

# COMPTON DANDO PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: D Drury (Chair), P Paget (PP), A Dawes (AD), T Butler (TB), H Maggs (HM), B ter Haar (BT), T Bartlett (TBt) + 1 member of the public

## Notes on the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Compton Dando

Held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

1. **Apologies for absence:** None.
2. **To receive the notes of the previous annual meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – minutes were not produced as they do not belong to the Parish Council, so cannot be approved by the Parish Council**

Received and noted.

3. **Matters arising**

None.

4. **Chairman's report (appended)**

Received and noted.

5. **Parish Hall report (appended)**

Received and noted.

6. **Presentation of the 2022 to 2023 accounts (appended)**

The Clerk reported that the accounts were currently with the internal auditor and therefore could be subject to change.

7. **Annual neighbourhood watch report**

Thanks were given to Sarah Wilson for her hard work as the NHW representative.

There has not been a report this year.

8. **Summary of issues raised at the village meetings (appended)**

Received and noted. Individual items will be dealt with throughout the year at Parish Council meetings.

## Chairman's Report cited at every village meeting

Thank you for so many of you joining this annual Parish village meeting, it is lovely to see you. As we go into Spring, our minds are set on the forthcoming elections in May, an important time for the Council as we see some Councillors leave us and others join. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, Election nomination forms will be available to download from the B&NES website Elections Page from 21<sup>st</sup> March together with full details on how to complete the paperwork. Completed Nomination Forms need to be delivered to the Guildhall Bath by 4.00 p.m. on the 4th April 2023

For those of you who have not attended an Annual Parish meeting previously, I will just explain about this meeting and format of our Parish Council meetings and for those of you that have heard this before, I apologise.

A Local Council must hold an Annual Parish Meeting between March and June (May in Compton Dando). The Parish Meeting is a meeting of the parishioners (anyone on the electoral register of the Parish). Because our parish includes several villages, which may have differences in their points of interest, we also hold meetings in each of the five villages in March to collect their opinions. A summary of these will be added to the minutes recorded for the Annual Meeting of the Parish in May. The Parish Council will take note of the Parishioners' wishes expressed in these meetings and take matters forward to the full Parish Council to be discussed further and if required these matters will be acted upon. Items must be placed as an item on the agenda of the monthly Parish Council meeting in order that they can be discussed. Any parishioner can come along to a Parish Council meeting, and they can speak for 3 minutes before the meeting opens, on whatever they wish to bring to our notice. Minutes of the Parish Council meetings are available to all parishioners who would like to see what is discussed and what decisions are reached. These are available on village notice boards, from the Parish Clerk, or on the parish council website ([www.comptondando-parishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.comptondando-parishcouncil.org.uk)). Meetings may also now be filmed or recorded in line with the protocol on the website.

Throughout the year we have several standing items which we oversee. These include:

1. Planning matters (applications, appeals, enforcements): planning applications are considered by the Parish Council before they are decided by BANES. We discuss our recommendation (we can support, object, or make comments). The recommendations are based on our understanding of the local environment and planning policies, not on personal preferences. In the past year, the Parish Council has considered 20 planning applications (the exact same amount as the previous year).

There are several planning enforcement matters that are still being investigated by Bath and North East Somerset Council.

2. The Parish Council has reported to the BANES Council (through Council Fix My Street B&NES) local issues such as potholes, fly tipping, flooding, water leaks, blocked drains & gulleys, damage to verges and damaged road signage. The Parish Clerk monitors the action or progress of these reported matters. Members of the Parish may also report problems via Fix My Street B&NES. They can also check that matters have been reported and follow the progress of a reported problem via this platform. In respect of fly tipping a concern for our Parishes figures have fallen extensively to 782 tonnes compared to 1917 in the previous year.
3. As Trustees of the Parish Hall the Councillors attend regular meetings with members of the Parish Hall Committee to ensure all that is well.
4. Our Parish Precept is used by the Parish Council to pay for local services including: -

Streetlighting, grass cutting, maintenance and running of the Parish Council website and the services of a Parish Clerk.

We have also used some of the Precept for essential training for Councillors.

This year, the Parish Council voted to increase the precept from £13,615.35 to £14,318.48 (5%). This increase was felt necessary due to cover increases in our costs and to assist with the maintenance of the Parish assets. The Small Authorities Audit Appointments Authority (SAAA) have recently appointed new auditors for 2022-2023 to 2026-2027 to the Parish Council these are BDO.

### **B&NES Council budget 2023/24 was considered at their February meeting.**

Due to increasing demand for services and rising costs caused by inflationary pressures B&NES Council have increased their share of Council Tax in 2023 to 2024 by 4.99%, including 2% ringfenced for Adult Social Care.

This means the Bath & North East Somerset Council element of the Council Tax for a band D property for 2023 to 2024 is £1,653.90, an increase of £78.60, or £1.51 per week.

With precepts added for the Police and Crime Commissioner, Avon Fire Authority and parishes, the average total Council Tax for a Band D property in 2023 to 2024 is £2,052.09.

The Parish Council will be again awarding s137 grants. Applications in the past have been awarding funding for numerous good community projects.

Some of the issues that the Parish Council have dealt with include: -

1. The Parish Council is still supporting the PCAA in legal challenge against Bristol Airports appeal to expand.
2. The village of Queen Charlton in our Parish was selected for the B&NES Liveable Neighbourhoods programme. This is one of four proposals for through-traffic restrictions across Bath and North East Somerset being piloted ahead of wider improvements under the community-led LN programme.

The LN programme aims to improve health and wellbeing through safer, quieter residential streets and rural roads with better spaces for walking, wheeling and meeting others outside.

3. Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) for Park Copse (Bluebell Wood) Compton Dando is still being worked on and an Appeal is being launched after the Parish Council recently received notice that an Order was not to be made.
4. The Parish Council is part of a collective of other local Parish Councils looking at rural transport issues.
5. In the past year, the Parish Council have produced new and reviewed existing policies in order to keep compliant with regulations.
6. The Parish Council has responded to numerous B&NES and WECA consultations throughout the year and has given its views on the B&NES Partial Local Plan Review and will continue to work closely with the Local Production with the new Local Plan. The Local Plan will establish the planning framework for the district up to 2042. It will contain a vision, strategy and policies to guide and manage how the district grows and changes over the next 20 years, and how planning applications for new development are decided.
7. Finally, the Parish Council would like to thank Sue for her service as Clerk to the Parish Council.

Thank you for your time and for listening to this Parish Council report and we would welcome any questions that you may have.

**Compton Dando Parish Hall**  
**Chairman's address**  
**2022 / 2023**

The dominant feature of the last two Chairman's Reports was, of course, the negative impact of Covid on our activities. This last twelve months has been mercifully free of such difficulty.

It is not surprising, then, that bookings have increased significantly with more private parties, more functions and more exercise classes. Our table tennis players are most enthusiastic and the Compton Dando Community Association's coffee mornings are a wonderful source of community cohesiveness as well as a means of offering visitors a glimpse of village life. Indeed, one new family in the village decided to buy here after enjoying the hospitality of a coffee morning.

As ever, thanks is due to members of the Hall Management Committee who have worked long and hard to maintain and ensure the smooth running of the Hall but this is very much supplemented by other members of the wider parish; particularly those who serve on the "flood watch" rota and others who help out on a regular basis.

Our hirers agree that expenditure on re-hanging all the curtains was money well spent. It has turned out to be the only major non-routine expenditure of the year. We do continue to review all possible improvements, particularly those that would make the building more energy efficient but, with our still relatively new boiler proving to be so economical, there seems little that needs doing at the moment.

I will close this report with thanks to our cleaning team: they were flexible and understanding during the peculiar difficulties of Covid and are industrious and adaptable as our bookings increase. They are very much appreciated and the frequent compliments we receive about the cleanliness and welcome of the Hall bears testimony to this.

John Dottridge  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

## Presentation of the Accounts for year ending 31 March 2023

### Bank reconciliation

This reconciliation should include all bank and building society accounts, including short term investment accounts. It **must** agree to Box 8 in the column headed "Year ending 31 March 20XX" in the Accounting Statements of the Council. It must also agree to Box 7 where the accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. Please complete the reconciliation remembering that un-presented cheques should be entered as negative figures.

Name of smaller authority: **Compton Dando Parish Council**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): **Bath & NE Somerset**

Financial year ending 31 March 2023

Prepared by (Name and Role): **Susan Smith Clerk/RFO**

Date: **15/04/2023**

	£	£
<b>Balance per bank statements as at 31/3/23:</b>		
<b>current ac</b>	<b>13,608.0</b>	
		13,608.0
Petty cash float (if applicable)		-
Less: any un-presented cheques as at 31/3/23 (enter these as negative numbers)		
<b>item 1</b>	<b>(9.00)</b>	
<b>item 2</b>	<b>(46.95)</b>	
<b>item 3</b>	<b>(50.00)</b>	
<b>item 4</b>	<b>(9.00)</b>	
<b>item 5</b>	<b>(742.24)</b>	
[add more lines if necessary]		
		<b>(857.19)</b>
<b>Net balances as at 31/3/23</b>		<b><u>12,750.8</u></b>

## Annual Return 2022-23

Description	2021-22	2022-23	Difference	Variance
1. Brought Forward	7680.14	10968.78		
2. Precept	13290.72	13615.35	324.63	2.44
3. Other Receipts	2537.53	2456.16	-81.37	-3.21
4. Staff Costs	5664.65	6210.14	545.49	9.63
5. Loan Repayments	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6. Other Payments	6874.96	8079.31	1204.35	17.52
7. Carried Forward	10968.78	12750.84		

Variations over 15% require an explanation:

**6. Other payments** exceeded 15% because Street light maintenance increased by £595; memberships increased by £163; salary increased by £314. This is now a variance of 1.92%

### **Summary of the issues raised at the village meetings**

#### **Burnett**

- A request was made that the Parish Council should request that BANES uses brownfield sites instead of green field ones for solar panels installations.
- Flooding is occurring alongside Whitson Lodge due to the camber of the B3166 and the lack of drains on that side.

#### **Chewton Keynsham**

- **Redlynch Lane/Charlton Road Junction**

Concerns over the dangerous junction, particularly turning right out of Redlynch Lane - This is not on this year's work programme. Maybe next year.

Requests have been made by the Ward Councillors and the Parish Council to reduce the speed limit to 40 mph.

- **Uplands Lane**

This is still in a very poor condition and unpassable after heavy rain - the Clerk will contact BANES when photos are received from residents.

- **Resourceful Earth Site**

The site is still a mess and the enforcement period ran out on 10<sup>th</sup> March - Some work has been done to clear buildings on the area that the enforcement was applied to, and BANES seem satisfied.

The maize dump area will be cleared once it has dried out.

The spoils area may contain asbestos which could mean clearance is problematic.

- **Closure of part of the Wellsway – Rock Hill & Park Homes to the Cricket Club**

Closure is for 12 weeks commencing from the beginning of July, and may cause extra traffic through Chewton Keynsham.

- **Community Speedwatch**

This may take place if the recently changed speed limit signs prove not to be working after a period of 6 months.

### **Queen Charlton**

- A request was made for the Parish Council to support residents in applying to join the main sewerage system.
- A request for an update on the Resourceful Earth Enforcement.
- One resident commented she thought that the Parish Council should thank POKE for all their hard work.