

Minutes of the Meeting of Little Compton Parish Council held on Monday 28th January 2019, 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's Righton (Chair) Reeves, Evans, District Cllr Gray, Clerk Vicki Hanks and 3 members of the public.

1. Declarations of Interest, there were none.
2. Apologies for Absence, Cllr. Robinson.
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th October 2018, were agreed to be a true record and signed accordingly.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes not included elsewhere on the Agenda, there were none.
5. Vacancy on the Parish Council, There has been no-one coming forward so far, we will re advertise and approach the village pub about putting a notice in there. It was suggested we should put it as a separate leaflet in the centrepoin to make sure it is seen.
6. Dates of next Meeting: Monday 18th March 2019 – Annual Parish Meeting
7. Reports from District Cllr. Gray and County Cllr. Barker. Cllr. Gray reported on the District council elections, as there is no competition for the positions on our parish council there will be no election here and therefore no fee to pay. The district council has set it's draft budget which is out for consultation at the moment, and it is to be approved by the end of February. The rise in Council Tax for the district council element is 1.5%.
8. Questions and Comments from the public, Mrs Crump asked if the parish council are aware that the last 3 council properties that have become available in the village have been sold off to private buyers. When she enquired about the bungalow which is available in Deerhurst Close she was led to believe she could bid for it through the council bidding system only to find out later that it is up for auction in London early in February. Village people are disappointed and feeling very strongly that this is wrong and unfair, but Cllr. Reeves has looked into it and been told that they are perfectly within their rights to sell their houses and to whom they like. Cllr. Gray confirmed that although the district council have pleaded with them they are holding fast and selling. The newer houses have a clause "section 106" to protect them from being sold but the older houses sold by the council to Orbit possibly don't have this protection. It will be looked into regarding any covenants attached to the council/social houses with in the village.
9. Playground Report, Cllr. Righton reported that the playground has been visually inspected and all seems to be in order. There was an inspection by the playground Inspection Company and we are waiting on a report from that.
10. Village Maintenance Report, flood prevention was looked into and Mr John Hall was employed to clear some of the ditches. The path by the manor that has been damaged by tree roots has been marked but no work done as yet.

11. Cemetery Report, all seems well in the Cemetery, there are still the trees that need looking at following the tree report.

12. Footpaths and Bridleways Report, All seem well for the time of year.

13. Financial: Draft Budget and Precept for 2019/20, The RFO reported on the budget with the precept amount suggested at £6000. A resolution to accept the budget for 2019/20 was proposed by Cllr. Evans seconded by Cllr. Righton

Tenders: Cemetery maintenance and Village grass verges, there was a disappointing response to the tenders this year with only one response which came from Thomas Fox, as all are happy with the work they do it was agreed for the clerk to accept their tender.

Expenditure for Approval: John Hall Clearing Ditches – Retrospectively
RBL – Wreath for Armistice Day - Retrospectively
Petty Cash - £50.00

On a proposal by Cllr. Reeves seconded by Cllr. Evans the above items of expenditure were approved.

14. Planning Applications, there were none.

15. A.O.B. Cllr. Reeves has been asked by some villagers if the Parish Council have a printer for use by the people of the village. The Clerk confirmed that there had been one which had been stored with Mrs Rudge up until she resigned from the council, at which time it was passed onto the clerk, who found it to be unusable after its numerous years of being in storage.

Cllr. Reeves has asked the builders at Langston Farm to move the signs further around the bend to give extra warning of them working and using the entrance on the bend. Cllr. Evans suggested that closer to the end of the work it should be suggested they make good the damage to the verges outside that are being damaged by the large vehicles using the entrance.

Clerk Vicki Hanks mentioned that her car had been written off earlier in the week in an accident on the bend at the top of Oakham hill, having been hit by a driver from London who's sat nav brought her that way to Reed Business College. Fine on normal days but in icy conditions the road is lethal. As we are never likely to get the grit lorries to go up the hill but maybe it would be wise to get some signs up suggesting the road is liable to ice in cold conditions.

Mrs Crump again mentioned the deliveries being taken to Chapel Row, instead of Hop and Barley Cottage. The Home owners have been asked in the past to put signs up for their houses or to give directions when ordering, but it still seems to be a problem. Cllr. Righton suggested we write to them about this, and also look into getting signs at the end of Chapel Row to say no access to Hop and Barley Cottages.

With no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm