**Minutes of a meeting of the Queen Thorne Parish Council held on Monday 7th November 2016 at Sandford Orcas Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs McBeath, Allcard, Andrews, Biddiscombe, Brewer, Dodd, Harris, Hayton, Kipling, Lowe, Street, DCC Cllr Hall and four members of the public

**1. Apologies** Cllrs Chick, Yendole

**2.** **Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda** Cllrs Harris, Dodd and Brewer declared an interest in item 4h

**3. The Minutes** The minutesof a meeting held on 5 September 2016 were accepted as a true record and signed.

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**4. Business Items arising from Meeting of 5 September 2016**

**a.**  **Nether Compton Recreational Ground** Cllr Dodd reported that local people have been enjoying the use of the facilities. It has proved difficult to obtain a satisfactory quote for replacing the fencing but a new company has been recommended. The cost is likely to be much higher than originally expected.

**b. Allotments**. Cllr Kipling handed a £56 cheque to the Clerk for rent from Trent. He is still trying to arrange hedge cutting and clearing of brambles etc., but obtaining quotes is proving difficult. The Council agreed a sum of £300 to cover the work. There are still vacant plots in Nether Compton.

**c. Speeding Cyclists in Sandford Orcas** Cllr Allcard reported that she had met Rolly Skeats and Cllr Matt Hall in the village to discuss speed reducing options. Highways will not allow rumble strips for safety reasons and the only permissible option is a SLOW sign on the surface of the road. Road width and bends mean that there is only one possible position for the sign. Highways will carry out the work in the next 4 weeks.

**d. Problem of 4x4 motorbikes and quad bikes on parish lanes**The problem has got a lot worse lately. Cllr Biddiscombe has had difficulty obtaining quotations for erecting a barrier/sign on the bridleway. Cllr Chick (not present) has offered to do the work within the set budget. The Council unanimously agreed to accept the offer.

**e.** **Campaign to challenge Mudford Development** The revised Environmental Impact Assessment from Abbey Manor Group is still awaited. The CIL hearing upheld the decision by SSDC to impose a zero-rate levy on the Mudford development land. Mudford PC is preparing a press release to inform local residents. SSDC has still not said if the proposed new town at Cartgate will affect the Mudford proposal.

**f. Land around Sandford Orcas Hall** Cllr Allcard handed a folder of documents to Cllr McBeath which will be examined by the Village Hall Committee. Report next meeting.

**g. Superfast Broadband** Now available in Sandford Orcas. Provision in Over Compton is due in 2017 with the work not yet scheduled. Residents can sign up on the Superfast Dorset website for updates. There is also a section with information on possible help with alternative methods of obtaining faster speeds.

**h. Compton House Cricket Club** The Club is likely to apply for funding from the Council at the next meeting.

**i. HGV Sign for Holwell Lane** Cllr Allcard has had a meeting with Rolly Skeats and Cllr Hall. The Council agreed to pay the estimated £400 cost to erect a new sign on the other side of the road. Cllr Hall will ask Highways to repair the broken sign on the other side of the road.

**OPEN FORUM**

Captain Bird from the CPRE expressed disappointment at the approval of the recent planning application at Sevengates in Over Compton and at the Parish Council reaction to the application.

Mr Michael Towers from Sandford Orcas told the Council of the efforts he has been making regarding mobile phone signal coverage in the parish. Oliver Letwin has been in correspondence with EE, who say that there will be a signal by 2017. Tests will be carried out later this year. Mr Towers is keen for the benefits of acquiring mobile coverage and the options for masts, to be discussed in the village before any planning applications are made. The Council was unanimously supportive of bringing mobile phone coverage to the Queen Thorne villages. Mr Towers went on to ask for Council action to resolve overgrown hedges which are impeding traffic in the village and blocked storm drains in Sandford Orcas. Councillors will write to the owners of relevant properties and the Clerk will contact WDDC about the drains.

**5 New Business**

**a. Damaged pavement in Trent** –Most of the previously reported damaged sections of pavement have been noted for repair or already repaired by Highways. A flagstone that has been replaced with tarmac is deemed unsatisfactory and the Clerk will inform Highways.

**b. Renovation of Over Compton Triangle** The Council agreed to a quotation of £390 to renovate the area. The work should be done before Christmas.

**c. New bin outside Trent Village Hall** Cllr Dodd offered to provide a wheelie bin to be emptied with the regular refuse collection. The Council decided that this would be the best solution for the problem of litter in the hall grounds.

**d. Nether Compton telephone box** BT are removing the phone service and offering the kiosk for £1. The Council agreed to pay this. Cllr Dodd will provide the details and the Clerk will arrange payment.

**e. Weston Street, Trent,** Cllrs Street and Harris had met with Paul Thatcher who agreed to road surface repairs this year, with thorough resurfacing of the area next year. The Councillors were very pleased with this response and the very prompt action taken over potholes pointed out at the same time.

**f. Maintenance of unclassified roads** Cllr Hall reported that there is no money in the County Council budget for this, although a digger may occasionally be sent to help out. The preferred option is for parish councils to arrange maintenance with local farmers. Cllr Biddiscombe described the poor state of some local unclassified roads. The Council agreed that they would provide funds for infilling with rubble and top dressing with smaller stones.

**g. Grit bin for Crossfields** The Council agreed to provide a 60 litre bin. The Clerk will order this and Cllr Dodd will install it.

**h. FMB Community Network** - see open forum

**i. Donations** The Council agreed to send £300 each to the Sherborne Voluntary Ambulance and Citizens Advice Bureau.

**j. Trent Village Hall Donations** It was decided that before any donations can be agreed, the Council must see the new lease agreement**.** The Clerk and Cllr Hayton will correspond with the EC Trust. Cllr Harris pointed out the dangerous state of some of the play equipment on the play area. The Clerk will write to the Village Hall Committee and the County Council.

**6 Financial Matters**

**a.The financial report** for the year to date having been previously circulated to Councillors was accepted.

**Payment of Invoices** approved:Clerk salary (Oct/Nov) £667 Inland Revenue PAYE £0.00, KM Dike £456, Queen Thorne Magazine £100, Clerk travel expenses £11.70, DAPTC Training £130, Clerk petty cash £100,

(£30 cash paid to Sandford Orcas Village Hall – Hire for last 3 meetings)

**b. The auditor’s report** for the annual return 2015-16 was received and approved. There were no issues.

**c. Budget review** The Council reviewed the current year’s budget and considered the budget and precept for next year. It was decided to hold a budget committee meeting to make recommendations for decision and approval at the January meeting.

**8 Correspondence** Environment Agency re Waste exemption certificate expiry in Nether Compton. The Clerk will register this. PCC thank you letters.

**9 Planning Matters**

**a** WDDC Planning Applications – For approval or decision by Parish Council

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Reference/Details | Status |
| Pretty Hayes, Trent | WD/D/16/002159 Extension | Support |
| Folly Cottage, Nether Compton | WD/D/16/001653 Reconfigure extension | No objection, Approved 01.11.16 |

WDDC Planning Applications – Awaiting decision by WDDC

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Gore Farm, Trent | WD/D/16/001543 Erection of livestock building & construction of lagoon | No objection |
| The Old School, Nether Compton | WD/D/16/000938 Demolish extension, lower terrace, replace door, windows and bell | No objection |

Applications Determined by WDDC

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| Sevengates, Over Compton | WD/D/16/000651 Outline application for agricultural dwelling | Comments, Approved 14.10.16  Size limit |
| Flamberts, Trent | WD/D/16/001550 Erect timber building for biomass fuel | No objection, Approved 12.09.16 |
| Flamberts, Trent | WD/D/16/001648 Form hole underneath timber building for biomass fuel | No objection, Approved 12.09.16 |
| Ratleigh Wood, Nether Compton | WD/D/16/001591 Erect agricultural workers dwelling with garage and remove chicken shed | No objection with a condition  Approved 13.10.16 |

Tree Applications \*for approval

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Thatched House,Nether Compton\* | WD/CA/16/001388 | Support |
| Glovers Mead, Trent\* | WD/CA/16/00375 | Support |
| Plum Orchard House, Nether Compton | WD/CA/16/00118 | No objection, |
| Woodforde Lodge, Sandford Orcas\* | WD/TP/16/00263 | No objection |

**10 Dates of Future Meetings**

* 9 Jan – Trent
* 6 March – Nether Compton
* 8 May – Sandford Orcas
* 3 July – Nether Compton
* 4 September - Trent

**11 Items for next Meeting:** Use ofholiday homes in Over Compton

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**The meeting closed at 9.25 pm**