Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk Lydia Cox and District Councillor Natalie Gist

2024_06_01: Apologies

Apologies received from Parish Councillors David Johnson and Martin Birch and County Councillor Christopher Kettle, and were **accepted**

2024_06_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Ordinary meeting held on 20th May 2024 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Whear and seconded by Councillor Parkes)

2024_06_03: Declarations of Interest

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore any flooding discussions

2024 06 04: Requests for Dispensation

None received

2024_06_05: Open Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance

2024_06_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- (i) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No updates
- (ii) Broadband contractor issues: £600 has now been received. Between meetings councillors **agreed** to allocate £85 towards new seed and plugs for the wildflower meadow at the Bear and Ragged Staff green as this was damaged after planting last year
 - Councillors discussed whether the same should be done at the Fieldgate Lane meadow and **agreed** to spend £100 on plugs to improve the area
- (iii) Chicane on Dog Lane: No update
- (iv) Gov.uk email addresses: Councillors agreed to remove this item going forwards as they are happy with the current system
- (v) Migration of website: The website is ready to be migrated across and training has been completed
- (vi) Noticeboards: No update
- (vii) Green waste at playing field: Councillors Whear and Dutton will remove this on Sunday 23rd

2024_06_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

Councillors Gist submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Councillor Gist is waiting for a response from the relevant team regarding the areas within the village that SDC reimburse the parish for grass cutting

Councillor Kettle submitted a report which can be found in Appendix D

2024_06_08: Correspondence

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

(i) Residents correspondence:

Signed Ch	nair July 2	2024 29	Page
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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

a. Issues with parking around the coop and worn road markings

Clerk reported to WCC Highways and they have confirmed that the lines will be repainted. Highways are not responsible for 'No Parking' signs though

b. Grass cutting along track between Berry Meadow and Thompson Field

Clerk spoke to Michael Mann and it will be done on the next cut

c. A resident has offered to undertake a Biodiversity Review

Councillors agreed to accept the offer as this would link in with the sustainability work that Councillor Birch has agreed to undertake

2024_06_09: Planning

- (i) No applications have been received for consideration since the last meeting
- (ii) The following decisions have been received since the last meeting:

Reference	Decision Date	<u>Status</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
24/00298/FUL	29 May 2024	Refused		To erect a new 1no. Self-Build Class C3 3-Bed Eco Dwellinghouse, Access, Landscaping and Associated Works on land at Rose Garden, The Tunnel, Farnborough OX17 1EH

- (iii) Further Updates:
 - a. Appeal Ref: APP/J3720/W/23/3314541: Land west of Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton CV47 2FW Appeal Dismissed
 - b. Compton Locks
 - i. Bus stop request The new bus stop is now in place
 - ii. Speed Limit along Station Road No further updates

2024_06_10: Financial Administration

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

JUN_24_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary)	(408.24)
JUN_24_2_SO	SDC (Pension Contrbution)	(114.48)
JUN_24_3_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(211.50)
JUN_24_4	Trevor Gill (Internal Audit)	(400.00)
JUN_24_5	Zurich (Insurance)	(1,325.81)
JUN_24_6	Henley Garden Buildings (Sports Pavilion deposit)	(250.00)
JUN_24_7	Michael Mann (Village grass cut)	(660.00)
JUN_24_8	Michael Mann (Sports field cut)	(326.40)
JUN_24_9	Bowls Club (Green Bin)	(46.00)
JUN_24_10	Wildflower plugs for Bear & Ragged Staff area	(84.99)
JUN_24_11	Henley Garden Buildings (50% deposit)	(26,880.00)
JUN_24_12_DD	Utility Warehouse (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(29.65)

Current Account (30,737.07)

Signed	Chair Jul	y 2024	30	Pag	је

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

- (ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them
- (iii) Potential additions to new play area: Councillors discussed some small amendments to the design that was approved at the last meeting, but there will be no impact to the cost
- (iv) Parish Online renewal Previously the council received access to Parish Online for free as part of our insurance package. As we have moved to a new provider, the cost of subscribing to Parish Online will be £84.00 per year. Councillors discussed the benefits of the system so **agreed** to continue to subscribe

2024_06_12: Updates

(i) Report from Sports Field Upgrade Sub-Committee –

Councillors met with Henley Garden Buildings to finalise the design of the building and the internal finishes

Further information has been supplied to the planning department regarding the Lawful Development Consent

Play area covered within the finance section

- (ii) Compton Locks Integration Councillors agreed to remove this item going forwards
- (iii) Flood Prevention All projects are continuing to progress
- (iv) Trees Clerk to contact Andrew Saunders regarding cutting back the low hanging branches around Memorial Road/ Squire Place entrance
- (v) Highways No updates
- (vi) Bowls club maintenance The Bowls club have submitted a report showing the need for a replacement roof, new cladding to the building and the need for a second fire exit. Councillors discussed and questioned whether it would be more cost efficient to replace the building entirely? It was agreed to pick this up again in the autumn

2024_06_13: Items to Publicise

- (i) Bus stop at Compton Locks
- (ii) Dates for work on sports pavilion and play area agreed
- (iii) Register to vote reminder

2024_06_14: Future Discussion

2024_06_15: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is the Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 15th July 2024

MEETING CLOSED 20.45

Sianed	Chair July 2024	31	Page

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

Appendix A

May Financial A	<u>dministration</u>		
Traffic Managen	nent 2,135.82		
Flood Relief Gra	nt 1,683.76		
Play Area Upgra	de 189,100.84		
Allotments	750.00		
Defibrilator	885.94		
Cotters Croft	2,849.58		
Allocated Reserv	ves		197,405.94
PC Balance - Bud	dgeted expenses remaining		23,288.87
Unallocatted Re	serves		12,363.43
Total			233,058.24
Within the follo	wing accounts:		
Current Account	i e		200,393.70
Deposit Account	: 1		5,550.35
Deposit Accopu	nt 2		6,984.94
12 Month Partia	l Withdrawal		10,005.00
1 Month Partial	Withdrawal		10,124.25
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)	•	233,058.24
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)		
JUN 24 1 SO		(408.24)	
JUN 24 2 SO	SDC (Pension Contrbution)	(114.48)	
JUN_24_3_DD		(211.50)	
JUN_24_4	Trevor Gill (Internal Audit)	(400.00)	
 JUN_24_5	Zurich (Insurance)	(1,325.81)	
JUN_24_6	Henley Garden Buildings (Sports Pavilion deposit)	(250.00)	
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JUN_24_12_DD	Utility Warehouse (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(29.65)	
Current Account	t		(30,737.07)
Total Balances o	arried forward	-	202,321.17
		•	-

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

Appendix B

May Bank Reconciliation

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Appendix C - District Councillor Report

Total Cash Book

General Election: As you will know there is a General Election on 4 July 2024. In the pre-election period Government departments and councils will observe discretion about making new major announcements or decisions that might influence voters. The pre-election period commenced on Thursday 30 May and will end when polls close on 4 July 2024. This Ward falls within the Kenilworth and Southam Parliamentary Constituency and the actual election will probably be supervised by officers from Warwick District, but the arrangement of electoral registration, polling stations etc before the election will be managed by Stratford District Council 01789 260208.

233,058.26

If you wish to register to vote, you need to do so by 11.59pm on 18 June 2024 and can do so by calling the Council on the above number, or follow the link here: Registering to Vote | Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

Annual Meetings: It has been the time of year when all local Councils hold their annual meetings. Although in Stratford District there have been no routine elections, the District and Parishes decide who will be the Chairs and Vice Chairs of their Councils for the coming year. Parishes make an annual public report to residents which is an opportunity for a two-way review between the Parish Council and residents in the local community. Normally, Natalie and Nigel attend regular Parish Councils individually according to diary - and geography - Natalie in the southern villages and Nigel in the northern ones. For these annual meetings we have attended the Parish meetings together across the Ward so we can best stay in touch with local communities. We think this is important for our joint two-councillor ward. We have attended together, Bishops Itchington, Napton, Fenny Compton, Priors Marston, Priors Hardwick, Farnborough, Avon Dassett, Shotteswell, and Warmington so far. Some meetings have been quite well attended by members of the public and community groups and it has been a pleasure to meet and talk with people.

Signed	Chair July 2024	33 Page

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

At the District Council there is a new Chair and Vice Chair, these being largely non-political civic roles representing the whole Council. The main decision-making body of the Council (rather like national government) is the Cabinet. A new Leader's statement has been published which sets out changes to the Cabinet. Cllr George Cowcher (Wellesbourne South - Lib Dem) has been appointed the new Deputy Leader for Stratford-on-Avon District, stepping up from the Cabinet role he has performed over the past year. He will keep his Planning and Economic Development Portfolio. The other change is that Cllr Mike Rice (Henley - Lib Dem) has been appointed to the Cabinet with responsibility for Projects, Asset Management and Communications. Both of these changes result from Nigel Rock stepping down as Deputy Leader. He will, however, continue to chair the Local Plan Advisory Group as well as the Regulatory Committee, and of course continue as Ward Councillor.

Cllr Juned said: "I would like to thank Nigel for his hard work and unflagging enthusiasm as Deputy Leader." Nigel has written to thank staff and councillors of all political parties for their support. Natalie Gist continues to serve on the Cabinet with responsibility for the Law and Governance Portfolio.

Cllr Susan Juned, The Leader of Stratford-on-Avon District Council included the following summary in the statement: "It's been a year since we won the election and installed as the new administration for the District Council and we have achieved a great deal in that time. The Council adopted a new Council Plan; passed a prudent, but ambitious budget for initiating changes; funded 37 community projects; created a £100,000 Community Climate Change fund for parish councils, community and charity groups to undertake green initiatives and approved a new South Warwickshire Economic Development Strategy.

Decisions have been taken on many projects including safeguarding the Stratford Shopmobility service, maintaining UBUS assistance across the District, supporting medical and community facilities in Upper Lighthorne, investing in more Rural Crime Advisers and a more environmentally friendly grounds maintenance contract, plus adopting new planning guidance for open spaces to address concerns about the private management companies. Going forward we have changed the way we allocate public funds. We have moved from a bid-centred to an evidence-led process to better target money at providing infrastructure."

Stratford-on-Avon District Council Climate Change Fund: In November 2023, the Council's Climate Change Fund was established to invest in work to tackle climate change and allow the District Council to aid initiatives from community groups, charities and Town and Parish Councils to progress climate change agendas.

The successful projects put forward for the First Phase of the Community Climate Change Fund (CCCF) includes two projects in our Ward: for Napton, the replacement of sodium bulbs in floodlights with LED bulbs for the sports ground courts (£10,000) and Shotteswell Village Hall's bid to install a battery storage system to operate alongside the solar panel system (£2500).

The first round of the Community Climate Change Fund had a budget of £50,000. The successful grants represent a combined total of £44,137 capital. The remaining £5,863 will be carried over to the second round of the Fund, where a total of £55,863 will be available to successful applicants. Dates for the second round are to be confirmed. The Community Climate Change Fund is one of a number of District Council initiatives which aim to assist and work with local community groups and Town and Parish Councils who want to address the climate and ecological emergencies. This is one of the aims of the Council Plan.

Signed	Chair July 2024	34 Page

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

Livestock Worrying: Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Rural Crime Advisors are participating in '**Operation Recall**', a national initiative to raise awareness of livestock worrying and the potential for death and injury due to attacks by dogs on all kinds of animals, especially sheep. The District Council's team is visiting rural areas where dog attacks on livestock have already been reported, to discuss safe dog walking with members of the public and provide the National Sheep Association's Enjoy your dog walks information leaflet.

Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953, it is a criminal offence for a dog to actively worry livestock and dog owners risk prosecution. Whilst the majority of dog owners do walk their dogs in a responsible manner, unfortunately there are a small minority whose recklessness puts the welfare of other animals at risk.

Natalie says: "This is a significant initiative in a rural area like Stratford-on-Avon District, where livestock worrying is a perennial problem. It is important that the District Council's Rural Crime Advisors continue to build on the work they have already done with local communities last year and carry on taking an active role in Operation Recall."

If you would like further information or think your local area would benefit from a visit from the District Council's Rural Crime Advisors, Rebecca Jenkins and Alison Packer, or would like 'Operation Recall' leaflets to distribute in your local area please email: community.safety@stratford-dc.gov.uk or visit Rural Crime | Stratford-on-Avon District Council If you have livestock and would like a 'Dog on Lead' sign, please email: ruralwatch@warwickshire.police.uk. If you are having regular issues with livestock worrying near you and would like additional support, please get in contact with the Warwickshire Police Rural Crime Team at RuralCrimeTeam@warwickshire.police.uk

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

Appendix D – County Councillor Report

Division issues

Compton Locks:

The bus stop is now in place.

I have spoken a number of times to both WCC and SDC enforcement and the WCC Flood Risk management Team about the state of the ditches and drains in front of the site and compliance with the approved SUDS scheme. Officers have been assured by the developer that, although the scheme does not yet comply with the designs, they will do so before completion.

It is worth noting that the SUDS scheme was required to be completed before first occupation and this has clearly not happened.

One of the requirements is to open up the ditch leading from the field gate culvert immediately up from the start of the development nearest the main village. This will improve run off in this location.

The flooding issues and ditch clearance between Compton Locks and the village is being addressed with the Landowner, and Oxford College.

Signed	Chair July 2024	35 Page

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

Harbury Crossroads The cross roads was finally opened, and traffic cones banished to the cone home on Thursday 30th May at lunchtime.

The delay to the works was extremely frustrating and were awaiting final connections works from National Grid.

The remaining piece of work was the connection of the street lights, illuminating the junction, to the mains supply. All the ducting was in place but National Grid formerly Western Power Distribution, although given four months' notice had not met the deadlines agreed with them to connect the lighting stands.

For Highway safety reasons, the new traffic lights could not have been switched on until the street lights are operational, so the temporary lights had to stay.

A number of comments have been posted on Facebook including:

- 1. Thanks for the completion of works (finally);
- 2. It has taken a long time;
- 3. It, and the delays, have cost the taxpayer huge amounts of money;
- 4. There was no need for any change; and
- 5. We thought it was going to be around about.

In response to each point:

- 1. Hopefully the new works will prevent the long catalogue of KSI incidents at this crossroads, regarded as one of the most dangerous in Warwickshire;
- 2. The original works were scheduled to be completed some nine months earlier' However, as work in the immediate vicinity of the house on the corner, concerns were raised by Stratrford District Council Environmental Health which required a redesign of the pilling in front of the house. This was a critical part of the works and resulted in both delays whilst alternative methodologies were tested and, once a revised design was selected, the materials and infrastructure sourced and delivered. I will be asking for answers as to why the redesign was not identified at the outset. Ione works were completed there was a further four-week delay, as National Grid, formerly WPD, were late to do the final wiring despite having been booked months before for the period before the end of April.
- 3. The funding for the project was included as part of the S106 commitment required of the developers of the new settlement of Gaydon Lighthorne Heath ('GLH'). They had to approve and take ownership of the designs and the delivery of them although the project management was with WCC. Therefore, responsibility for the costs for the scheme as delivered will lie with those developers and not WCC, including cost overruns.
- 4. As noted above, there have been a significant number of serious accidents at this crossing over many years. Improvements have been asked. including a petition in 2011, signed by some 2,000 residents for many years. This has now been delivered.
- 5. I am informed by officers involved in the design that a roundabout, built to the national standards required for UK highways ('DMRB'), would have required a minimum width, including a kerb and retaining walls, of some 55 metres.

The maximum width available was 45 metres, without significant purchases of land. Any land purchased to deliver a width of 55 metres would have required considerable works to raise the levels from the field height to the road height which would have added considerably to the cost.

In addition, in accordance with DMRB new roundabouts require shallow gradients on all approaches, this philosophy will also be applied to the circulatory carriageway. To comply with the standards set out in the DMRB, would likely require retaining walls on both side of the carriageway and on most arms.

The need for third party land and level challenges would have made it very difficult and much more costly to deliver a roundabout design."

Sianed	Chair Jul	v 2024	36	Pa	a f	e

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

HS2: I met with the HS2 Construction Commissioner, Sir Mark Worthington, appointed by the Transport Secretary on Wednesday to discuss and complain out the behaviour of both local track contractors BBV and EKFB about their continuing and avoidable disruptions to local residents and businesses.

The works between Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick and Lower Boddington remains significantly behind the proposed timetable started in July 23 with the closure of the Wormleighton Road scheduled for late autumn 23 still to commence.

I, WCC, and the Commissioner, have raised the issue of the inaccurate and unnecessary road closed sign on Wormleighton Road and asked for it to be removed.

Ufton Waste tip and green waste IVC facility – planning extension

The planning application for this site is still being considered. The planning officer has made a detailed site visit to assess the source of local residents' concerns.

He summarised:

"My site visit went very well, and I had access to all portions of the site. The site does employ fly controls and I have asked for the documents supporting that mitigation to see if they accord with the standards within currently recommended controls.

At first glance the controls appear to go beyond the current controls advised by the national Planning Practice Framework.

In terms of the smell that I experienced after the meeting I can say that this smell is not that which I experienced on the site visit, and I walked through the windrow pads and the in-vessel treatment building and hardwood filter.

In conclusion he feels that the smell may not be coming from the IVC. He has asked Biffa to redo their air quality assessment and to also include Ufton in the assessment particularly St Michaels Close.

Clearly any permission will need and will have smell and fly conditions within the consent.

High Speed broadband: I am still receiving complaints and have forwarded details that have been sent to me onto the team collating these at WCC. Although the deluge of sub-contractors seems to have subsided, there are still legacy issues outstanding across the Division.

WCC Cllrs Discretionary fund: Applications for this opens today. Please don't forget opportunities to improve certain aspects of the WCC Highway Network whilst I still have funding for road related schemes in my delegated highways budget.

Events and other matters

World No Tobacco Day: As part of World No Tobacco Day on Friday 31 May, Warwickshire County Council is encouraging more smokers in Warwickshire to quit and make use of the free stop smoking services available to residents. Find out more: www.warwickshire-for-world-no-tobacco-day-

Boat Fire Safety: The Warwickshire canal network is a haven for leisure boaters. But fire safety risks can lurk beneath the surface. Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is reminding all boat users of the importance of fire safety during Boat Fire Safety Week. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5261/boat-owner-warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service-have-a-message-for-you

"Body in the Library" murder mystery events: Warwickshire County Council's libraries service is inviting you to solve an exciting murder mystery at "Body in the Library" events this June! Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5271/get-involved-in-thrilling-body-in-the-library-murder-mystery-events-this-june-at-warwickshire-libraries

Signed	Chair Jul	y 2024 37	Pac	g e

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 17th June 2024 At 7.45pm

Kingsbury Water Park conservation work: Colleagues from across Warwickshire County Council's Country Parks service pulled together last week to install 240 linear metres of coir rolls around sections of the perimeter of three lakes at Kingsbury Water Park. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5268/country-parks-team-wade-in-to-install-240-metres-of-coir-rolls-at-kingsbury-water-park-as-part-of-on-going-conservation-and-habitat-creation-work

Secondary school applications: Parents and carers of children who will be starting Year 6 in September are being encouraged to prepare early for their child's secondary school application. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5266/warwickshire-parents-and-carers-encouraged-to-get-ready-for-secondary-school-applications

Triton Showers achieves a King's Award for Enterprise: Triton Showers, based in Nuneaton, has been honoured with a King's Award for Enterprise in recognition of its outstanding commitment to Sustainable Development. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5265/triton-showers-achieves-a-king-s-award-for-enterprise

Mental health support services: Suicide is preventable through education and intervention, which is why Warwickshire County Council is highlighting the support available for those struggling with their mental health and wellbeing. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5264/council-promotes-support-services-available-to-residents-struggling-with-their-mental-health

British Empire Medals presented to three local residents: The extraordinary achievements of three people living in Warwickshire have been recognised across two formal awards presentations in May by the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, Tim Cox. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5262/british-empire-medals-presented-to-three-local-residents-by-warwickshire-s-lord-lieutenant-

Improved economic outlook for Coventry and Warwickshire: The economic outlook for Coventry and Warwickshire has improved, as the Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce's latest Quarterly Economic Survey says the region is in better shape than it was at the turn of the year. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5260/improved-economic-outlook-for-coventry-and-warwickshire

Learn the risks, prepare for emergencies: Do you know how the key risks in your area? Would you know how to prepare for them? Learn how to become Better Prepared for the key risks near you on the new Warwickshire Resilience Forum website. www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/

Signed ______ Chair July 2024 **38** | Page