

Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 28th March 2022 At 7.45pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Emma Briscoe, Sam Parkes, Roly Whear and David Johnson

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk Lydia Cox and Councillor Chris Kettle (County Council)

2022_2_01: Apologies

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Payne and Carless, and District Councillor Nigel Rock and were **accepted**

2022_22_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 21st February 2022 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Whear)

2022_02_03: Declarations of Interest

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore flooding discussions

2022_02_04: Requests for Dispensation

A request has been received from Councillor Payne for dispensations regarding Aqueous and Bowls Club and from Councillor Johnson regarding the Bowls Club and councillors **approved** (For two years)

2022_02_05: Open Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance

2022_02_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- (i) Play Area Refurbishment: There were 67 responses to the play area survey. 77% of respondents want large scale improvement. Comments were that it is outdated, there is not enough variety and there needs to be a better mix for younger children and teens. Requests were made for a bike track and wooden play equipment. Next steps are to get some quotes. Clerk to ask other parish councils who they used. 16 residents also gave contact details and said they were willing to help
- (ii) Wildlife Area Update: Affected residents have been contacted regarding the proposal to re-wild the Bear & Ragged Staff green. Council will review responses

The bench has been installed at Fieldgate Lane
- (iii) Bowls Club Repairs: Councillors **approved** £250 worth of maintenance repairs before further approval is needed

2022_02_07: Correspondence

The meeting noted the following correspondence:

- Residents correspondence
 - Flooding issue emails from residents not covered by the scheme
 - Cllr Payne responded to each one and those particular residents shouldn't be included in the scheme

Councillor Johnson joined the meeting at 20.10

- Concern about retaining wall being built that may affect flooding issues in the brook
 - Councillors discussed and will firstly ask Aqueous whether they are concerned
- Concern about brightness of LED street lights if fitted
 - Clerk to check luminaire of lights in quote
- Overgrown hedge at Fieldgate Lane

Signed _____ Chair April 2022

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- **Clerk has contacted Mick Jones to cut down**
- Southam Safer Neighbourhood Team – Meeting with Clerks 29 March
- Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service
 - Advertising for more on call firefighters at Fenny Compton
- Warwickshire and Coventry councils are asking residents to share their thoughts on their local pharmacy services
 - The survey is open now and closes on **13th March** – have [your say here](#)
 - Whether you use a pharmacy or not, your opinion is important to help us understand and deliver a service that meets local needs
 - Your feedback will support the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment which will shape pharmacy services across both Coventry and Warwickshire
- New Waste Collection Service - What is the 123+ waste collection service?
 - 1 Food waste collection, every week using a food caddy (a small kitchen caddy for inside the property) and a larger food waste bin to use outside and put out for collection
 - 2 A recycling collection, every two weeks using a wheeled bin for mixed recycling
 - 3 A refuse collection, every three weeks using the existing grey wheeled bin
 - + Garden waste collection, every two weeks using the existing green wheeled bin
- Final recommendations for Stratford-on-Avon District Boundary Review
 - Stratford-on-Avon should be represented by 41 councillors, five more than there are now
 - Stratford-on-Avon should have 39 wards, three more than there are now
 - The boundaries of all but two wards should change; Brailes & Compton and Tanworth-in-Arden will stay the same
 - The commission received 138 submissions during consultation on the draft recommendations. These included district-wide comments from the Council and the Liberal Democrats. The majority of the other submissions focused on specific areas, particularly the proposals in Southam, the north-east of the district, and Alcester
 - During this consultation period, the Council expressed concern that the commission had not reflected its preference for a uniform pattern of single-member wards for the council. It subsequently passed a resolution to this effect. While they were not persuaded to change the whole premise of the review as it was drawing to a close, they extended the consultation period to allow the Council and others to provide strong evidence that would persuade them to recommend single-member wards where they had recommended two-member wards in draft recommendations
 - The commission carefully considered all the evidence received, particularly in light of the desire for single-member wards for the authority. In some areas, they have been persuaded to move away from their draft recommendations and recommend single member wards. In others, they were not persuaded that such a pattern would provide an effective balance of the statutory criteria and have therefore recommended multimember wards
 - There was opposition to the draft recommendations for a two-councillor Bishop's Itchington, Fenny Compton & Napton ward. Local residents, Bishop's Itchington Parish Council, Fenny Compton Parish Council and Napton-on-the-Hill Parish Council argued that the ward was too large, covered too many parishes and linked areas that had little in common. Two comments also criticised the proposal on the grounds that it would split Burton Dassett parish between district wards. The commission considered the possibility of dividing this ward into two. However, they were unable to identify an alternative warding option that would provide good electoral equality and avoid dividing rural parishes between wards. Having

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regard to this and the warding pattern for the wider area, they concluded there was no alternative pattern that avoids splitting parishes between wards. Furthermore, they were not persuaded that adopting such a warding pattern would reflect community identities or provide for effective and convenient local government

- Stratford-upon-Avon Town Centre Proposals – Consultation
 - Consultation is now open to give feedback on proposals for what Bridge Street, High Street and Union Street in Stratford-upon-Avon could look like in the future
 - The proposals build on ideas originally set out in Stratford’s Neighbourhood Development Plan and on the experience of the temporary measures introduced in the town centre in response to Covid-19 in 2020 to support social distancing
 - The proposals aim to improve the look and feel of the town centre, make it easier and safer for people to move around on foot or by bicycle, and encourage more people to visit and spend money in the local economy
 - You can take part in the consultation by following the link below to the online survey where you will also find further information about the proposals www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask

2022_02_08: Planning

- (i) The following applications have been received for consideration since the last meeting:

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Consultation Expiry Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
22/00569/FUL	23 Mar 2022	12 Northend Road, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YZ	Proposed single storey side extension with associated works including roof light to north-west elevation

- Between meetings councillors agreed to respond with ‘no representation’
- (ii) No decisions have been received since the last meeting
- (iii) Further Updates: 17/02362/FUL Lankett Development. Chair has emailed planning enforcement about the following issues; Residents living in some houses when still working on site, footpath not wide enough and fence too tall. Chair has not yet received a response

2022_02_09: Financial Administration

- (i) Councillors **approved** the following payments (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Whear):

MAR_22_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary and Expenses March)	£ 520.75
MAR_22_2_SO	SDC (March Pension Contribution)	£ 127.16
MAR_22_3_DD	Utility Warehouse (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	£ 11.64
MAR_22_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street lighting)	£ 333.15
MAR_22_5	WCC (Annual Street Lighting Maintenance)	£ 247.68
MAR_22_6	WaterPlus (Sports Pavilion Water)	£ 32.90
MAR_22_7	Mick Jones (Village grass cut and maintenance)	£ 600.00
Total		£ 1,873.28

- (ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and **agreed** them
- (iii) Finance updates: Clerk noted that January and February street lighting bills have not been received from npower Business. It was previously agreed that the fitting of the cricket club memorial bench would be covered by the cricket club – Clerk to bill. WaterPlus have written to say that they are moving to monthly billing

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- (iv) Clerk salary update: In line with the national update, Clerk has received a pay rise and has been back dated to April 2021
- (v) Street Lighting Maintenance Quote: Councillors **approved** the maintenance contract from WCC for 2022/23
- (vi) Street Lighting Upgrade Quotes: Clerk has checked and the Indo lighting quote did not include fitting. It has been decided that getting a separate company to fit would be too onerous and so councillors have decided to not pursue this quote. Clerk is still waiting for a quote from WCC but will seek more quotes
- (vii) Internal Auditor: Councillors **agreed** to use Trevor Gill as Internal auditor again

Councillor Kettle joined the meeting at 20.40

2022_02_10: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

Councillor Rock submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Cllr Kettle will raise the issue of the retaining wall with the flooding team at WCC

Compton Locks development – Cllr Kettle has received clarification that there will be two TRO assessments – One for the speed limit on Station road and one for within the development itself. Cllr Kettle will send a copy of this email to the council

2022_02_11: Updates

- (i) Flood Prevention – At present, 33 properties out of 52 have responded in some way to correspondence about the scheme. Of these 33, 10 are still considering whether to proceed, 18 have expressed their interest with 15 of these requiring a survey via RAB Consultants (the other 3 households have already had a survey undertaken) and 5 Homes/Residents have advised that they do not wish to continue with the scheme, one of whom has already had a survey undertaken. With a couple of exceptions contact has been made with those seen to be at higher risk. Final number will be 35-40 who have been consulted. Uptake has been a little disappointing but everyone has had an opportunity to partake
- (ii) Trees – Clerk to contact tree surgeons to proceed with the Tree survey
- (iii) Playing Field and Play Equipment – Cllr Whear has inspected the fallen fence and Councillors have **agreed** not to replace as there doesn't appear to be a need. Old fencing will be removed when skip is in place for cricket hut removal

Asbestos signs have been purchased for the sports pavilion
- (iv) Neighbourhood Development Plan – The examiner has been appointed. A letter has been received from Lagan Homes in response to NDP consultation
- (v) Allotments – No updates
- (vi) Highways – Potholes have been filled on Memorial Road. The wall that is being built on Church Street has been inspected and Highways have agreed that it is not encroaching on their land. Clerk will contact Highways to inspect the village footpaths again
- (vii) Street Lighting – 3 Dog Lane street light quote still outstanding
- (viii) Traffic – No further updates on speed watch
- (ix) Future Strategy – A meeting was held on 16th March to determine the questions that need to be asked of wider community groups. Chair has summarised and circulated to councillors to get feedback. Next steps are to agree meeting dates for wider involvement

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- (x) Latest Code of Conduct – Councillors previously adopted the code of conduct but as it has now been through the necessary approval channels at SDC it will now be put on the website

2022_02_12: Items to Publicise

- (i) Playground survey responses
- (ii) Wildlife area responses
- (iii) Lankett footpath
- (iv) Speed limit updates

2022_02_13: Future Discussion

2021/22 Year End, Fixed asset register, Audit and AGAR

2022_02_14: Date of next meeting

The next meeting planned is an Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 25th April

MEETING CLOSED 21.15

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Appendix A

February Financial Administration

Balances: (See attached bank reconciliation)		£
Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	2,395.56	
WCC Flood Attenuation Grant	-	
Over 8's Play Area	604.23	
NP Plan Projects	1,397.83	
Allotments	250.00	
Defibrillator	2,021.38	
Other	0.09	
30 Day Notice (Allocated Reserves)		8,804.91
Cotters Croft	5,242.68	
PC Balance	4,757.32	
12 Month Partial Withdrawal (High interest deposit):		10,000.00
Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)		15,387.59
Current Account		5,629.43
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)		<u>39,821.94</u>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)		
Lydia Cox (Mar Salary & Expenses)	(520.75)	
SDC (Pension contribution Mar)	(127.16)	
Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(11.64)	
Yu Energy (Street Lights)	(333.15)	
WCC (Streetlighting Maintenance)	(247.68)	
WaterPlus (Sports Pav Water)	(32.90)	
Mick Jones (Village grass cut & Maintenance)	(600.00)	
Current Account		(1,873.28)
Total Balances carried forward		<u>37,948.66</u>

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Appendix B

February Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
30 Day Notice	8,804.91
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,000.00
Deposit Account	15,387.59
Current Account	5,731.66
Less cheques outstanding	
SDC (Pension contribution Feb)	(102.24)
Current Account	5,629.43
Total Bank	<u><u>39,821.94</u></u>
Cash Book Balance b/f	37,324.22
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Bank Interest	0.17
NDP Grant	2,285.00
SDC Verge maintenance contribution	212.56
Total Cash Book	<u><u>39,821.94</u></u>

Appendix C - District Councillor for Napton and Fenny Compton Report

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe: I thought I would start this report with some really good news. The release and return to the UK of Nazanin is something that has touched me personally. Although this is both a national and international story, it is a local one too. As you may have read elsewhere, Nazanin and Richard Ratcliffe have relatives living in our own council ward and I have been in close contact with the family doing what small things I could (which to be honest was not much), over the past few years. Constituents' case work rarely has such a high profile, but it is not unique in that sometimes there is little councillors can do to help, however I and my colleagues try if we can. I have brought the matter up at successive meetings of the District Council in recent months gaining the full support of the Council with an approach to Foreign office. I would not claim this has had any significant weight in influencing affairs in Westminster but one can only try.

We all wish the family a return to normal life and a chance to rebuild their lives after all these difficulties. As the Radcliffe family have pointed out, there are others still suffering who should not be forgotten.

Ukraine: Staying on the international theme and its local effects, the dreadful situation in Ukraine is of deep concern. The Home Office is working on visa and entry schemes for Ukrainian refugees although at the time of writing the response has been slow and unsatisfactory. Communities in Warwickshire have responded with customary generosity and offers to help. From experience with recent refugee arrivals, local Council officials know that there could be a sudden acceleration in numbers of refugees at short notice. Depending on numbers, there may be pressures in terms of housing supply and additional educational needs such as English as an additional language.

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Councils continue to monitor cyber security controls given the increased risk of attack from Russia. Private citizens and businesses should bear this in mind and keep their computer security measures up to date. The National Cyber Security Centre www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home shares messages and reminders about good cyber security practices

The WCC Pension Fund has 0.18% (£5m) of its assets invested in Russia. The fund is committed to ceasing further investments in Russia and is looking at a divestment strategy

Waste Collections: Those residents who wish to have (or continue to have) green waste collections will need to pay the new fee of £42 per year per bin. There is no discount for paying early as there was last year. If you ticked a box last year you, should get a reminder, but you can subscribe for the service on line at <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/online-forms/subscribe-for-garden-waste-service.cfm> or call 01789 267575

The new waste collection system is to operate from August (not April as I mistakenly reported previously). An outline of the scheme's operation can be found at www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/123-waste-collections.cfm but more information for residents should be coming out in coming months

Orbit Station Road: Both Chris Kettle and I have been trying to progress this, which continues to be confusing and frustrating. The main issue appears to be communication between the county and district. Our objective is to ensure that we get the speed limit sorted out and the drainage does not degraded

Covid: Covid infection rates are now increasing significantly everywhere in Warwickshire. There has been a week on week increase generally but the over 60s, which has up until now been lower has almost caught up. The general rate last week was 966 and the over 60s was 854 (7 day rolling average)

Boundary Review: I am very disappointed with the outcome of the boundary review that will come into effect if the Council's request to merge with Warwick is denied by the government. Despite the contrary views of nearly all representation locally, some very strange Ward areas have been decided upon. For us it puts Shuckburgh and Shotteswell in the same ward (with two members), whilst dividing up Southam parish in a most unsatisfactory way, combining with Stockton and Long Itchington. See: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/warwickshire/stratford-on-avon>

Even the Commission themselves say, 'We acknowledge that there was strong local opposition to these proposals, but we are firmly of the view that all of the alternative proposals received would not provide an acceptable balance between our statutory criteria.'

The re-introduction of two member wards for just two very rural areas gives an inconsistent level of representation. It is a backwards move and means that residents will be less clear about who their representative is and discriminates against the rural areas with some wards having many parish councils to liaise with - an almost impossible task. The emphasis appears to be on arithmetic numbers rather than community representation and connections

Cllr Nigel Rock
nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk