

**Minutes of the Meeting of Little Compton Parish Council held in the Village Hall on  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2014**

Present: Cllrs. Rudge (Chairman), Moorman (Vice Chairman), Ashford, and Hall, Robyn Waller (Parish Clerk), District Cllr. Gray and 5 members of the public.

1. Declaration of Interest: There were none.
2. Apologies for Absence: were received from Cllr. Browne.
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were agreed to be a correct record on a proposal from Cllr. Ashford, seconded by Cllr. Hall and signed.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes not included elsewhere on the Agenda: The elm tree stump on Barton Lane has been attended to. The speed of traffic leaving Reed Business School car park remains a concern. Cllr. Rudge has spoken to Stella Shaw from the Business School about this and the ongoing problem of cars parked near the top of Church Lane. As a result, notices have been placed on vehicle windscreens, directing students to the School carpark.
5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014: were agreed to be a correct record on a proposal from Cllr. Ashford, seconded by Cllr. Moorman and signed.
6. Matters arising from the Minutes not included elsewhere on the Agenda: Appreciation from Mr. A. Fitch for the letter expressing thanks for his assistance in conducting the Internal Audit was acknowledged. Confirmation of receipt of the Internal Audit from Grant Thornton was also acknowledged.
7. Date of next Meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014
8. Reports from District Cllr. Gray and County Cllr. Saint.: Cllr Gray gave an update on the S.D.C. Local Plan, stating that currently the Plan has reached the testing stage and the Council is now awaiting comments from the public and housing developers. The Plan will then be submitted to the Planning Inspector. No news is expected before next year, probably through appeal. Cllr. Saint being absent, there was no Report.
9. Questions and Comments from the Public: There were none.
10. Report on Open Dialogue Evening with W.C.C. and Rollright Quarry Liaison Meeting: Cllrs. Rudge and Hall had attended the Open Dialogue Evening with W.C.C. on 14<sup>th</sup> July at Dunchurch Village Hall. Cllr. Rudge said that Warwickshire County Council must make savings of £92 million over the next four years and were looking for ways in which they could work with Parish Councils to pass more responsibility to them. One example given was a two year Lengthsman Trial Scheme in the Rugby area. This involves the appointment of a 'lengthsman' for the purpose of conducting village maintenance. A grant of £2000 in the first year and £1500 in the second year would be made available.

Cllr. Rudge made a comparison with the Parish Council's current dissatisfaction with the standard of grass verge cutting in the village, including the number of cuts during the season. The Parish Council is negotiating with S.D.C. for a local contractor to take over this work. The Council unanimously agreed that an approach be made to W.C.C. to establish an interest and possible future participation in the Lengthsman Scheme.

Cllr. Rudge said she had attended a Rollright Quarry Liaison Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Currently there appeared to be no problems. The dry stone walling production has greatly increased, but the lorry movements remain at 60 per day and the routing agreement was being enforced.

11. Parish Plan: The Steering Committee is in the final stages of preparing an update to the results of the Questionnaire. Once completed, it will be presented to the Parish at a future date, to be arranged

12. Playground Report: The recent Playground Inspection conducted on 6<sup>th</sup> June was discussed in detail. Overall the Report rated a 'Low Risk' assessment, but listed a number of repairs that should be monitored and addressed before next year. It was agreed that repairs would be conducted in order of assessed priority. Initially the Council agreed to obtain estimates from Playdale Playgrounds ( Toddler Multi play unit and Swings) and A E Evans (Climbing Frame and Trim Trail) for the necessary repairs.

13. Cemetery Report: Mrs. A. McDermott was buried on July 17<sup>th</sup>. A request from the relatives of Mrs R. Reason to have a black granite memorial stone erected has been agreed but no feed back from the family had been received to date. The Annual Cemetery Inspection had been carried out by Cllrs. Rudge, Ashford and Hall and necessary repairs completed.

It was agreed that a ditch is required at the top end of the cemetery and estimates would be obtained.

A recycling wheelie bin had been ordered.

It was agreed that Cemetery fees would remain unchanged during the current year as costs are similar to, if not a little higher than, neighbouring cemeteries..

14. Footpath and Bridleways Report: Complaints regarding the overgrown footpath between Poole Close and the Old School House at Newtown had been received. Cllr. Hall reported that having contacted Mr. Grant McKerran, the work was carried out immediately and an apology for any inconvenience received.

Mr. Boyce Keeling and Mr. Tony Hawes had removed the tree stump from the ditch adjacent to the bridleway opposite to Redlands Farmhouse, as requested by the Cotswold Wardens. The Council's thanks were recorded.

Cllr. Hall agreed to contact the landowner regarding the dead tree fouling the original bridleway (holloway) off Barton Lane.

15. Village Maintenance Report: Cllr. Ashford said that the uprooted tarmac on the footpath adjacent to Brewery Row is marked for levelling in September. Langston Terrace and Church Lane are to be re-surfaced between August and September. The verge opposite The Orchard is still on schedule for September. Cllr. Ashford again reported that the current standard of grass verge cutting remains unacceptable. Following discussions and meetings with Matthew Austin and Olly Scholfield,

it was agreed that the Parish Council would look into assuming care of the village verges. The cost of the work carried out by S.D.C. would be

507

allocated to Little Compton. It was also agreed that there would be 10 cuts per season, as opposed to 6 currently delivered by S.D.C. The extra cuts would have to be subsidised by the precept, but the more residents that committed to caring for the grass outside their properties, the less cost to the precept. A notice will to be placed in the September Centrepoint explaining the proposal to residents.

16. Financial Report:

- (i) Balances at Bank: As at 15.7.14 £11,763.12 (d), and £902.92 (c). Current A/c Balance does not include outstanding cheques to the value of £364.00
- (ii) Payments to be approved were agreed on a proposal by Cllr. Rudge and seconded by Cllr. Hall.
  - Petty Cash £75.00
  - Re-imburement to Cllr. Ashford £15.00for grass cutting in Malthouse Lane.

The Responsible Financial Officer reported that the current year's VAT Return for the amount of £740.03 was submitted to HM Revenue and Customs on 17<sup>th</sup> July.

17. Planning Applications: Cllr. Rudge reported on the following applications:

- 13/00423/FUL Briar Close, London Road  
Public Inquiry to be reconvened on 23.09.2014
- 14/01392/FUL Peewit Studio Cottage  
Erection of a 2 storey extension to the rear of the dwelling following demolition of a single storey extension, erection of an open porch and dormer windows. Walls to be re-faced in natural stone.  
No objections

18. Correspondence:

- 27/6/14 Grant Thornton Confirmation of receipt of Audit Report
- 30/6/14 Robert Weeks Head of Environment & Planning – Planning Training
- 3/7/14 Alison Gregory WALC Website Update
- Craig Felts Warwickshire Rural Housing
- Alex Jarvis SDC Parish Partner Briefing
- 18/7/14 Alison Gregory WALC Community Building News

19. A.O.B. Cllr. Hall requested that another notice be placed in Centrepoint reminding dog owners of the nuisance of dog fouling in the village.

The problem of branches overhanging into the road, opposite to Langston Terrace, was raised again. Cllr. Rudge agreed to talk to the owners.

There being no other business the Meeting was declared closed at 8.01pm.

