

COMPTONS TOLLER AND WYNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on

Thursday 6th May 2021

7pm via Zoom

Present: Councillors:

Charles Sclater (Chairman)(CS)

Jeremy Russell (JR)

John Wynford (JW)

Ashley Stewart (AS)

Vacancy (Wynford Eagle)

Officer: Ms Amanda Hart (Clerk)

Dorset Councillor: Anthony Alford (AA)

Members of the Public: None

21/05-1 Election of Chair and sign of acceptance of office. CS was happy to accept the position of Chairman for another year

Proposed JR

Seconded AS

21/05-2 Election of Vice Chair and sign acceptance of office. AS was happy to accept.

Proposed JR

Seconded ES

21/05-3 To receive apologies for absence. N Amor (NA) S Simpson (SS)

21/05-4 To receive any declarations of interest or grants of dispensation- None

21/05-5 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting held on 21st January 2021. CS asked the Clerk to provide him with a hard copy for him to sign off too.

Proposed CS

Seconded AS

21/05-6 Matters arising for information only

- i) CS announced that The Clerk is leaving the PC due to too many commitments. CS said thank you to the Clerk and Michele Harding and added that the PC is in a considerably better place than it was 18 months ago. The website is nearly up to speed. The Clerk mentioned MH had been a brilliant and invaluable help. CS asked that the Clerk complete her weeks' notice and that maybe MH may come back to caretake the role whilst they find someone else. CS asked if anyone knows of anyone please advise. CS asked AA to let him know if he were to hear of anyone too. CS will ask MH if she would become the locum, she was before. CS said it would be a question of what to pay MH as a locum and that you have to pay for good quality. CS said they need an 8th member to join the PC to put them in a good position again. They can account themselves to their electorate now, and be seen to engage with their parishioners who will then hopefully have more input too. It needs more than 7 Councillors to make the 4 meetings a year work.
- ii) JW mentioned that on the Agenda for this meeting the email address is wrong and needs amending. The Clerk confirmed that she will amend.

COMPTONS TOLLER AND WYNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

iii) CS asked AA if he would like to speak. AA hadn't brought his own report as he doesn't do this for Parish Council meetings now as the Council is providing a lot more information to PC's than it ever used to do so you should be receiving updates on what the Council is doing. The last year has been Covid year and it has been an immense task for them looking after vulnerable people and working with the charitable sector so working relationships including health services had improved considerably. It is still a new council and working hard to reorganise as a single unitary council and policies. There is a lot more work to do on the Council Plan which will carry on to 2023.

CS thanked AA and said that the information they received by email had certainly helped re the Covid front and anything else that affects the rural parishes such as highways etc and it seemed that everything works seamlessly from the Parish standpoint but in the greater towns it was not as simple as it might appear. AA doesn't have a town council that he relates to but clearly, they see the world differently from rural parishes. AA says when there is news that the Council may be interested in, he will pass it on asap rather than wait for meetings such as this one.

iv) CS mentioned his annual report that had been circulated to the Councillors and again thanked MH and AH for their work.

v) CS mentioned that he had received a letter of complaint about the Parish Council website from a resident of West Compton which he needed to address. CS said the author of the letter was dead set on using the tools we have in the PC possession in order to contact all the Parishioners, but the Clerk confirmed that this is against the Data Protection laws and all the new approved information from this meeting will be available on the website when it is updated. The general feeling from the Councillors is that they had all seen a copy of the letter and felt that it was not helpful to receive criticism when they are doing the best they can as volunteers for the Parish Council whilst also juggling heavy workloads themselves.

vi) Broadband - NA had sent an email in his absence saying he is still pursuing it. Further confusion had arisen about who should be included in the Joint Fibre Community Application with respect to Higher Wynford, who have apparently been offered optic fibre at nil cost. This is due to there being a green cabinet at Higher Wynford House that NA was not aware of. AS had been copied in the correspondence. JW said that when he got Broadband to WE arranged it transpired that only JW's household got FTTP, the rest were not interested and didn't take it up. 4 of those houses do have businesses running from them but still were not interested.

21/05-7 Democratic Forum- none

21/05-8 Finance

The Clerk confirmed that the end of year figures have been internally audited by Michele Harding. CS asked The Clerk to send him a full copy of the bank rec for the file.

COMPTONS TOLLER AND WYNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

- i. **To approve the certificate of exemption 2020-21**
Proposed CS Secoded JR
- ii. **To approve the Annual Return Section 1 2020-21**
Proposed CS Secoded AS
- iii. **To approve The Annual Return Section 2 2020-21**
Proposed JR Secoded ES
- iv. **To approve all payments and receipts**
Proposed AS Secoded JR

21/05-9 To reaffirm the standing orders and financial regulations

It was agreed that these updated versions will be put on the CTWPC website.

Proposed CS Secoded JR

21/05-10 To approve the GDPR policies and procedures

The Clerk asked MH if the PC had to elect a DPO (Data Protection Officer). Normally it would be the Clerk's job or an independent person from the Councillors. CS said they must have a DPO going forward.

Proposed AS Secoded ES

21/05-11 To approve the Grievance and Disciplinary policies

CS said that any Clerk that works for the PC going forward will need to know about these policies and how they relate to anyone that the PC might employ with regard to third party jobs in the future.

Proposed CS Secoded AS

The Clerk mentioned additionally there were 2 more policies to approve;

- i) **Health of Safety** - CS thinks this would need re-visiting if they take on contractors. The Clerk mentioned that it may also be relevant when the PC has meetings in person and the Assembly of the Public. CS said they need to ask the Village Hall about their Safety Policy too.

Proposed CS Secoded AS

- ii) **Scheme of Delegation to the Parish Clerk**

CS said that for any Clerk replacement this needs to be highlighted to them.

Proposed CS Secoded JR

21/05-12 To Confirm Roles and Responsibilities of Cllrs

CS said there are far more roles than they have had before which need addressing. ES confirmed that she is happy for NA to continue with the role of DAPTC rep. Rights of Way are CS and SS.

21/05-13 To Confirm Meeting dates for the coming year

Thursday 2nd September 2021 19.00

Thursday 4th November 2021 19.00

Thursday 3rd February 2022 19.00

COMPTONS TOLLER AND WYNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 5th May 2022

19.00

21/05-14 To Consider Any Planning Applications or Planning Matters -None

21/05-15 To Consider any Highways or Rights of Way Matters

CS was pleased to say that they have two new fingerposts at Compton Valence but he didn't think they were on the list of roads to be upgraded in any form, so if there were potholes just follow the procedure and send the report back to the Council.

JW said that in WE the bridge is being strengthened but the road can remain open. They have been doing a really good job.

CS said they should address the West Compton speeding issue. AS said it's a narrow country lane and anyone doing 30 mph down there is driving too quickly but generally people don't. AS doesn't think there is a solution. NA is sending a survey on what the views are from the Parish. AS did his own poll and said the general opinion is it's an unnecessary issue. CS has said from the beginning that anything this Council decides to spend money on must have the majority of the West Compton Parish supporting it so need to keep abreast of the situation and not spend money unnecessarily.

21/05-16 To consider any correspondences received and previously circulated (see list)

CS wanted to address the emails from Mr Chris Loder regarding Dorset becoming a National Park. CS gathered the majority of the PC are against it as they feel they have enough restrictions and finance available from the AONB. JR agreed, the restrictions would be greater and more finance available but wouldn't do much for villages and local village planning. CS said it would just encourage more people to come down and put pressure on services we haven't already got. CS advised that they don't send any response as yet until things have moved further along. JR asked if Dorset Council as a whole had an overriding opinion on it. CS said they will need to lobby AA to represent their views.

Proposed CS

Seconded AS

21/05-17 Dates and Items for next meeting - already agreed

Meeting finished at 20.01