

COMPTON DANDO PARISH COUNCIL

Serving: Burnett, Chewton Keynsham, Compton Dando, Queen Charlton and Woollard (East)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON 19 MAY 2015 AT 7.30PM IN COMPTON DANDO PARISH HALL

PRESENT: CLLRs T MITCHELL (CHAIR) (TM), P PAGET (VICE-CHAIR) (PP), H MAGGS (HD), C WILLOWS (CW), S DAVIS (WARD CLLR), S SMITH (CLERK) AND 2 PARISHIONERS

		ACTION
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: DAWN DRURY	
2	TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEETING HELD 21 MAY 2014: The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 May 2014 were agreed as an accurate record by all those present.	
3	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: DD needs to be added as a signatory for the Millennium Green Account. John Dottridge (JD) reported that he has received the invoice for the rental of the Millennium Green grass area, owned by the church and rented to Compton Dando for the village to use. A new signatory form is to be submitted.	Clerk
4	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: This was read out by the Chairman (appended)	
5	REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR SALLY DAVIES: This was read out by SD (appended). The Chairman (TM) proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Davies for all her help and support which was seconded by PP and supported by all Members of the Council.	
6	PARISH HALL/MILLENNIUM GREEN: The Chairman of the Parish Hall committee (JD) read out his report (appended).	
7	PRESENTATION OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR 2014-2015: The Clerk presented the accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 (appended). The accounts had previously been approved at the March 2015 meeting.	
8	NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT: (appended)	
9	ANNUAL PARISH PLAN UPDATE: There was no update.	
10	ANY OTHER BUSINESS:	
11	THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.55PM	

Compton Dando Parish Council Chairman's Report 19th May 2015

For many of you I expect the Parish Council's work is invisible, unless you happen to have a planning application in the works. Planning applications come to us for our feedback, and this year we have had a number of appeals and enforcements as well as applications to deal with (the unauthorized gypsy site in Queen Charlton, a log cabin in Woollard Lane, representations to both BANES and the government inspector on the proposals for new housing around Keynsham, to name but a few). We have also represented the parish in BANES consultations on the Core Strategy, Placemaking Plans, 20mph speed limits and broadband provision. The new developments around Keynsham will be a challenge to our villages and to the Parish Council, not least because of the new traffic we can expect.

Then there's the day-to-day concerns - street lighting, potholes, flooding, road surfacing, footpaths— some of which we manage directly, some of which we report to BANES to encourage action on their part (for example, the upheaval following trench laying for cabling this year).

We are Trustees for the Parish Hall: since the floods in November 2012 we've worked together with hall committee members and parishioners to find the best way forward for the hall. After unsuccessful Lottery applications to rebuild the Hall, the work to refurbish the hall and to improve its flood resilience has now been carried out, using the insurance payout and the hall's own reserves, and it remains a resource of which the parish can be proud. We have been investigating both charity registration and the best form of Trustee structure for the hall. We owe a debt of thanks to the Hall Committee members who give so generously of their time and energy in order to manage hall affairs and keep it flourishing.

This year we again held annual meetings in each of the villages to share information and raise local concerns: their outcomes will be carried onto council meeting agendas in the forthcoming year. We decided not to follow the Parish Plan with a new Neighbourhood Plan: though valuable in setting out the Parish's goals and values, they require a lot of investment of time and money. Instead, we have completed and submitted to BANES a Placemaking Plan setting out the characteristics of Compton Dando Parish, and what we want to see preserved. A copy can be seen on our website, which also carries links to related sites, news stories, and planning application information. In June, we will have a talk before the Parish Council meeting by one of the BANES officials involved in the next steps of this strategic process, Green Space Designation and Housing Boundaries

After last year's 3.5% increase in our precept, following two years when the precept was frozen, this year we again decided to freeze. Because of increases in our costs, especially electricity and lighting, we will need to take some funds from reserves, but we still have sufficient.

After the recent election, the Parish Council will move forward with just 5 councillors at present, as Harriette Dottridge, Jim Denness and I did not stand for re-election. And we have a new councillor, Hannah Maggs. We also have a new clerk since December, Susan Smith. All in all, it has been another interesting and challenging year as will the new year, with housing and traffic high on the agenda. My thanks to all the councilors, our District Councillor, our Parish Clerk, and the Hall Committee for all the hard work during the year, and to you all for your continued support and interest.

Report from B&NES Cllr. Sally Davis to Compton Dando Parish Council at the Annual Parish Meeting – 2015

I have continued to try and ensure issues relating to Compton Dando Parish Council have been addressed these include:-

Planning & Highways.

This year as in previous years I have tried to express resident's views when asked and I have been involved with residents individual planning applications & this has resulted in Officers recommendations to refuse a scheme regarding some development of already existing buildings in the Green Belt being overturned & therefore reflecting the views of the Parish Council who of course know the area well & impact these decisions will have.

The traveller's site at Queen Charlton has still not been resolved & questions continue to be asked regarding the next stage, as is the case with other enforcement issues in the Parish.

The Core Strategy is now adopted & linked to this Compton Dando Parish Council have worked hard on their place making plan which forms part of the detailed background information the Local Authority needed as part of the Core Strategy.

The state of the highways in particular continue to be of concern to residents & problems reported & followed through by your Parish Council which I thank them for.

The speed of traffic particularly through Burnett has been the focus of meeting with Highways Officers & the police & now the bus stops are completed it is easier for speed checks from the motorcyclist but I don't believe the 40mph will be reduced but I anticipate if the Police monitor the B3116 regularly word will spread & the traffic will slow down as a matter of course.

B&NES Council.

My own interest on the LA remains within the Early Years, Children & Young People's portfolio where I have continued to Chair the relevant Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel.

I have also substituted several times this year on the Development Control Committee so feel my planning knowledge is improving!

I have tried continued to keep everyone informed of what has happened in B&NES through my newsletter and respond to points raised as a result of them, I have to say I am delighted some residents within the Ward have used these letters as a forum for contacting me on various points but please feel free to contact me anytime if you think I can help you or should do something about an issue in the Parish which is causing concern to residents.

I would particularly like to thank all retiring Parish Councillors for their support but Trudie needs a special mention as she has guided the Parish Council through some difficult times when they have been without a Clerk & I wish the new Parish Council well, they have a hard act to follow!

Sally Davis May 2015

Annual General Meeting

19th May 2015

Chairman's Address

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen.

It has been an eventful year for the Hall that commenced with the departure of the chairman John Lee when he and Vivienne moved to Dorset. John served for many years as chairman and I am sure you will all join me in thanking him for his unstinting efforts on our behalf.

John was especially hard working in producing a bid for a National Lottery grant with which to fund the rebuilding of the Hall after its flooding and, although that application proved unsuccessful, it did act as a guide as to how we should spend the cash resulting from our insurance claim.

So, these plans in mind and under the generous stewardship of Councillor Andy Dawes, the Hall was closed for the month of January and work was carried out to replace the floor and kitchen which had both been damaged by the flood.

Had the bid for a National Lottery grant been successful, we would have rebuilt the hall to prevent future flooding but, in the event, we have refitted it in a manner that will minimise both future flooding and the effect of any flood and, importantly, make any necessary recovery more simple.

Various improvements were made as we refitted the Hall, including improving wheelchair access, this courtesy of a Parish Council grant for which we are extremely grateful.

I have already singled out Andy Dawes for thanks and I should add Lorraine Fox, our hall manager, for her forbearance as she struggled to return the Hall to her usual immaculate standard only to find all her efforts undone as yet another trade covered all the surfaces in dust! At the risk of offending others, I would also like to add Ben Wall to my list of those deserving thanks as he, almost single-handedly, kept the large trash grating in the wood clear of debris: keeping our first line of flood defence working effectively.

The Hall made a deficit last year as we lost income due to our closure and spent on all our various flood repairs but we are confident that our much improved Hall will enjoy more bookings in future to remedy this situation but, as with all voluntary organisations, we are in urgent need of fresh blood on the committee and would urge anyone interested to contact us with a view to joining. We also need more members of the 49 Club, an important part of fund raising for the Hall, numbers having fallen as participants depart the parish. Membership forms are being distributed to encourage membership.

Finally, I would like to thank all of committee members for their efforts but, especially, Pam Cole for ten years hard labour. She is resigning the Treasurer's duties as of this meeting but staying on the committee in the immediate future to ensure a smooth hand over to her successor. So, thank you one and all.

John Dottridge

Financial Report**Date****31/03/2015**

	Net	Vat	Gross	Budget	Variance	%Variance
Clerk's Salary	1329.89	0.00	1329.89	2380	-1050.11	-44.12%
Clerk's Expenses	99.20	0.00	99.20	155	-55.80	-36.00%
Clerk's PAYE	136.80	0.00	136.80	595	-458.20	-77.01%
Audit Fees	280.00	56.00	336.00	300	36.00	12.00%
Donation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	
Grants	150.00	0.00	150.00	0	150.00	
Grass Cutting	540.00	0.00	540.00	650	-110.00	-16.92%
Hall Hire	186.00	0.00	186.00	180	6.00	3.33%
Hall Refurb	21836.84	4054.35	25891.19	0	25891.19	
ICO	70.00	0.00	70.00	35	35.00	100.00%
Insurance	1077.06	0.00	1077.06	1205	-127.94	-10.62%
Memberships and Subs	334.11	0.00	334.11	255	79.11	31.02%
Notice boards	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	
Mobile Top Up	40.00	0.00	40.00	0	40.00	
Postage	3.72	0.00	3.72	21	-17.28	-82.29%
Office Supplies	83.11	0.00	83.11	31	52.11	168.10%
Parish Hall Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	
Street Light Electricity	518.61	25.74	544.35	674	-129.65	-19.24%
Street Light Maintenance	281.23	40.17	321.40	390	-68.60	-17.59%
Training	15.00	0.00	15.00	100	-85.00	-85.00%
Website	214.00	0.00	214.00	105	109.00	103.81%

Annual Return

	Year Ending			
	31-Mar-14	31-Mar-15	Variance	% Variance Explanation required
1 Balances brought forward	8683	34078		
2 (+) Annual precept	7000	7011		11 0%
3				
(+)Total other receipts	27000	290	-26710	-99% YES
4 (-)Staff Costs	2843	1566	-1277	-45% YES
5				
(-)Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	0	
6				
(-) All other payments	5763	29806	24043	417% YES
7 (=) Balances brought forward	34078	10006		
8 Total Cash and short term investments	34078	10006		
9 Total fixed assets plus other long term investments and assets	245420	245420		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0		

Annual Report

Compton Dando and Woollard Neighbourhood Watch 2015

2014/15 has been another fairly quiet year. We had a series of car and garage break-ins one night in Vicarage Lane in February. The sum total of what was ultimately taken appears to be two sat-navs (one broken) and a drill. However, a lot of damage was done to three vehicles and a number of garage doors. Residents have increased the security of their garages and everyone can be commended for not leaving valuables in their cars. Since then a number of people reported door-to-door fundraisers from RSPCA on 18th May. Although they were bona fide we are doing what we can to discourage any door-to-door callers and everyone has been asked to say that they do not make financial transactions on the doorstep.

In February we ran the usual village clean-up followed by a soup lunch. About 20 people helped and lunch costs were covered by donations on the day with a small profit passed to the CDCA. Thanks to all who helped and who continue to keep our roads and lanes clear of rubbish. Thanks also to residents who help with their tractors and 4x4s dropping people off and collecting bags during the day. We were all very saddened by the sudden death of Peter Middleton only four days later. He had always supported village activities and had been there, in his landrover, helping on the Clean-up as usual.

Flytipping continues to be a problem. We have Dave Ford who walks the lanes clearing, tidying and reporting flytipping and obstructions to me so that I can pass them on to Council Connect. They, in their turn, clear things pretty quickly and we hope this teamwork will continue, despite a slight decline in Dave's health. If you see cans hung on hedges then Dave has been there and you should collect and recycle the cans if you can, please. (Hanging them prevents the slugs getting in and becoming very smelly!).

Traffic down Peppershells is a problem, both volume and speed. Locals know the lane and use it cautiously. However, when there are blocked roads (eg, A37 Pensford) due to accidents it is used as a detour. There are fears that when the new houses are built in Charlton Road both this and Redlynch Lane will become much more heavily used by people avoiding the A4 and A37.

On the police front: our local officers are based in Keynsham and our beat manager, PC Sam Kayser, aware of our local problems. We also have several PCSOs in Keynsham. Don't forget that the non-urgent number to contact the police is 101.

We have a neighbourhood watch in each of the villages in the Parish and continue to get messages about local issues from the police.

We live in a beautiful area and many of us work hard to keep it that way. Neighbourhood Watch helps alongside all the other local volunteer organisations.