

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Queen Thorne Parish Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm in Sandford Orcas Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Livingstone, Biddiscombe, Carter, Chick, Gordon, Lowe, McBeath, Negus, Phillipson and Stoddart

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Hart and Symms
2. **Declarations of Interests:** Cllr Carter declared an interest in the planning application at Trenchermans.
3. **Co-option:** Emma Thomas was co-opted as a member for Nether Compton.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting on July 1st were agreed as a true record and signed
5. **Business Items arising from meeting on July 1st 2024**
  - a. **Nether Compton Recreation Ground:** Cllr Hart had reported damage to the field gate and gate post. One quote has been requested and Cllr Chick agreed to submit a second one for comparison.
  - b. **Allotments:** The clerk will write to the Ernest Cook Trust to ascertain if the allotments are the sole users of the water supply paid for by the parish council.
  - c. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The subscription to parish online has been renewed.
  - d. **Highways Issues:**
    1. **A30 road safety at the Marl Lane junction and unauthorized coach park:** Cllr Livingstone had written to Edward Morello, but has received no reply. It was agreed that the clerk should write to Dorset Highways for updates on the September speed limit reduction and public consultation.
    2. **Street sign replacement in St Michael's Close, Over Compton:** Cllr Chick will install it shortly.
    3. **Unsuitable for HGVs sign for Compton Road & Penmore Lane/Marston Road:** Dorset Highways have said the Compton Road sign is being considered in conjunction with the speed limit reduction on the A30. The clerk will write again to ask about the Penmore Lane signs.
    4. **Hummer Bridge, road repairs:** Awaiting works.
    5. **Shillers Lane, tree and retaining wall:** Dorset Council have cordoned off the wall. The work has now been passed to the Bridges Team at Highways. The clerk will write and remind Highways that this is part of the Monarch's Way.
    6. **Mill Lane, Trent:** Cllr Lowe has met with the owner of The Old Mill and Stuart Casely who farms the land on one side of the lane. He has agreed to clear the ditches and has also written to the Ernest Cook Trust about maintenance works to prevent flooding at The Old Mill. The clerk will also write to the trust to request that the other tenant farmer should maintain hedges and ditches along the other side of the lane and also revisit the work done previously in the fields behind the Old Mill, all with the aim to reduce the risk of flooding.
    7. **Damaged road sign at Crossfields, Nether Compton** The clerk will report the damage to Highways which may have been caused by a contractor cutting the verge.
  - e. **Environment:** No report
  - f. **Wessex Internet Fibre broadband connection:** Cllr Stoddart will get in touch with Mr Llewellyn for an update.
  - g. **The Swale, Sandford Orcas:** No further update.
  - h. **Drain clearing and side verging contract:** Since the last meeting Cllr Lowe had circulated a report on the programme of work and a revised quote from Dorset Highways for a reduced schedule of work, specifically on Mill Lane in Trent saving £300 and on Winter Lane in Sandford Orcas saving £200. The council agreed to the revised quote which for the first time includes some work in Nether Compton
  - i. **Tree growing in the stream in Sandford Orcas:** An application for removal has been submitted by a tree surgeon.

- j. **Exposed well at Stallen:** Dorset Council has no budget available to contribute to the renovation of the well, but the parish council does have some CIL money and materials which could be used. Cllr Chick agreed to get some quotes for the work.

**Open Forum:** RWE gave a short presentation and answered questions on the proposed solar farm at Wyke. There is currently a public consultation open until September 23<sup>rd</sup>. RWE hopes to put in a planning application at the end of the year. George Lossius reported on the solar panels and electric car charging point to be installed at Sandford Orcas Village Hall. The committee has succeeded in raising most of the costs of the project and installation will commence in the next few days. Mr Lossius requested that the £1000 agreed in last year’s parish council budget be released and that the council consider making a further grant from this year’s budget at the November meeting.

## 6. New Business

- a. **Rights of Way: DMMO application submissions; Blocked paths** It was agreed that the clerk should write to the DMMO Team at Dorset Council regarding the length of time it is taking to process the applications. Cllr Hart had earlier reported that Dave Ackerley from Dorset Council had visited a farm in Nether Compton where paths had been blocked and made clear the obligation to keep rights of way open.
- b. **Noticeboards:** The clerk reported that the new board for Over Compton has been made and is ready to be installed. The board on Spring Lane, Sandford Orcas needs new cork tiles and a coat of preservative on the frame.
- c. **BT plan to switch phone lines from analogue to digital:** The clerk reported on the advice from Dorset Council that residents without a mobile signal should inform their phone line provider.
- d. **Trees maintenance:** It was agreed that one of the trees on Western Street which was planted under another tree should be moved. Cllr Carter agreed to try and get a quote for moving the tree to a better position.
- e. **Hedge maintenance around fingerposts:** The clerk will report at the next meeting.
- f. **Stray animals:** Stray dogs in Nether Compton are still causing a nuisance, despite previous attempts to resolve the matter through the intervention of the dog warden and speaking to the owners. The council saw no further effective action that it could take.

## 7. Financial Matters

- a. **Conclusion of audit:** The previously circulated external audit report and certificate were considered and approved.
- b. **Financial Report and Payment of Invoices** The Council reviewed expenditure against budget year to date. Invoices approved for payment: Clerk salary £922.67, HMRC PAYE £0, Sandford Orcas Village Hall £25, Parish Online £48, DAPTC £40, Trent PCC £1000, Sandford Orcas PCC £1000, Over with Nether Compton PCC £2000, Water2business £152.36. £1000 grant to Sandford Orcas Hall - see open forum.  
**Payments made since last meeting approved at the meeting:** KM Dike £372, BDO (Auditors) £252  
**Receipts since last meeting:** £30 allotment rents, £2882.97 VAT refund (Duck race money expected)
- c. **Financial Regulations:** A previously circulated draft of revised financial regulations prepared by Cllrs Livingstone, Phillipson and the clerk were approved and adopted.

## 8. Planning Matters

### a. DC Planning Applications – Approved or decided by Parish Council

Name	Reference/Details	Status
Jasmine Cottage, Trent	P/HOU/2024/04543 Demolish Front Porch and Erect Sun Room with roof lights	(Cllr Stoddart declared an interest) No objection
Wren Cottage, Trent	P/HOU/2024/03668 Erect replacement single storey extension	No objection

	(demolish existing) and replace external doors	
Wren Cottage, Trent	P/HOU/2024/03669 Internal and external alterations to restore, renew and repair internally and externally	Listed building consent No objection
Trenchermans, Over Compton	P/PACD/2024/04371 Change of use from retail to 3 dwellings	Prior approval request PC not consulted
Quest, Harts Lane, Nether Compton	P/HOU/2024/04302 Demolish double garage and erect double garage with ancillary accommodation over with 2 dormer windows	No objection (Comment re size increase)

### Applications Determined by Dorset Council or awaiting decision

Sevengates Over Compton	P/FUL/2024/03269 Retain 1 No. agricultural dwelling with integral garage and 3 No. parking spaces	No further comments Granted 25.07.24
Wisteria Lodge, Bucklers Farm The Folly Nether Compton	P/PABA/2024/03229 Erect timber frame agricultural barn for storing fodder and a small tractor for maintaining the land	Applied for permitted development prior approval. PC not notified. Planning officer has recommended refusal. Withdrawn 09.07.24 Clerk will write to Planning
The Chantry Gore Farm Junction To Road Junction Below Church Farm Trent	P/LBC/2024/02958 Proposed Internal alterations	Listed building consent No comments Granted 23.07.24
Agricultural Building North of The Folly Nether Compton	P/FUL/2024/01680 Demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of dwelling with associated landscaping	Objection on grounds of the risk of flooding at the property. Withdrawn 20.08.24
Patson Hill Farm Patson Hill Lane Trent Dorset DT9 4SY	P/FUL/2023/03662 Demolish 3 No. agricultural barns and erect 3 No. agricultural buildings: a Straw Barn, Cow Barn, Machinery Shed and 1 No. Dirty Straw Bunker.	Support Pending decision
Higher Farm Compton Road Over Compton	P/FUL/2022/03668 Change of use and conversion of barns to form 3 no. dwellings. Erect agricultural building and form access (demolish existing barns)	No objection, but recommendation that careful consideration is given to the access. Pending decision Natural England report re phosphorus offsetting.

**Somerset Council:** Primrose Lane, Mudford, 14/02554/OUT, Outline application for development of Sustainable Urban Extension to comprise up to 765 dwellings, 65 bed care home, employment land (Use Class B1), retail units (Use Classes A1, A2, A3, A5), primary school, community building, health care facility, landscaping, open space and drainage infrastructure, access and associated highway works (GR 357198/118268) - Objection posted 16.03.24, QTPC is now listed as a consultee.

**9. Dates of Future Meetings: 2024:** 4 November in Nether Compton. **2025:** 6 January in Trent, 3 March in Sandford Orcas, 12 May in Nether Compton, 7 July in Trent, 1 September in Sandford Orcas, 3 November in Nether Compton.

**10. Items for next Meeting:** To be sent to the clerk. SOVH solar panels grant request.

**11. The meeting closed at 9.30 pm**

