

Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 20th January 2025 At 7.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, County Councillor Christopher Kettle and District Councillor Natalie Gist

2025_01_01: Apologies

Apologies were received from councillors David Johnson and were **accepted**

2025_01_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16th December 2024 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Parkes and seconded by Councillor Whear)

2025_01_03: Declarations of Interest

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

Clerk declared an interest in planning application 24/03195/FUL as neighbour

2025_01_04: Requests for Dispensation

None received

2025_01_05: Open Forum

There was one resident in attendance to discuss various points:

- Hedges - A423 and bus stop on Wharf Road, poor visibility due to hedgerows overgrown. **Councillors stated that County council responsible but will contact them**
- Water under the bridge – too much mud on the road so the drain is not flowing. Water shouldn't be discharged onto the road – can it be diverted to go into a drain. Should Network Rail be allowed to discharge water onto the road on the first place? **Parish council will forward concerns to County Councillor**
- Hedge near surgery needs cutting – **landowner has been contacted**
- House next to coop hedge needs cutting – **landowner was in attendance**

Resident left the meeting at 20.06

2025_01_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- (i) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No updates
- (ii) Noticeboards: Still waiting for a date to collect
- (iii) Footpath along Bear and Ragged Staff Green: Councillor Birch has updated the resident
- (iv) Station Road footpath widening and Railway Bridge: We have commissioned a traffic survey from the County Council which will cost £460.00 plus VAT, which will measure the vehicle flow, type, direction and speeds, and also the number of pedestrians walking under the bridge. This will take place in February

Funds are currently not available to widen the remaining footpath along Station Road but it has been noted that we are due to receive s106 money from 12 self build houses due to be built at Thompson Field

- (v) Streetlighting: Clerk still waiting for feedback from county council regarding repairs and new shield

2025_01_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

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

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

County Councillor Gist arrived at 20.15

2025_01_08: Correspondence

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- (i) Resident's correspondence
 - Could a litter bin and dog waste bin be installed at Compton Locks?
 - **Councillors agreed to obtain a quote**
- (ii) Preferred Options Version of the Part 1 South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP)
 - The Consultation is now live and will run for a period of 8 weeks, until 11:59pm on Friday 7th March. Residents, businesses and other stakeholders are now invited to have their say on the Preferred Options version of the South Warwickshire Local Plan (2050) for the combined areas of Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils for the next 25 years. The consultation document and accompanying materials are all available to view on the South Warwickshire Local Plan Website
 - This Preferred Options Document follows on from the previous two rounds of consultations. A Scoping and Call for sites consultation in 2021, and an Issues and Options consultation in early 2023. This Preferred Options document addresses a number of topics such as housing, economy, climate change environment etc and then presents the preferred approach to addressing them. In this consultation document there are a range of draft policies and draft policy directions. Draft policies contain details of the subject matter and clearly set out the requirements of what the policy would like to achieve. The draft policy directions are just an indication of the direction of travel the final policy will take and set out the broad aspirations of the future policy
 - The Preferred Options document identifies 24 potential Strategic Growth Locations and 12 potential New Settlement locations, which are an indication of where we consider large-scale strategic growth may be best be located. In addition, smaller scale growth is likely to be appropriate in other locations; these locations are not indicated in the Preferred Options document. Overall, the growth locations identified would accommodate significantly more than South Warwickshire's identified housing and employment needs, and so it is not expected that all these locations will be allocated as a part of the plan making process. The SWLP team will be undertaking further analysis of the Growth Locations and potential New Settlements to conclude which locations, and specific sites will be most suitable locations for the South Warwickshire's growth strategy
 - How to comment: South Warwickshire Local Plan - Preferred Options 2025 by 7th March
 - **Councillor Dutton attended a briefing before Christmas. Key take away was that if the SWLP was in conflict with the Neighbourhood Development Plan, then the NDP would have to be revised. Councillor Gist will check this point as this wasn't her understanding**
- (iii) Police Budget Consultation
 - You can find full details of the survey at: <https://www.warwickshire-pcc.gov.uk/budget-2025-26/> -

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2025_01_09: Planning

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

Reference	Consultation Expiry Date	Address	Proposal
24/03195/FUL & 24/03196/LBC	21 Jan 2025	Ducketts Cottage, Dog Lane, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YD	External works consisting of:- replace existing conservatory with single storey extension, replace flat roof dormers with gabled dormers, remove cement and timber cladding fabric from first floor rear range and re-build in stone replacing flat roof with a gable to create a second floor en-suite. Replace existing concrete plain tiled roof with natural slate. replace front and back doors with solid oak doors. Internal works to remove late twentieth century modernisation works.

Councillors **agreed** to respond with 'No representation'

(ii) The following decisions have been received since the last meeting:

Reference	Decision Date	Status	Address	Proposal
24/03089/TREE	14 Jan 2025	No objection	The Croft, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton	-T1 Prunus - Remove to ground level. -T2 Prunus - Reduce height from approximately 6-7 metres to 5-6 metres. Crown thin by 20%. -T3 fruit tree - Reduce height from 5 metres to 1.2 metres, to the height of the wall.

2025_01_10: Financial Administration

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

JAN_25_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Jan Salary & Expenses)	✔	(434.25)
JAN_25_2_SO	SDC (Pension contribution Jan)	✔	(121.77)
JAN_25_3_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	✔	(271.01)
JAN_25_4_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)		(17.54)
JAN_25_5_DD	eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)		(29.01)
JAN_25_6	SDC (Bin installation and emptying)	✔	(351.00)
JAN_25_7	B&Q (Reimburse J Dutton)		(5.00)
JAN_25_8	Nicholass White Landscapes (Car park refurb)		(11,280.00)
JAN_25_9	Aplins Solicitors (Bowls club land registration)		(70.00)
JAN_25_10	Michael Mann (Hedge cutting)		(354.00)
Current Account			(12,933.58)

(ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them

County Councillor Kettle arrived at 20.30

(iii) Final Budget Decision – Councillors discussed and unanimously agreed a precept of £22,000

Final budget can be found in Appendix E. Clerk to submit precept by 24th January

2025_01_11: Updates

(i) Play Area/ Sports Field Upgrade –

Pavilion – Door to be replaced week commencing 17th January

Car park repair – Work is underway. Additional quote has been received for an additional run of fencing at the entrance. Councillors agreed to spend an additional £642.00 (incl. VAT)

Play Area – Wicksteed have been out to deal with a few items

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- (ii) Flood Prevention –
 - a. Comment that there has been no recent flooding so the work that has been undertaken over the last few years is working
 - b. Memorial Road and Ridgeway works – Cllr Whear asked Cllr Kettle to look into when these will take place
- (iii) Trees – No update
- (iv) Highways – Clerk has requested that the verge along Avon Dasset road is reinstated post emergency works that took place
- (v) Bowls club upgrade – Councillor Parkes attended a meeting with Bowls Club committee representatives. The committee are costing a new building and repair of old. The Committee are ensuring they have all policies and procedures in place as this will be needed for any funding applications. Funding will be a challenge due to the number of members
- (vi) Village planters – Further requests for funding from local businesses needed
- (vii) Annual review of policies and procedures – Few still outstanding
- (viii) Annual risk assessments – Attenuation Pond, Bus shelters, Bear and Ragged Staff, Millenium Stone, Salt Bins and Burial Ground have all been assessed and given a ‘low’ risk rating
- (ix) Councillor Roles & Responsibilities – Councillors agreed with no changes to previous list
- (x) Crime – There has been a recent spate at crime within the village and surrounding villages. District Councillor Gist is in discussion with the police. Plan to hold a residents meeting
- (xi) Allotments Maintenance Agreement – Councillors ratified the agreement for another two years

2025_01_12: Items to Publicise

- (i) Budget
- (ii) Planters
- (iii) Parish councillor vacancy
- (iv) SWLP

2025_01_13: Future Discussion

None

2025_01_14: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 24th February 2025

MEETING CLOSED 21.30

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Appendix A

December Financial Administration

Balances: (See attached bank reconciliation)	£
Traffic Management	2,135.82
Flood Relief Grant	1,293.76
Play Area Upgrade	10,228.47
Allotments	750.00
Defibrillator	885.94
Cotters Croft	2,324.58
Allocated Reserves	17,618.57
PC Balance - Budgeted expenses remaining	6,404.85
Unallocatted Reserves	25,608.53
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)	<u>49,631.95</u>
Within the following accounts:	
Current Account	1,316.94
Deposit Account 1	5,586.55
Deposit Accopunt 2	22,446.36
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,277.10
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)	<u>49,631.95</u>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)	
JAN_25_1_SO Lydia Cox (Jan Salary & Expenses)	(434.25)
JAN_25_2_SO SDC (Pension contribution Jan)	(121.77)
JAN_25_3_DD Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(271.01)
JAN_25_4_DD WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(17.54)
JAN_25_5_DD eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(29.01)
JAN_25_6 SDC (Bin installation and emptying)	(351.00)
JAN_25_7 B&Q (Reimburse J Dutton)	(5.00)
JAN_25_8 Nicholass White Landscapes (Car park refurb)	(11,280.00)
JAN_25_9 Aplins Solicitors (Bowls club land registration)	(70.00)
JAN_25_10 Michael Mann (Hedge cutting)	(354.00)
Current Account	(12,933.58)
Total Balances carried forward	<u>36,698.37</u>

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Appendix B

December Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
Current Account	1,316.94
Deposit Account 1	5,586.55
Deposit Account 2	22,446.36
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,277.10
Total Bank	<u>49,631.95</u>
Cash Book Balance b/f	49,583.04
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Bank Interest	48.91
Total Cash Book	<u>49,631.95</u>

Appendix C – District Councillor Report

English Devolution White Paper

The English Devolution White Paper was presented to Parliament by the Deputy Prime Minister on 16 December 2024. Local government in Warwickshire is currently a two tier system: County Council and District and Borough Councils more locally. The English Devolution White Paper proposes moving all local government in England to a one tier system i.e. the abolition of District and Borough Councils and the formation of unitary authorities over a larger geographical area.

There are currently a number of proposals being discussed for Stratford District and the wider county area and how this might look going forward which may or may not have taken greater shape by the time that this piece is published. Whilst it is difficult to say at this early stage what the future of local government looks like for our district, *it is clear that we will be doing our utmost to protect the valuable assets and finances raised by and for the people of Stratford District to be kept and used by, for and in Stratford District.*

The link to the English Devolution White Paper is here: [English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](#)

The link to Cllr Susan Juned's initial thoughts on the White Paper is here: [District Matters | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

A statement has been made by the Leader, along with the Leaders of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Warwick District Council may be found here: [Statement from the Leaders of North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

Together with a BBC news article here: [Warwickshire council leaders urge less 'haste' over devolution - BBC News](#)

South Warwickshire Local Plan

Councillors from Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils met on Thursday 12 December 2024 and approved the recommendation for a Preferred Options consultation on the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

The Consultation is now open and will run until 7 March. The link to the Preferred Options Consultation Portal is here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan - Preferred Options 2025](#). There is also further information for residents here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#)

The Preferred Options Consultation includes more sites than are required for the District and therefore not all sites

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will be included going forward. The Plan will run until 2050 and development at the chosen sites will be phased. We will be responding as District Councillors specifically with regard to the three sites in our ward and we urge residents to do the same so that all residents' views are clear.

There will be public consultation events, both online and in person which will be available for residents to attend and details of which we have attached below.

If you require further information, please feel free to contact the team as follows:

The SWLP Team, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX
swlp@stratford-dc.gov.uk
01789 267575

Community Climate Change and Nature Fund – Phase Two

Phase Two of the fund opened on Friday 10 January 2025. The application window will be open until Monday 10 February 2025. Phase Two has a total budget of £55,863 available to successful applicants.

Phase Two has changed slightly following feedback from Phase One:

- Sports Clubs are now eligible to apply for the Fund.
- Projects which will result in the enhancement of biodiversity will now be eligible as well.
- The name of the Fund has been changed to Community Climate and Nature Fund, to reflect the above change.

You can apply using the resource on Stratford on Avon District Council's website here: [Stratford-on-Avon Community Climate Change Fund | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#). Please submit your application via: climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk.

Community Safety

Appointment of the New Chief Constable

As a member of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel representing Stratford District, Natalie attended the Confirmation Hearing for the appointment of the new Chief Constable on Monday 16 December. After a robust question and answer session, the Police and Crime Panel resolved to confirm the appointment of Alex Franklin-Smith as the new Chief Constable for Warwickshire. Further information including the webcast of the meeting together with a BBC article may be found here:

[Information and Documents – Warwickshire County Council](#)

[Warwickshire Police appoints new chief constable - BBC News](#)

Independent Review into Policing of Fox-Hunting Related Activities in Warwickshire

There has been a lot of interest locally and nationally in relation to the Warwickshire Hunt. The Independent Review was published on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Website on 8 January 2025 and may be viewed here: [Independent Review into Policing of Hunting-Related Activities in Warwickshire Published - Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire](#)

In addition, the Chief Constable has also published the now obsolete civil protocol, which is available on the Warwickshire Police website.

Spate of local incidents of crime

At the time of writing, we are aware of a number of criminal incidents continuing in a number of villages across the ward. Immediately before writing this report, Natalie has emailed the Sergeant in charge of Southam SNT to request an update for residents. Natalie has also requested to meet the new District Inspector following Inspector Ben Hemby's promotion.

With best wishes to all residents for a happy and healthy 2025.

CLlr Natalie Gist
Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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

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Appendix D – County Councillor Report

Council issues

The County Council has been invited to respond to two major consultations, one being into the future of local Government and the second to the future management of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The Government announced in early December its intention to remove one tier of local Government creating new unitary authorities, representing a minimum of 500,000 residents, so merging the roles of County and District and Borough Councils. Warwickshire has some 600,000 residents and has two District and three Borough Councils. The unitary authorities would then become part of a wider area combined authority. Warwickshire is currently an associate, not a full, member of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The purpose behind the merger is both to reduce costs but also to create a single authority for the delivery of local services.

Warwickshire County Council is likely to indicate that it is interested in exploring this proposal.

LGPS

The Government is also consulting on an overhaul of the management of the LGPS.

Following a previous reorganisation in 2016 of the LGPS, which required the 86 local pension administering authorities to pool their investments, Warwickshire, along with 10 other authorities in 2018 founded and merged their investment fund management into the Border to Coast Pension Partnership ('B2C') based in Leeds. The aim of the B2C pool, and other Pools, was both to improve investment performance and reduce costs. B2C, one of the largest pools now manage some £52 bn of funds on behalf of 1.1 million scheme members and 3,100 local government employers.

There are eight LGPS pools in England and Wales. Each pool has a different model, including standalone investment management companies, outsourced models, and joint committee models.

B2C with a partner / shareholder model and is FCA regulated has the most formal structure of all the pools, with some others no more than investment co-operatives.

The Government wishes to improve Fund performance further and reduce and has indicated a wish to direct pension funds to invest pensioners funds in "local" schemes. Funds, which are held in Trust for scheme members are already invested to maximise the return to members, and thereby reduce the cost to local employers.

There is a risk that any proposal to require Funds to invest in local schemes that are not necessarily in a position to generate the required returns risks inflating employers pension contributions and thereby the cost to local tax payers.

Flooding

The FRM continues to work with parishes to resolve flooding from private watercourses and is in contact with trelevant landowners to remind them of the responsibilities to prevent water run off.

County wide

Following heavy rainfall and snow melt at the beginning of the month, there was widespread flooding across the county impacting Warwickshire communities. Emergency services and partners are calling on the public to take care when driving or walking near flood water.

WFRS's fire control received 45 emergency calls since midnight and our firefighters have rescued 12 people from flood-related incidents. A number of these incidents could have been avoided if people had not driven through flood water.

Flood advice and support is available for Warwickshire residents and businesses at <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/flooding/#respond>

You can check which rivers have flood alerts or flood warnings in place by visiting <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>

If you see flooding of public drains and roads please report it to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reportit>

You should also call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0345 988 1188 if you see flooding from collapsed or badly damaged riverbanks, or unusual changes in river flow.

Division issues

Signed _____ Chair February 2025

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Potholes - Commonly used pothole treatments

- Permanent : Whenever possible we use a permanent 'first time fix' approach to repairing potholes. This is where we saw cut the surrounding area around the pothole with straight joints. The area is then excavated and filled with a hot material. This is the most robust pothole repair.
- Temporary - Where it is not possible to undertake a permanent repair, perhaps due to the fact that the pothole needs to be repaired urgently to keep the road in a safe condition or because carrying out the repair may damage the structural condition of the surrounding surfaces, then a temporary repair is undertaken.
- Find and fix gangs - Our pothole response has been supplemented by a Find and Fix gang which is currently working five days a week with increased budget available through additional government funding. They work systematically around the county, aligning with the areas covered by Highway Area Surveyors, identifying and repairing potholes on the move, using hot tarmac, exclusively covering the county's Category C and Unclassified network. From October 2023 to December 2024 they have fixed 5,600 defects.
- Local Roads - I have funded from my discretionary budget the resurfacing of the pavement in Bishops Itchington and drainage jetting in Priors Marston, Fenny Compton and Harbury. In Priors Marston, drains have now been jetted in Byfield Road, School Lane, Shuckborough Road and Southam Road. Further work has been done in Keys Kane.
- Further funding is still available for specific areas that meet WCC Highways criteria

HS2

The HS2 saga continues with a new proposed road closure, announced without approval from WCC, and also no explanation of the need or impact, on the A425. Following correspondence EKFB withdrew the proposal but will now be submitting a new application later in the spring. It is regrettable that EKFB seem to prefer closing roads at considerable public inconvenience rather than employing tree surgeons who have the equipment to minimise public disruption by felling trees or dismembering trees off-road rather than on the highway.

The Wormleighton / Priors' Hardwick and Priors Marston area is still worrying.

PC funded TROs - I challenged a senior officer on the reasons for the continuing delay and he responded as follows: "Why simple works can take months to deliver.

Our contractor delivers all of our highways maintenance construction. All of the works which are delivered are ordered and valued against a tendered set of rates. There are over 2000 rates in total.

Our contract specification has been written to give WCC a balanced approach to service delivery and the cost of that service. In order to get value, the contract specification allows the contractor to plan and programme works, rather than WCC dictating delivery timescales. The only exception is the repair of safety defects, where we stipulate 2hr, next day, 5-day or 30-day repair timescales.

Allowing the contractor to plan and programme the works enables them to resource the contract as efficiently as possible, so that all gangs and crews are undertaking works at all times, which in turn offers WCC best value. The contractor is taking on all the financial risk, as they cannot deviate from the tendered rates.

The downside of this is that gangs and crews employed or subcontracted have a 3-6month work load already planned and programmed for them. As new works are added, these are put to the back of the 3-6month queue.

There is some scope for re-prioritisation of work along the way, but that is always at the expense of delaying another job already planned, and is generally done where risk exists e.g drainage works being accelerated if there has been property flooding from the highway.

This is not to say we have no control over how the contractor plans works. We work very closely with our contractor to agree programmes of work up to 12 months ahead for our larger works.

For residents seeing this, I can understand why it's a difficult message, as the jobs are often low in complexity, and on the face of it easy to deliver."

Schools - The application deadline for children's 2025 Reception or Junior School places closed on 15 January.

I am meeting shortly with senior officers at WCC to discuss the performance of schools and their exclusion policies.


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WCC Cllrs Highways Budget - I am regularly asked and have agreed with officers to fund improvements to the highway network and still have available funds for small scale road interventions in the Division.


Cold weather alert - The Met Office has issued a weather warning for snow and ice, and temperatures are expected to drop. As they do, road conditions can become unpredictable.

Stay safe on your journeys with these simple tips:

 **Slow Down:** Wet, icy, or frosty roads mean longer stopping distances. Reduce your speed and give yourself extra time to react.

 **Check Your Tyres:** Ensure they have enough tread for good grip in wintery conditions.

 **Be Visible:** Use your headlights in low light and make sure all your lights are working properly.

 **Plan Ahead:** Allow extra time for your journey and avoid sudden manoeuvres.

Stay safe, drive carefully, and look out for one another on the roads this winter.

Cold health alert - Look out for others as the temperature drops! A yellow cold-health alert is in place until Saturday 4 January. This level of #ColdWeather can affect vulnerable people and those with underlying health conditions. Please look out for those who may need some extra support during this time such as ensuring they have adequate supplies of food and any medication they may need. For information visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keepwarm

Tips to keep warm - Low indoor temperatures can have a serious impact on your health, especially if you have a medical condition or are older. Here are a few tips to keep warm:

- try to heat rooms you spend a lot of time in, such as the living room or bedroom, to at least 18°C
- try to reduce draughts; you can fit draft excluders around doors cheaply
- keep your bedroom windows closed at night
- wear several layers of thinner clothing; this could keep you warmer than one thicker layer

For more information visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keepwarm

Fire safety – portable heaters - With the cold weather setting in, portable heaters can be a lifesaver. However, they can also be a fire hazard if not used correctly.

Here are some tips to stay safe:

- Placement is key: Keep your heater away from flammable materials like curtains, furniture, and bedding.
- Safety features matter: Choose a heater with tip-over and overheating protection.
- Never leave it unattended: Turn it off and unplug it when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Direct plug-in: Avoid using extension cords or power strips.
- Regular checks: Inspect your heater for damage and keep it clean.
- Smoke alarms are essential: Make sure they're working properly.

Read more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/home-fire-safety-tips/safe-home-heating/2

Be better prepared for extreme cold weather - Take a few minutes to learn how to keep your home running smoothly in cold weather. Find out how to prevent pipes from freezing, and more top tips at www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/extreme-cold-weather/

Warwickshire Firefighters and Foster Carers recognised in New Year's Honours List 2025 - Warwickshire Firefighters Rachel Streeting and Claire Wooldridge and foster carers Safeena Mohammed and Kasim Sharifi are among eleven extraordinary Warwickshire people recognised in the King's New Year's Honours list for 2025.

Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5867/warwickshire-firefighters-and-foster-carers-recognised-in-new-year-s-honours-list-2025

Winter flu vaccination - Flu is very infectious and easily spread to other people. It's important to get your winter flu vaccination if you're eligible. Getting vaccinated every year will top up your protection and reduce your risk of getting severe symptoms.

Check your eligibility via www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well/

Energy bill support available this winter - The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme is distributing funding from the Department for Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund to support people who may be struggling with energy

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bills this winter.

Learn more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5860/energy-bill-support-available-this-winter

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service helping patients to return home safely from hospital - Find out how Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is helping hospital patients to return home safely with their Hospital to Home service: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5863/warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service-helping-patients-to-return-home-safely-from-hospital

Warwickshire welcomes new Safe Accommodation Strategy for victim-survivors of Domestic Abuse - In line with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Warwickshire County Council and its partners has launched its Safe Accommodation Strategy. The strategy highlights the provision in Warwickshire to provide a safe haven for victim-survivors over the next three years. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5865/warwickshire-welcomes-new-safe-accommodation-strategy-for-victim-survivors-of-domestic-abuse

Visit Judges' House ceremony venue in Warwick - Warwickshire County Council's Registration Service is inviting prospective couples to attend the next open day at Judges' House in Warwick on Saturday 1 February between 11am and 1pm. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5845/visit-judges-house-ceremony-venue-in-warwick-ready-to-celebrate-life-s-special-occasions

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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Fenny Compton on Monday 20th January 2025 At 7.45pm

Appendix E: Final Budget

Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 20th January 2025 At 7.45pm

	Proposed Budget
Receipts	
Precept	22,000.00
Parks	305.00
Bank Interest	550.00
VAT Reclaim	3,725.00
Transfer to reserves	
Cemetery/ Misc	
TOTAL INCOME	26,580.00
Payments	
Regular Costs	
Streetlighting Electricity	2,750.00
Clerks Salary	6,872.23
Administration	150.00
Grasscutting	5,368.80
Playing Field Maintenance	3,618.00
Playing Field Water	204.00
Playing Field Electricity	350.00
Bins	1,342.00
Cemetery	-
Meeting Room Hire	150.00
Sundry Items	50.00
Landscape Maintenance	3,075.00
Sub-Total	23,930.03
Contingencies and repairs	
Tree works	2,300.00
Streetlighting Maintenance	500.00
Bowls Pavillion	500.00
Sports Pavillion	250.00
Fencing	
Noticeboards	2,000.00
Play Area	400.00
Sub-Total	5,950.00
Fees and Charges	
Insurance	1,810.00
Bank Fees	70.00
Auditors Fees	660.00
Subscriptions	505.00
Election Costs	-
Website	450.00
Land Registry	500.00
Sub-Total	3,995.00
Donations to village organisations	
Village Donations	700.00
Sub-Total	700.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	34,575.03
REVENUE SURPLUS	(7,995.03)
Allocated Reserves	
Play Area/ Sports Pavilion Upgrade	-
Defibrillator	885.94
Flood Alleviation	1,293.76
Traffic Management	1,583.82
Allotments	1,000.00
Cotters Croft	2,174.58
TOTAL ALLOCATED RESERVES	6,938.10
Unallocated Reserves	15,988.63
RESERVES	22,926.73
Total Allocated Revenue and Reserves	14,931.70

Signed _____ Chair February 2025

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, County Councillor Christopher Kettle and District Councillor Natalie Gist

2025_01_01: Apologies

Apologies were received from councillors David Johnson and were **accepted**

2025_01_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16th December 2024 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Parkes and seconded by Councillor Whear)

2025_01_03: Declarations of Interest

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

Clerk declared an interest in planning application 24/03195/FUL as neighbour

2025_01_04: Requests for Dispensation

None received

2025_01_05: Open Forum

There was one resident in attendance to discuss various points:

- Hedges - A423 and bus stop on Wharf Road, poor visibility due to hedgerows overgrown. **Councillors stated that County council responsible but will contact them**
- Water under the bridge – too much mud on the road so the drain is not flowing. Water shouldn't be discharged onto the road – can it be diverted to go into a drain. Should Network Rail be allowed to discharge water onto the road on the first place? **Parish council will forward concerns to County Councillor**
- Hedge near surgery needs cutting – **landowner has been contacted**
- House next to coop hedge needs cutting – **landowner was in attendance**

Resident left the meeting at 20.06

2025_01_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- (i) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No updates
- (ii) Noticeboards: Still waiting for a date to collect
- (iii) Footpath along Bear and Ragged Staff Green: Councillor Birch has updated the resident
- (iv) Station Road footpath widening and Railway Bridge: We have commissioned a traffic survey from the County Council which will cost £460.00 plus VAT, which will measure the vehicle flow, type, direction and speeds, and also the number of pedestrians walking under the bridge. This will take place in February

Funds are currently not available to widen the remaining footpath along Station Road but it has been noted that we are due to receive s106 money from 12 self build houses due to be built at Thompson Field

- (v) Streetlighting: Clerk still waiting for feedback from county council regarding repairs and new shield

2025_01_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

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

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

County Councillor Gist arrived at 20.15

2025_01_08: Correspondence

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- (i) Resident's correspondence
 - Could a litter bin and dog waste bin be installed at Compton Locks?
 - **Councillors agreed to obtain a quote**
- (ii) Preferred Options Version of the Part 1 South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP)
 - The Consultation is now live and will run for a period of 8 weeks, until 11:59pm on Friday 7th March. Residents, businesses and other stakeholders are now invited to have their say on the Preferred Options version of the South Warwickshire Local Plan (2050) for the combined areas of Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils for the next 25 years. The consultation document and accompanying materials are all available to view on the South Warwickshire Local Plan Website
 - This Preferred Options Document follows on from the previous two rounds of consultations. A Scoping and Call for sites consultation in 2021, and an Issues and Options consultation in early 2023. This Preferred Options document addresses a number of topics such as housing, economy, climate change environment etc and then presents the preferred approach to addressing them. In this consultation document there are a range of draft policies and draft policy directions. Draft policies contain details of the subject matter and clearly set out the requirements of what the policy would like to achieve. The draft policy directions are just an indication of the direction of travel the final policy will take and set out the broad aspirations of the future policy
 - The Preferred Options document identifies 24 potential Strategic Growth Locations and 12 potential New Settlement locations, which are an indication of where we consider large-scale strategic growth may be best be located. In addition, smaller scale growth is likely to be appropriate in other locations; these locations are not indicated in the Preferred Options document. Overall, the growth locations identified would accommodate significantly more than South Warwickshire's identified housing and employment needs, and so it is not expected that all these locations will be allocated as a part of the plan making process. The SWLP team will be undertaking further analysis of the Growth Locations and potential New Settlements to conclude which locations, and specific sites will be most suitable locations for the South Warwickshire's growth strategy
 - How to comment: South Warwickshire Local Plan - Preferred Options 2025 by 7th March
 - **Councillor Dutton attended a briefing before Christmas. Key take away was that if the SWLP was in conflict with the Neighbourhood Development Plan, then the NDP would have to be revised. Councillor Gist will check this point as this wasn't her understanding**
- (iii) Police Budget Consultation
 - You can find full details of the survey at: <https://www.warwickshire-pcc.gov.uk/budget-2025-26/> -

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2025_01_09: Planning

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

Reference	Consultation Expiry Date	Address	Proposal
24/03195/FUL & 24/03196/LBC	21 Jan 2025	Ducketts Cottage, Dog Lane, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YD	External works consisting of:- replace existing conservatory with single storey extension, replace flat roof dormers with gabled dormers, remove cement and timber cladding fabric from first floor rear range and re-build in stone replacing flat roof with a gable to create a second floor en-suite. Replace existing concrete plain tiled roof with natural slate. replace front and back doors with solid oak doors. Internal works to remove late twentieth century modernisation works.

Councillors **agreed** to respond with 'No representation'

(ii) The following decisions have been received since the last meeting:

Reference	Decision Date	Status	Address	Proposal
24/03089/TREE	14 Jan 2025	No objection	The Croft, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton	-T1 Prunus - Remove to ground level. -T2 Prunus - Reduce height from approximately 6-7 metres to 5-6 metres. Crown thin by 20%. -T3 fruit tree - Reduce height from 5 metres to 1.2 metres, to the height of the wall.

2025_01_10: Financial Administration

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

JAN_25_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Jan Salary & Expenses)	(434.25)
JAN_25_2_SO	SDC (Pension contribution Jan)	(121.77)
JAN_25_3_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(271.01)
JAN_25_4_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(17.54)
JAN_25_5_DD	eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(29.01)
JAN_25_6	SDC (Bin installation and emptying)	(351.00)
JAN_25_7	B&Q (Reimburse J Dutton)	(5.00)
JAN_25_8	Nicholass White Landscapes (Car park refurb)	(11,280.00)
JAN_25_9	Aplins Solicitors (Bowls club land registration)	(70.00)
JAN_25_10	Michael Mann (Hedge cutting)	(354.00)
Current Account		(12,933.58)

(ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them

County Councillor Kettle arrived at 20.30

(iii) Final Budget Decision – Councillors discussed and unanimously agreed a precept of £22,000

Final budget can be found in Appendix E. Clerk to submit precept by 24th January

2025_01_11: Updates

(i) Play Area/ Sports Field Upgrade –

Pavilion – Door to be replaced week commencing 17th January

Car park repair – Work is underway. Additional quote has been received for an additional run of fencing at the entrance. Councillors agreed to spend an additional £642.00 (incl. VAT)

Play Area – Wicksteed have been out to deal with a few items

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- (ii) Flood Prevention –
 - a. Comment that there has been no recent flooding so the work that has been undertaken over the last few years is working
 - b. Memorial Road and Ridgeway works – Cllr Whear asked Cllr Kettle to look into when these will take place
- (iii) Trees – No update
- (iv) Highways – Clerk has requested that the verge along Avon Dasset road is reinstated post emergency works that took place
- (v) Bowls club upgrade – Councillor Parkes attended a meeting with Bowls Club committee representatives. The committee are costing a new building and repair of old. The Committee are ensuring they have all policies and procedures in place as this will be needed for any funding applications. Funding will be a challenge due to the number of members
- (vi) Village planters – Further requests for funding from local businesses needed
- (vii) Annual review of policies and procedures – Few still outstanding
- (viii) Annual risk assessments – Attenuation Pond, Bus shelters, Bear and Ragged Staff, Millenium Stone, Salt Bins and Burial Ground have all been assessed and given a ‘low’ risk rating
- (ix) Councillor Roles & Responsibilities – Councillors agreed with no changes to previous list
- (x) Crime – There has been a recent spate at crime within the village and surrounding villages. District Councillor Gist is in discussion with the police. Plan to hold a residents meeting
- (xi) Allotments Maintenance Agreement – Councillors ratified the agreement for another two years

2025_01_12: Items to Publicise

- (i) Budget
- (ii) Planters
- (iii) Parish councillor vacancy
- (iv) SWLP

2025_01_13: Future Discussion

None

2025_01_14: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 24th February 2025

MEETING CLOSED 21.30

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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Appendix A

December Financial Administration

Balances: (See attached bank reconciliation)	£
Traffic Management	2,135.82
Flood Relief Grant	1,293.76
Play Area Upgrade	10,228.47
Allotments	750.00
Defibrillator	885.94
Cotters Croft	2,324.58
Allocated Reserves	17,618.57
PC Balance - Budgeted expenses remaining	6,404.85
Unallocatted Reserves	25,608.53
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)	<u>49,631.95</u>
Within the following accounts:	
Current Account	1,316.94
Deposit Account 1	5,586.55
Deposit Accopunt 2	22,446.36
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,277.10
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)	<u>49,631.95</u>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)	
JAN_25_1_SO Lydia Cox (Jan Salary & Expenses)	(434.25)
JAN_25_2_SO SDC (Pension contribution Jan)	(121.77)
JAN_25_3_DD Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(271.01)
JAN_25_4_DD WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(17.54)
JAN_25_5_DD eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(29.01)
JAN_25_6 SDC (Bin installation and emptying)	(351.00)
JAN_25_7 B&Q (Reimburse J Dutton)	(5.00)
JAN_25_8 Nicholass White Landscapes (Car park refurb)	(11,280.00)
JAN_25_9 Aplins Solicitors (Bowls club land registration)	(70.00)
JAN_25_10 Michael Mann (Hedge cutting)	(354.00)
Current Account	(12,933.58)
Total Balances carried forward	<u>36,698.37</u>

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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Appendix B

December Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
Current Account	1,316.94
Deposit Account 1	5,586.55
Deposit Account 2	22,446.36
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,277.10
Total Bank	<u>49,631.95</u>
Cash Book Balance b/f	49,583.04
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Bank Interest	48.91
Total Cash Book	<u>49,631.95</u>

Appendix C – District Councillor Report

English Devolution White Paper

The English Devolution White Paper was presented to Parliament by the Deputy Prime Minister on 16 December 2024. Local government in Warwickshire is currently a two tier system: County Council and District and Borough Councils more locally. The English Devolution White Paper proposes moving all local government in England to a one tier system i.e. the abolition of District and Borough Councils and the formation of unitary authorities over a larger geographical area.

There are currently a number of proposals being discussed for Stratford District and the wider county area and how this might look going forward which may or may not have taken greater shape by the time that this piece is published. Whilst it is difficult to say at this early stage what the future of local government looks like for our district, *it is clear that we will be doing our utmost to protect the valuable assets and finances raised by and for the people of Stratford District to be kept and used by, for and in Stratford District.*

The link to the English Devolution White Paper is here: [English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](#)

The link to Cllr Susan Juned's initial thoughts on the White Paper is here: [District Matters | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

A statement has been made by the Leader, along with the Leaders of North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and Warwick District Council may be found here: [Statement from the Leaders of North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

Together with a BBC news article here: [Warwickshire council leaders urge less 'haste' over devolution - BBC News](#)

South Warwickshire Local Plan

Councillors from Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon District Councils met on Thursday 12 December 2024 and approved the recommendation for a Preferred Options consultation on the South Warwickshire Local Plan.

The Consultation is now open and will run until 7 March. The link to the Preferred Options Consultation Portal is here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan - Preferred Options 2025](#). There is also further information for residents here: [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#)

The Preferred Options Consultation includes more sites than are required for the District and therefore not all sites

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will be included going forward. The Plan will run until 2050 and development at the chosen sites will be phased. We will be responding as District Councillors specifically with regard to the three sites in our ward and we urge residents to do the same so that all residents' views are clear.

There will be public consultation events, both online and in person which will be available for residents to attend and details of which we have attached below.

If you require further information, please feel free to contact the team as follows:

The SWLP Team, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6HX
swlp@stratford-dc.gov.uk
01789 267575

Community Climate Change and Nature Fund – Phase Two

Phase Two of the fund opened on Friday 10 January 2025. The application window will be open until Monday 10 February 2025. Phase Two has a total budget of £55,863 available to successful applicants.

Phase Two has changed slightly following feedback from Phase One:

- Sports Clubs are now eligible to apply for the Fund.
- Projects which will result in the enhancement of biodiversity will now be eligible as well.
- The name of the Fund has been changed to Community Climate and Nature Fund, to reflect the above change.

You can apply using the resource on Stratford on Avon District Council's website here: [Stratford-on-Avon Community Climate Change Fund | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#). Please submit your application via: climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk.

Community Safety

Appointment of the New Chief Constable

As a member of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel representing Stratford District, Natalie attended the Confirmation Hearing for the appointment of the new Chief Constable on Monday 16 December. After a robust question and answer session, the Police and Crime Panel resolved to confirm the appointment of Alex Franklin-Smith as the new Chief Constable for Warwickshire. Further information including the webcast of the meeting together with a BBC article may be found here:

[Information and Documents – Warwickshire County Council](#)

[Warwickshire Police appoints new chief constable - BBC News](#)

Independent Review into Policing of Fox-Hunting Related Activities in Warwickshire

There has been a lot of interest locally and nationally in relation to the Warwickshire Hunt. The Independent Review was published on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Website on 8 January 2025 and may be viewed here: [Independent Review into Policing of Hunting-Related Activities in Warwickshire Published - Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire](#)

In addition, the Chief Constable has also published the now obsolete civil protocol, which is available on the Warwickshire Police website.

Spate of local incidents of crime

At the time of writing, we are aware of a number of criminal incidents continuing in a number of villages across the ward. Immediately before writing this report, Natalie has emailed the Sergeant in charge of Southam SNT to request an update for residents. Natalie has also requested to meet the new District Inspector following Inspector Ben Hemby's promotion.

With best wishes to all residents for a happy and healthy 2025.

CLlr Natalie Gist
Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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

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Appendix D – County Councillor Report

Council issues

The County Council has been invited to respond to two major consultations, one being into the future of local Government and the second to the future management of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The Government announced in early December its intention to remove one tier of local Government creating new unitary authorities, representing a minimum of 500,000 residents, so merging the roles of County and District and Borough Councils. Warwickshire has some 600,000 residents and has two District and three Borough Councils. The unitary authorities would then become part of a wider area combined authority. Warwickshire is currently an associate, not a full, member of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The purpose behind the merger is both to reduce costs but also to create a single authority for the delivery of local services.

Warwickshire County Council is likely to indicate that it is interested in exploring this proposal.

LGPS

The Government is also consulting on an overhaul of the management of the LGPS.

Following a previous reorganisation in 2016 of the LGPS, which required the 86 local pension administering authorities to pool their investments, Warwickshire, along with 10 other authorities in 2018 founded and merged their investment fund management into the Border to Coast Pension Partnership ('B2C') based in Leeds. The aim of the B2C pool, and other Pools, was both to improve investment performance and reduce costs. B2C, one of the largest pools now manage some £52 bn of funds on behalf of 1.1 million scheme members and 3,100 local government employers.

There are eight LGPS pools in England and Wales. Each pool has a different model, including standalone investment management companies, outsourced models, and joint committee models.

B2C with a partner / shareholder model and is FCA regulated has the most formal structure of all the pools, with some others no more than investment co-operatives.

The Government wishes to improve Fund performance further and reduce and has indicated a wish to direct pension funds to invest pensioners funds in "local" schemes. Funds, which are held in Trust for scheme members are already invested to maximise the return to members, and thereby reduce the cost to local employers.

There is a risk that any proposal to require Funds to invest in local schemes that are not necessarily in a position to generate the required returns risks inflating employers pension contributions and thereby the cost to local tax payers.

Flooding

The FRM continues to work with parishes to resolve flooding from private watercourses and is in contact with trelevant landowners to remind them of the responsibilities to prevent water run off.

County wide

Following heavy rainfall and snow melt at the beginning of the month, there was widespread flooding across the county impacting Warwickshire communities. Emergency services and partners are calling on the public to take care when driving or walking near flood water.

WFRS's fire control received 45 emergency calls since midnight and our firefighters have rescued 12 people from flood-related incidents. A number of these incidents could have been avoided if people had not driven through flood water.

Flood advice and support is available for Warwickshire residents and businesses at <https://www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/flooding/#respond>

You can check which rivers have flood alerts or flood warnings in place by visiting <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>

If you see flooding of public drains and roads please report it to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reportit>

You should also call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0345 988 1188 if you see flooding from collapsed or badly damaged riverbanks, or unusual changes in river flow.

Division issues

Signed _____ Chair February 2025

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Potholes - Commonly used pothole treatments

- Permanent : Whenever possible we use a permanent 'first time fix' approach to repairing potholes. This is where we saw cut the surrounding area around the pothole with straight joints. The area is then excavated and filled with a hot material. This is the most robust pothole repair.
- Temporary - Where it is not possible to undertake a permanent repair, perhaps due to the fact that the pothole needs to be repaired urgently to keep the road in a safe condition or because carrying out the repair may damage the structural condition of the surrounding surfaces, then a temporary repair is undertaken.
- Find and fix gangs - Our pothole response has been supplemented by a Find and Fix gang which is currently working five days a week with increased budget available through additional government funding. They work systematically around the county, aligning with the areas covered by Highway Area Surveyors, identifying and repairing potholes on the move, using hot tarmac, exclusively covering the county's Category C and Unclassified network. From October 2023 to December 2024 they have fixed 5,600 defects.
- Local Roads - I have funded from my discretionary budget the resurfacing of the pavement in Bishops Itchington and drainage jetting in Priors Marston, Fenny Compton and Harbury. In Priors Marston, drains have now been jetted in Byfield Road, School Lane, Shuckborough Road and Southam Road. Further work has been done in Keys Kane.
- Further funding is still available for specific areas that meet WCC Highways criteria

HS2

The HS2 saga continues with a new proposed road closure, announced without approval from WCC, and also no explanation of the need or impact, on the A425. Following correspondence EKFB withdrew the proposal but will now be submitting a new application later in the spring. It is regrettable that EKFB seem to prefer closing roads at considerable public inconvenience rather than employing tree surgeons who have the equipment to minimise public disruption by felling trees or dismembering trees off-road rather than on the highway.

The Wormleighton / Priors' Hardwick and Priors Marston area is still worrying.

PC funded TROs - I challenged a senior officer on the reasons for the continuing delay and he responded as follows: "Why simple works can take months to deliver.

Our contractor delivers all of our highways maintenance construction. All of the works which are delivered are ordered and valued against a tendered set of rates. There are over 2000 rates in total.

Our contract specification has been written to give WCC a balanced approach to service delivery and the cost of that service. In order to get value, the contract specification allows the contractor to plan and programme works, rather than WCC dictating delivery timescales. The only exception is the repair of safety defects, where we stipulate 2hr, next day, 5-day or 30-day repair timescales.

Allowing the contractor to plan and programme the works enables them to resource the contract as efficiently as possible, so that all gangs and crews are undertaking works at all times, which in turn offers WCC best value. The contractor is taking on all the financial risk, as they cannot deviate from the tendered rates.

The downside of this is that gangs and crews employed or subcontracted have a 3-6month work load already planned and programmed for them. As new works are added, these are put to the back of the 3-6month queue.

There is some scope for re-prioritisation of work along the way, but that is always at the expense of delaying another job already planned, and is generally done where risk exists e.g drainage works being accelerated if there has been property flooding from the highway.

This is not to say we have no control over how the contractor plans works. We work very closely with our contractor to agree programmes of work up to 12 months ahead for our larger works.

For residents seeing this, I can understand why it's a difficult message, as the jobs are often low in complexity, and on the face of it easy to deliver."

Schools - The application deadline for children's 2025 Reception or Junior School places closed on 15 January.

I am meeting shortly with senior officers at WCC to discuss the performance of schools and their exclusion policies.


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WCC Cllrs Highways Budget - I am regularly asked and have agreed with officers to fund improvements to the highway network and still have available funds for small scale road interventions in the Division.


Cold weather alert - The Met Office has issued a weather warning for snow and ice, and temperatures are expected to drop. As they do, road conditions can become unpredictable.

Stay safe on your journeys with these simple tips:

 **Slow Down:** Wet, icy, or frosty roads mean longer stopping distances. Reduce your speed and give yourself extra time to react.

 **Check Your Tyres:** Ensure they have enough tread for good grip in wintery conditions.

 **Be Visible:** Use your headlights in low light and make sure all your lights are working properly.

 **Plan Ahead:** Allow extra time for your journey and avoid sudden manoeuvres.

Stay safe, drive carefully, and look out for one another on the roads this winter.

Cold health alert - Look out for others as the temperature drops! A yellow cold-health alert is in place until Saturday 4 January. This level of #ColdWeather can affect vulnerable people and those with underlying health conditions. Please look out for those who may need some extra support during this time such as ensuring they have adequate supplies of food and any medication they may need. For information visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keepwarm

Tips to keep warm - Low indoor temperatures can have a serious impact on your health, especially if you have a medical condition or are older. Here are a few tips to keep warm:

- try to heat rooms you spend a lot of time in, such as the living room or bedroom, to at least 18°C
- try to reduce draughts; you can fit draft excluders around doors cheaply
- keep your bedroom windows closed at night
- wear several layers of thinner clothing; this could keep you warmer than one thicker layer

For more information visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/keepwarm

Fire safety – portable heaters - With the cold weather setting in, portable heaters can be a lifesaver. However, they can also be a fire hazard if not used correctly.

Here are some tips to stay safe:

- Placement is key: Keep your heater away from flammable materials like curtains, furniture, and bedding.
- Safety features matter: Choose a heater with tip-over and overheating protection.
- Never leave it unattended: Turn it off and unplug it when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Direct plug-in: Avoid using extension cords or power strips.
- Regular checks: Inspect your heater for damage and keep it clean.
- Smoke alarms are essential: Make sure they're working properly.

Read more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/home-fire-safety-tips/safe-home-heating/2

Be better prepared for extreme cold weather - Take a few minutes to learn how to keep your home running smoothly in cold weather. Find out how to prevent pipes from freezing, and more top tips at www.warwickshireresilienceforum.org/risks/extreme-cold-weather/

Warwickshire Firefighters and Foster Carers recognised in New Year's Honours List 2025 - Warwickshire Firefighters Rachel Streeting and Claire Wooldridge and foster carers Safeena Mohammed and Kasim Sharifi are among eleven extraordinary Warwickshire people recognised in the King's New Year's Honours list for 2025.

Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5867/warwickshire-firefighters-and-foster-carers-recognised-in-new-year-s-honours-list-2025

Winter flu vaccination - Flu is very infectious and easily spread to other people. It's important to get your winter flu vaccination if you're eligible. Getting vaccinated every year will top up your protection and reduce your risk of getting severe symptoms.

Check your eligibility via www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well/

Energy bill support available this winter - The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme is distributing funding from the Department for Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund to support people who may be struggling with energy

Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall,
Fenny Compton on Monday 20th January 2025 At 7.45pm

bills this winter.

Learn more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5860/energy-bill-support-available-this-winter

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service helping patients to return home safely from hospital - Find out how Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is helping hospital patients to return home safely with their Hospital to Home service: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5863/warwickshire-fire-and-rescue-service-helping-patients-to-return-home-safely-from-hospital

Warwickshire welcomes new Safe Accommodation Strategy for victim-survivors of Domestic Abuse - In line with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Warwickshire County Council and its partners has launched its Safe Accommodation Strategy. The strategy highlights the provision in Warwickshire to provide a safe haven for victim-survivors over the next three years. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5865/warwickshire-welcomes-new-safe-accommodation-strategy-for-victim-survivors-of-domestic-abuse

Visit Judges' House ceremony venue in Warwick - Warwickshire County Council's Registration Service is inviting prospective couples to attend the next open day at Judges' House in Warwick on Saturday 1 February between 11am and 1pm. Find out more: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/5845/visit-judges-house-ceremony-venue-in-warwick-ready-to-celebrate-life-s-special-occasions

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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Appendix E: Final Budget

Fenny Compton Parish Council

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	Proposed Budget
Receipts	
Precept	22,000.00
Parks	305.00
Bank Interest	550.00
VAT Reclaim	3,725.00
Transfer to reserves	
Cemetery/ Misc	
TOTAL INCOME	26,580.00
Payments	
Regular Costs	
Streetlighting Electricity	2,750.00
Clerks Salary	6,872.23
Administration	150.00
Grasscutting	5,368.80
Playing Field Maintenance	3,618.00
Playing Field Water	204.00
Playing Field Electricity	350.00
Bins	1,342.00
Cemetery	-
Meeting Room Hire	150.00
Sundry Items	50.00
Landscape Maintenance	3,075.00
Sub-Total	23,930.03
Contingencies and repairs	
Tree works	2,300.00
Streetlighting Maintenance	500.00
Bowls Pavillion	500.00
Sports Pavillion	250.00
Fencing	
Noticeboards	2,000.00
Play Area	400.00
Sub-Total	5,950.00
Fees and Charges	
Insurance	1,810.00
Bank Fees	70.00
Auditors Fees	660.00
Subscriptions	505.00
Election Costs	-
Website	450.00
Land Registry	500.00
Sub-Total	3,995.00
Donations to village organisations	
Village Donations	700.00
Sub-Total	700.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	34,575.03
REVENUE SURPLUS	(7,995.03)
Allocated Reserves	
Play Area/ Sports Pavilion Upgrade	-
Defibrillator	885.94
Flood Alleviation	1,293.76
Traffic Management	1,583.82
Allotments	1,000.00
Cotters Croft	2,174.58
TOTAL ALLOCATED RESERVES	6,938.10
Unallocated Reserves	15,988.63
RESERVES	22,926.73
Total Allocated Revenue and Reserves	14,931.70

Signed _____ Chair February 2025