

**Minutes of the Meeting of Little Compton Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015 following the Annual Parish Meeting**

**Present:** Cllrs. Rudge (Chairman), Ashford, Browne, Hall and Robinson, District Cllr. Gray and 5 members of the public

1. **Declarations of Interest.** There were none.
2. **Apologies for absence.** There were none.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015** were agreed to be a correct record, proposed by Cllr. Browne seconded by Cllr. Ashford and signed accordingly.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on the Agenda.** Cllr. Rudge said, regarding the overhanging shrubs at Langston Terrace, the owners of Hornbeam Cottage had agreed to cut the yew hedge. The problem with the shrubs further down Langston Terrace still had to be addressed.  
 The Parish Council had won its battle to have a postbox installed to replace the one removed from The Bank, but unfortunately it had been sited in front of the commemorative bench opposite to Red Lodge and not opposite to The Red Lion as requested. It had now been requested that the new box is moved.  
 Without permission a barrier had been erected across the footpath in Pill Lane. Warwickshire Highways Dept. had removed the barrier, but another had been erected. The Highways Dept. have agreed to take this matter further.  
 Cllr. Hall said that she had been unable to contact the Parish Clerk of Long Compton regarding the problem gate on the bridleway near Wheelbarrow Castle, but would continue to pursue the matter.
5. **Date of next Meeting.** Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015
6. **Report from District Cllr. Gray.** Cllr. Gray reported that following the forthcoming local elections, the number of District Councillors for S.D.C. would be reduced from 53 to 36 thus saving £60,000 per year in Councillor expenses. He said the Council Tax bills would be issued imminently and S.D.C. 's portion remains unchanged.  
 Cllr. Gray said that it was proposed that there would be an increase from six to nine cuts per season in the amenity grass cutting contract.  
 He said the report on the Core Strategy from the Government Planning Inspector is expected shortly and, if favourable, will carry more weight in future planning.
7. **Parliamentary and Local Council elections.** The Chairman said that notices of elections must be displayed no sooner and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March.
8. **Questions and Comments from the Public.** Mrs. Hanks said that inspecting all ash trees in the parish would involve an expert to determine the difference between Ash Dieback or other problems, She said that landowners made aware of dangerous trees have a legal duty of care to deal with the problem.
9. **Parish Emergency Plan.** This item was postponed until the next meeting.

10. Playground Report. Cllr. Robinson said he had visually inspected the playground on a regular basis and had found everything in good order. Following the Annual Safety Inspection of the Playground, half of the recommended repairs (on Playdale equipment) have now been carried out and the remainder (on A.E. Evans equipment) will be carried out in the next financial year. Cllr. Robinson agreed to contact A.E. Evans to discuss and plan the future repairs.

11. Broadband Report. Cllr. Browne gave a power point presentation. The Coventry, Solihull & Warwickshire (CSW) body originally set up Contract 1 to provide Broad Band (BB) and this will continue until mid 2016 when it finishes. Details of the rollout for Contract 1 are given in the Rolling 12-month Plan which can be viewed on:

<http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk/where-when/rolling-12-month-plan>

The areas local to Little Compton that are to receive BB are Barton on the Heath from April 2015 and Long Compton from July 2015.

Following on from this CSW has set up Contract 2 Part 1 which has now been signed with BT Openreach. Unfortunately Little Compton comes under Contract 2 Part 1 and is coloured Yellow on the Map of the areas receiving BB which is planned to commence summer 2016-2019

12. Cemetery Report. Mrs. Dorothy Harwood's ashes have been interred in the grave of her mother, Mrs. Rose Stock. Written permission was sort from two family members. A request has been received to bury Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) Nicholson who had formerly resided in Little Compton for many years.

13. Footpaths and Bridleways Report. This was covered in an earlier agenda item.

14. Village Maintenance Report. Cllr. Ashford reported that Langston Terrace had been resurfaced, a name sign for The Bank has been ordered and the cast iron upright pipe near to this removed. He said consultations are still ongoing regarding potential flooding issues near the lay-by on the A44.

Cllr. Ashford also referred to a bench of unknown origin opposite Post Office Row which was in a dangerous condition. It was agreed it should be removed.

#### 15. Financial:

It was agreed that Thomas Fox Landscaping and Maintenance be awarded the contracts for village verge and cemetery maintenance for the financial year 2015/16 as tendered.

(i) Balances at Bank: c/a £2,273.75  
d/a £10,268.42

(ii) On a proposal by Cllr. Hall and seconded by Cllr. Ashford the following items of expenditure were approved:

Petty cash £20.00

Payment of cemetery maintenance and village verge cutting for the financial year 2015/16 not exceeding the accepted tenders of £1,826.00 + VAT (cemetery maintenance) and £2,000.00+ VAT (verge cutting).

16. Planning Applications. Cllr. Rudge reported on the following:

15/00150/FUL	4 Poole Close Single Storey rear extension	Granted
15/00332/FUL	Washbrook House Rebuild a section of wall	No objections
13/00423/FUL	The Briars, London Road. The enforcement notices from S.D.C and W.O.D.C. have not been served to date.	

17. A.O.B. There was none.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05p.m.