The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 14th December 2009

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 14th December 2009 commencing at 7:45pm.
Present: Miss Deborah Lea in the Chair, Michael Davies, Jon Dutton, Michael Guest, District & County Councillor Christopher Williams & Parish Clerk Catherine Lambert.

1. **Apologies**: Jim Twaddle and Hilary Birkbeck.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**: Item 11(c) should read the Parish Council wants to include the existing play equipment, subject to this amendment Mike Davies seconded by Jon Dutton proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th November 2009.

3. **Declaration of Interests**: Mike Davies and Jon Dutton declared a personal interest in item 11(d), they are members of the Parish Plan Steering Group. Michael Guest declared a personal interest in item 11(a). Deborah Lea declared a personal interest in item 8(e).

4. **Open Forum**: None.

5. **Matters Arising**:
   - **a) Affordable Housing**: Neil Gilliver from WRHA asked for the clerk to confirm that there are no brown field sites in Fenny Compton suitable for this development. The Chair and Vice Chair then met with Mr Gilliver to discuss the drainage of the site. There was an agreement that the drainage would not go under the new play equipment. Mr Gilliver has written to the planning department to confirm any possible brown field sites in the village. The Planning Committee will be meeting on Wednesday to discuss the application. Mike Davies agreed to attend on the Parish Council's behalf. The importance of the Section 106 agreement will be stressed. The Parish Council agreed to try to acquire the rest of the plot of land for recreational purposes for the use of the parish. MD
   - **b) Highways**: The verge on the A423 has been cut back. Patch Byrne has asked the search team to investigate the hedge and grass verge on the Avon Dassett Road, they are currently looking at old maps, plans and records which will take some time. The clerk has asked for the leaves to be swept from the roads in the village.
   - **c) Proposed Closure of Fenny Compton Fire Station**: The Chair thanked Jon Dutton for writing a letter, on behalf of the Parish Council, to the Fire and Rescue Department regarding the planned closure of Fenny Compton Fire Station. The Council now awaits their recommendations in the New Year.
   - **d) Dog Bins**: No report from Jim Twaddle about the display of the new dog notices. JT
   - **e) Police Report**: The clerk had received an e-mail from Inspector Patrick Devereux asking for Parish Council feedback on policing in the area. The review was passed to Jon Dutton. JD
   - f) **Notice board**: Mike Davies has written a letter for the clerk to send to the supplier asking for immediate action regarding the damage to the notice board on High Street. CL
   - g) **Casual Vacancy**: Darren Whitney has confirmed that there has been no request for an election and the Parish Council can now fill the vacancy through co-opting. It was agreed to advertise for a new Parish Councillor in the New Year. CL

6. **Emergency Plan**: Parish Councillors gave Michael Guest their feedback on the draft plan. Michael will now adjust the draft accordingly. MG

7. **Correspondence**:
   - a) **Stratford upon Avon District Council**: Improvements to the recycling service. From December 2009 you will also be able to recycle household plastic packaging and clean foil. Information for the notice boards and the website.
   - b) **Warwickshire Rural Housing Association**: Annual Report.
   - c) **Warwickshire County Council**: 100 recycled computers are available, free to

community or voluntary organisations.

d) **Communities and Local Government**: War Memorials – Maintenance, Repair and Protection – Penalties for Vandalism.
e) **SDC Monitoring Officer, Liam Nevin**: Parish Council Representatives on Stratford District Council's Standards and Ethics Committee – term of office.
f) **NHS Oxfordshire**: The Better Healthcare Programme Newsletter.
g) **E-On**: Expired Unmetered Supply Inventory. The clerk will sign and return the inventory which is unchanged.
h) **Local Council Review**.
i) **The Norton Foundation**: Funding information for capital projects. Passed to Mike Davies.
j) **Stratford upon Avon District Council**: Recycling and Refuse collections will change over Christmas. Details of collections. Information for the notice boards and the website.
k) **Warwickshire County Council**: Local Transport Plan 3, Winter Newsletter. Passed to Jon Dutton.
l) **Warwickshire County Counci**l: Play Builder Funding 2009/2011.

8. **Planning**:

a) **Planning Application 09/02149/FUL**: Erection of 10 affordable homes for rent and 2 owner occupied homes including associated roadways and infrastructure. Land Off (North), Station Road, Fenny Compton. East Midlands Housing Association. Fenny Compton Parish Council supports this application, however, the Parish Council would like assurances that the 106 agreement identifies clearly that these properties are built to meet an identified local need.
b) **Planning Application 09/02385/FUL**: Single storey extension to the front and rear of the property. Egkott, High Street, Fenny Compton. Mr Brookes. No representation
c) **Planning Refusal 09/01578/FUL**: Erection of a 60m meteorological mast for a temporary period for two years. Land between Bishops Itchington, Knightcote and Gaydon, Warwickshire. Broadview Energy Developments Ltd.
d) **Planning Permission Granted 09/01987/FUL**: Change of use of land to allow siting of temporary agricultural workers dwelling. Variation of design of dwelling approved by planning permission 08/02608/FUL.
e) **Planning Application 09/02451/TREE**: 2no. Norway Spruce: fell. Kits Close, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton. Ms Veronique Matarasso. No representation.

9. **County and District Councillor's Report:** Cllr CW

Councillor Williams reported:

District Council: Community forums will become an important part of the engagement by Parish Councils in the administration of the district. Whilst they are only held quarterly it would be helpful if the Parish Council would put items on their regular agenda that they believe have merit for discussion at the next Community Forum. The District Council is currently considering their budget requirements for 2010/2011. This year there are conscious efforts to limit the amount of increase to less than 1%. Like the County Council the District Council has been assessed by the CAA and was scored three out of four which equates to the Council performing well.

County Council: The setting of the 2010/2011 budget and medium financial plan is progressing well. The indications at the moment are that the Council Tax will be in the region of an increase 2.5%. The government has just announced that the council Tax for this year must not exceed 3%. The Fire Consultation has now been completed and the final date for receiving comments was 8th December 2009. In our own area, the Group campaigning for the retention of the Fenny Compton Fire Station put together a very comprehensive response document and even went as far as making a representation to the Fire Chief and Senior Management at Warwickshire's Fire and Rescue Service. When the Consultation finishes a new proposal incorporating points raised in the consultation will be presented to the County Council for approval in early February. Published this week were the results of the Comprehensive Area Assessment. This is a new way of assessing local public services in England. Warwickshire was judged to be a 'Performing Well' Council with

only one area causing concern and that was the success of improving the well-being of the people of Warwickshire. They are looking for better links between partners, especially hospitals and health care. Steps are being taken to address this highlighted problem.

10. **Finance**:

a) **Budget and Precept Request 2010/2011**: The Parish Council formally approved the budget for 2010/2011 and agreed a Precept Request of £20170, this is a request unchanged from the previous year. This was proposed by Mike Davies and seconded by Michael Guest and agreed by all. The Clerk will send the budget and precept request to Stratford on Avon District Council. CL

b) **Playing Field Grasscutting Quotation**: Jon Dutton proposed the acceptance of the quotation by Mike Mann to cut the playing field grass at a cost of £39 per mow for the 2010 season, this was seconded by Mike Davies and agreed by all.

c) **Playworld Systems**: The clerk confirmed that the missing swing seat and chain has been installed and the invoice was paid following the last meeting.

d) **Membership to SLCC**: The subscription for membership to the SLCC has arrived. It was agreed that the Clerk had not used the services of the SLCC and the Council agreed to stop the subscription.

e) **Banking error**: There has been an unexplained transfer on the deposit account to the current account for £255.92. The Clerk asked the bank to explain this transaction but they couldn't. The Clerk asked if she should change any of the security details and they said that this was not necessary. The clerk will contact the bank with the concerns of the Parish Council and insist on an explanation together with assurances on the security of the accounts.

Bank Balances 14th December 2009	
Commuted sum on deposit	£7693.44
Deposit Account	£9493.13
Current Account	£314.08
Business Reserve Account	£13863.59

Transfers	
15/12/09 Business Call to Current	£800.00

Interest Income included in Bank Balances	
Business Call Account	£0.98
Commuted Sum	£0.33

Cheques paid since the last meeting	
1402: Playworld Systems (Europe) Ltd: New swing chains and seats.	£550.85

Cheques requiring payment	
1406: D Miller: Tables for Pavilion and paint.	£74.00
1407: M Jones: Landscape Maintenance	£60.00
1408: Smart n Tidy: Landscape Maintenance	£141.50
1409: Niall Conway Treework Ltd: Fell Chestnut and remove debris	£517.50
1410: The Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electric	£15.47

Payments received	
Radway Parish Council: Fire Station Donation	£50.00
Gaydon Parish Council: Fire Station Donation	£50.00

Mike Davies seconded by Michael Guest, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

11. **Updates**:

a) **Flood Prevention**: The application to Defra for funding the flood alleviation works was

stopped because it was judged that Fenny Compton was the least convincing application. However, funds will be made available from the capital budget of Stratford on Avon District Council for the work at Halls Yard to improve the attenuation scheme. The planning application has been initiated. The funding for the second leg of the plan, a water catchment area, is unsure. There will be a problem of getting rid of the spoil. The landowner is very supportive of this scheme. The Highways Department will be asked to undertake the third part of the plan. Aqueous will use the flood alleviation grant to complete the final action points. Michael Guest is the new Chair of Aqueous. CL

b) **Playing Field**: Nothing to report.

c) Play Equipment: Mike Davies reported that the new under 7's equipment has been installed. The over 8's equipment will be investigated after Christmas. There are several items which are medium risk on the Rospa inspection. The Clerk will organise the associated works. JD

d) **Parish Plan**: Michael Guest had received a letter from Network Rail regarding the possible reinstatement of the Station at Fenny Compton. Network Rail stated that they were not funded for such a scheme which should be put through the Local Transport plan which would then bid for funding. Jon Dutton agreed to raise this issue at the Community Forum.

e) **Traffic Group**: Councillor Chris Williams highlighted a problem with the traffic group. The traffic group was formed as a lobby group and are now acting outside of their remit. The group are involving themselves with issues of signage and HGV limits which are items for the Parish Council not the lobby group.

12. **Any Other Business**:

a) The Parish Council agreed the following Diary Dates for 2010: 18th January, 15th February, 15th March, 19th April, 17th May, 21st June, 19th July, 20th September, 18th October, 15th November and 13th December. The Clerk will book the Village Hall and notify the Chronicle. CL