

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017 – RECITED AT EVERY VILLAGE MEETING.

Each local council must hold an Annual Parish Meeting between March and June. 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 April. 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. 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). 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 arrange site visits to see for ourselves the proposed changes before we discuss and make 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.
2. We report to the BANES Council (through Council Connect) local issues such as potholes, fly tipping, flooding, blocked drains, damage to ancient monuments etc which we want the local authority to take action on. The Parish Clerk will monitor action or progress on these reported matters. B&NES are currently working on an online reporting system called 'Fix My Street' in the future this will mean that all reported problems to the Local Authority will be tracked with regular reports being sent to the person who reported the issue until resolved when a completion notice will be sent.
3. The Parish Council is now sole trustee for the Parish Hall in Compton Dando, the Deed has recently been updated the Parish Hall has gained charitable status.
4. We pay for local services such as street lights, grass cutting, a website, and a parish clerk from the parish precept. This year it was agreed to increase the Parish Council precept by 2% this was necessary due to an increase in our cost plus the need to keep sufficient funds in reserves to cover any unforeseen costs. We have several groups that have expressed an interest in applying for s137 grants this year and applications will be considered at the April Parish Council

meeting, which is in the Parish Council's next financial year.

Some of the bigger issues we have dealt with this year are: -

1. The Parish Council have submitted comments on the following consultations: -

BANES Placemaking Plan
The matter of Devolution.

Councillors are taking part in workshops, together with other Parish/Town Councillors and BANES officer in consider matters in respect of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Plan.

2. Following requests for 20mph for all our villages. Compton Dando now has a 20mph limit allocated for specific sections of the village, BANES are aware that other villages in the Parish wish to be considered for 20 m.ph should funding become available in the future.
3. Recently the Parish Council has reviewed their Standing Orders.
4. The Parish Council arranged the refurbishment of the lettering on the fountain stone by the Parish Hall.
5. Several of the fingerposts within the Parish were painted during a joint venture between Parish Councillors, BANES volunteer groups (made up of BANES officers) and resident volunteers. All materials supplied by BANES. Some materials have been left with the Parish Council and it is hoped that other fingerposts around the village will painted. If any one wishes to volunteer to assist with the painting of these signs the Parish Council would be very grateful.

The Parish Council is applying for Heritage lottery funding to cover the cost of repairs to a couple of the fingerposts which are damaged and also for funds some restoration repairs to the War Memorial in Compton Dando.

6. The Parish Council have purchased and arranged the installation of 5 SAT NAV signs warning HGVs and wide vehicles of narrow lanes that are unsuitable.
7. In collaboration with Whitchurch Parish Council and Keynsham Town Council a Community Infrastructure Levy Bid has been submitted to B&NES for improvements to the Whitchurch A367 junction.
8. The Parish Council and residents have assisted B&NES in putting together a Conservation Area Appraisal for the village of Queen Charlton. A consultation on this appraisal will be taking place in early June 2017