

**Minutes of the Compton Bassett Annual Parish Meeting  
Held on Thursday 18th May 2017**

**At 6.30 pm**

**Those Present:** Cllr Szczesiak , Cllr Alberry, Cllr Barnett, Cllr Waite, Cllr Marshall,  
D. Zeitzen (Clerk)

**14 Members of the Public were present**

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and introduction by the Chair of Compton Bassett Parish Council Pete Szczesiak** – Cllr Szczesiak welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that although called by the Parish Council, the meeting does not deal with or form part of parish council business. It is a statutory requirement to hold an annual parish meeting for members of the public to express their concerns on local matters. He advised the planning appeal decision on the MRF at Lower Compton will not be announced by the planning inspectorate until after the general election on 8<sup>th</sup> June, this is standard practice in the event of a general election. Cllr Szczesiak thanked the outgoing parish councillors Dave Coward, John Reis and Dave Jackson for all their hard work and valuable contribution to the parish council.
2. **Apologies** - County Cllr Crisp, Cllr Barlow, John Reis, Mr & Mrs Creasey
3. **Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 to be approved and signed** – The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by Cllr Szczesiak
4. **The Work of Calne Area Board - Talk by Jane Vaughan, Calne Community Engagement Manager**

Jane gave a very interesting and informative talk about the Area Boards. They were set up in 2009 to deal with local issues. There are 18 in Wiltshire, based around market towns. They address issues by working with the local community. The area boards have working groups, Community Area Transport Group (CATG) aims to find solutions to issues such as road repairs – not potholes!, highway improvement schemes and road safety improvement schemes, e.g. zebra crossings – these are currently very costly. Cllr Alberry sits on CATG. Local Youth Network – this involves young peoples’ priorities and involves them in democracy. An example of this is the skate park in Calne where they formed a group and raised £12,000 funding for the park. Older peoples’ and carers’ champions – local people with knowledge of the elderly and their issues e.g. isolation. There is a Dementia Action Alliance, Section 106 working group to ensure the agreements are relative to the developments and takes into account local views and an Air Quality Group which Cllr Alberry is involved with.

**Questions from Parishioners regarding the work of Calne Area Board**

The cost of zebra crossings was highlighted, Cllr Alberry said there are 5 contractors used by Wiltshire Council. It was asked if Cllr Alberry would raise the fact that the independent works do not seem to be independently tendered at the next CATG meeting.

It was asked if the area board could have the 106 budget rather than development planning making the decisions on how the money is spent. Jane Vaughan said the area boards are being listened to and making progress.

It was asked if the painting of a zebra crossing has to be done by one of the approved Contractors, Cllr Alberry explained that highway wouldn’t under write it unless it was carried out by an approved contractor.

Jane Vaughan asked if Compton Bassett would have a representative for the young peoples Group (ages 11 -19) It was pointed out there a very few young people in the village but there was a possibility one of them may agree to the role.

Jane Vaughan said the Parish Forum, previously known as Focus on Five is a good way of communication between the parish council and the Area Board. It is held every 2 to 3 months. Compton Bassett Parish Council members on the Parish Forum are Cllr Szczesiak and Cllr Waite.

Cllr Alberry said Compton Bassett is one of only 6 areas that have a neighbourhood plan in place. One of the issues the NHP can deal with is illegal housing.

Jane Vaughan said the scheme for older peoples champions is in its infancy but progressing well and lot of work has been done by David Evans and Diane Gooch, Jane finished by saying the Our Community Matters websites have been set up for people to discuss and highlight local news, events and ideas.
5. **Traffic Safety in Compton Bassett - Presentation by Vice Chair of Compton Bassett Parish Council Peter Alberry**

**Cllr Alberry started with an update on ongoing issues in Compton Bassett the Parish Council have been involved with over the last year.**

Cllr Alberry advised the planning inspector's decision due on May 18<sup>th</sup> for Hill's planning appeal for the MRF at Lower Compton will not be announced until after the general election, this is standard practice in the event of election. Cllr Alberry is hopeful the appeal will be refused. He thanked everyone for all their hard work with the appeal. Path and verge transparency strips have been discussed, Wiltshire Council are devolving certain items but approval has to be given by Highways.

The Parish Council is to produce a newsletter for village several times a year, this will be produced by Cllr Waite.

Green Square's development at Briar Leaze will include 7 additional homes, 6 are being demolished, these will be replaced with 13, a mix of affordable and private homes.

Several items are holding up the commencement of work, 4 small agreements with property owners in Briar Leaze are not yet signed, monitoring of the bats and Section 106 agreement is not yet completed.

The item that causes the biggest moans is Broadband! There has been a significant breakthrough Nicky Alberry arranged a meeting in Chippenham for Cllr Alberry and Julian Barlow with the BT Regional Director. Julian Barlow had 3 questions raised in the House of Lords The A4 end of the village is on track for super fast broadband to be installed by the end of June 2017.

Green Square have agreed to give £30,000 towards the work at the Hilmarton end but this won't be until they start building. There is the possibility of an alternative solution which Yatesbury and Foxham are considering, however the cost of this per household makes BT the best solution.

**Traffic Safety**

Cllr Alberry said the road through Compton Bassett is classed as a 'C' road, this is the lowest of the classified roads, any repair or works to higher classification roads takes priority over work to 'C' road. The roads are maintained by the local authority, Wiltshire Council.

Cllr Alberry and Cllr Marshall will take the measurements of the potholes through the village.

Potholes have to be more than 100mm deep and 250mm wide to be classed as pothole for repair by Wiltshire Council. Cllr Alberry said Compton Bassett were lucky to have a very good relationship with the parish steward who carries out various requested works in the village. This good relationship is very largely due to Cllr Barnett who liaises with the Parish Steward. There are certain tasks the parish steward is unable to carry out, e.g. white lines and encroachments.

There was a lengthy discussion on a self help approach for the village on the repair of potholes, encroachments and overruns. Cllr Alberry is researching this and said a self help approach will be far more cost effective. Cllr Barnett said Wiltshire Council only 3 gulley clearing vehicles but the parish steward is not allowed to dig them out.

**40mph Speed Limit**

Fran Creasy has taken over as Speed Watch team leader for Compton Bassett. Robert Buttle has kindly offered his driveway for use by the Speed Watch team. Cllr Alberry said Compton Bassett now has the SID (Speed Indicator Device) and thanks to Dave Coward for all his work on arranging the installation of it. Unfortunately the batteries that came with it are defective so the parish council are in the process of purchasing a solar panel to run it.

Cllr Alberry said the transition from 60mph to 30mph is dangerous and according to national guidelines there should be a 40mph limit in place. Cllr Alberry has written a paper asking for a 40mph speed limit. Calne Area Transport Group (CATG) has no funding for this, the precept from Wiltshire Council to Compton Bassett Parish Council has been increased to cover the legal fees, 40mph speed limit and repeater signs.

Cllr Alberry explained the exact location of the 40mph area has to be reached by public consultation and forwarded to Richard Lewis at Wiltshire Council. There are 3 possible options 1) By Dugdales Farm 2) By Goodenoughs Corner and 3) from B3102,

After discussion a vote was held, 20 out of the 21 present voted for option 2. It was asked if Cllr Alberry would ask for clarification of the national guidelines at the next CATG meeting.

A priority one way system for part of the village was discussed, the problems this would cause farm machinery were brought up. A consultation would need to be carried out to find out the views of the village.

One new village sign is to go by the Breach and one by Buttles Farm. Cllr Alberry expressed thanks to Dave Coward and Angela Barlow for painting the signs.

**6. Closing words by Chair of Compton Bassett Parish Council**

Cllr Szczesiak thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He also thanked Jane Vaughan and Cllr Alberry for their informative and interesting presentations.