

Compton Dando Community Association Village Meeting

24 June 2020, 7.00 pm – by Zoom Minutes

1. **Attendees:** Sarah Wilson (Chair), Barend ter Haar (Secretary), Chris Dibble, Harriette Dottridge, Maureen Collings, Matt Jones, Clive and Lorna Howarth, Brian Vowles, Cheryl and Phillip Gentle
2. **Apologies for absence:** Hannah Maggs, Alison ter Haar
3. **Minutes of previous meeting 22 April 2020:** Accepted as circulated
4. **Matters arising from Minutes**
 - a. **Methodist Chapel at Tucking Mill:** No progress to report
 - b. **Bank Signatories:** No confirmation had been received to confirm receipt of the signatory update forms, but cheques being accepted with the new signatures.
 - c. **Grant applications:** The stream cutting on the green side now accepted to be PC responsibility, and on the other side by the tenants of the field, so that application has been withdrawn. The reseeding of the verge by the bridge was in discussion between PC and BANES. The installation of an electric vehicle charging point application needs more homework by Barend.
 - d. **VE day – Friday 8 May:** Alternative actions had been put in place, with ‘front garden’ tea parties
 - e. **Village books:** Barend had put his village walks proposal on hold since during lockdown the number of new walkers through the village did not warrant any more promotion of our walks. Instead he is working with Phillip, Alison, and Alice to make use of the pictures they had accumulated and shared through the spring, to create a Flora and Fauna of Compton Dando.
5. **Financial report**

The treasurer had sent her apologies and a note to say that there had been minimal activity on the account since the last meeting. The councillor’s fund cheque of £250 for ZCC had been received.
6. **Zero Carbon Compton (ZCC)**

Clive gave a presentation on behalf of the ZCC project in support of the material circulated with the agenda. There had been support in general from the village around the renewable energy concepts put forward. Also getting support from Chelwood Community project and from BWCE. Matt and Clive are now looking for funding for a Scoping and Feasibility Study, which would cost a little short of £8000. The meeting agreed in principle to allocate £1000 to this, subject to confirmation by ‘postal’ vote of the committee members not on the Zoom call. (Post meeting note: this was approved by the committee members, with two abstentions).
7. **Asset register and marquees.**

A sub-group consisting of Sarah, Harriette and Maureen agreed to update the asset register. Barend to circulate the last available version to the sub-group. Hannah had been managing the loans of the gazebos, but a parallel process had not been established for the new marquees. A year ago funding and rental processes for the marquees had been agreed by postal vote, but the outcome had not been recorded. This would be reviewed by the sub-group as well, and their recommendations reported back to the committee.

Roger Carpenter and Roger Piercey had both offered to store the marquees, but it was believed they were put into storage at Wick Farm after last year’s fete.
8. **Role of the CDCA**

Sarah thanked Alison for providing her with summary papers of all the initiatives taken by the CDCA in the past, showing how much had been done and achieved.

Sarah had talked to various people in the village with a number of key questions. She presented the results, which are summarised as follows:

 - a. **What words best describe the CDCA?** The replies included:

Meets regularly. Runs the fete? Social group? A bit of a clique? Fund raising group? Looks after fund raising for the village? Village information group? There seem to be several different groups. Runs the village amenities.
 - b. **What so we think works – would not like to lose?**
 - i. **The environment we live in** – community spirit, community support and cohesiveness

- ii. **Fund raising generally** – for Church, the Hall and the Village, Fete particularly
 - iii. **Community events** – most valued are typically those where the people with the natural enthusiasm and passion for running these events are involved, specifically: Coffee mornings, Craft days, Litter pick-up, Special interest talks, Open gardens
 - iv. **How we communicate** – generally positive (if you use them), email messaging, Facebook, website and more recently the WhatsApp groups
- c. **Are there activities/things we do we should stop?**
- i. Activities or events where there is not an enthusiastic sponsor with the passion to make it happen
 - ii. Trying to incorporate all village events under the CDCA banner
 - iii. How to reduce levels of formality, meetings are specifically perceived as too formal and are not engaging the wider audience (not everyone wants to come to a meeting but may well want to engage in other ways)
- d. **Are there activities/things we should be doing but are not currently doing?**
- i. Our constitution does not currently reflect our desire to support addressing the climate emergency
 - ii. Clearly communicate what the group is about
 - iii. Communicating with villagers who are not able to engage through digital channels
 - iv. Attracting more engagement from a broader selection of villagers, including families and children
 - v. Enabling people with a great community idea to be successful at bringing it to life
- e. **Recommendations** from Sarah as a result of her findings
- i. Find a way to make it clear that one of the benefits of living in Compton Dando is that you are automatically members of the Community Association and can engage in many different ways
 - ii. Find ways of building on the success of communications to reach more people and raise levels of engagement – more two-way communication. Open Day/drop in event. Newsletter with feedback options
 - iii. The person with the passion and energy for running with an initiative has accountability – the role of the CDCA is to help the in initiative to be successful
 - iv. Include a further aim which reflects our desire to tackle the climate emergency
 - v. Change our meeting structure. Run more as an open house, timed around major events/need with the agenda topics selected by the villagers and those taking accountability for running with an event

Barend pointed out that under (d. iii.) he distributed paper copies of CDCA items to those he was aware of as not having digital means for communication, and under (d. iv.) that Alison and Alice had run a CDCA sponsored youth group for many years for families and children, but this had ceased because attendance from the village had dried up. Barend also reminded the meeting that one of the purposes of the CDCA was to have a bank account for holding funds for and from events (such as the annual fireworks, ZCC, etc) and to provide insurance cover for the events organised by individuals.

Due to the Zoom meeting timing out there was no time for detailed discussion.

9. Dates of next meetings

September meeting date not yet set, and would be reviewed as summer progressed

22 October AGM