for the development. Priority for affordable homes must be secured for households with a local connection.

7. Impact on schools and surgery

The proposed development's effect on local schools and the surgery must be carefully evaluated, ensuring that they can accommodate the increased demand.

8. Footway Lighting

We seek clarity on the proposed lighting for footways, especially given the conservation area status. We support the implementation of time-managed lighting to reduce light pollution.

9. Parking Provision

The amount of parking provided should, at a minimum, meet the requirements set by West Berkshire Council as set in Policy P1 of West Berkshire Council's Housing Site Allocations DPD (2006-2026). Over dominance of car parking at the front of dwellings should be avoided.

10. Traffic Consultation

A comprehensive traffic management plan, reviewing options such as a one-way system or a 20mph speed limit, is essential.

11. Broadband Capacity

Current broadband connections are at capacity. A working broadband connection is considered an essential service. Broadband access in the village must be improved to ensure the service is available to the new residents.

12. Lack of Public Meeting

The council regrets that there has been no public meeting scheduled for this consultation. Public engagement is crucial for transparency and community support, and by holding this consultation online and not publicising it to every household in the village either by leafletting every household or by providing information to be included in the bi-monthly village newsletter, individuals within the community will have been excluded.