

## The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### **The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 commencing at 7:45pm.**

**Present:** Miss Deborah Lea in the Chair, Michael Davies, Jon Dutton, Hilary Birkbeck, Michael Guest, Jim Twaddle & Parish Clerk Catherine Lambert.

1. **Apologies:** Councillor Williams will arrive late due to a meeting at Burton Dassett Parish Council.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Michael Guest seconded by Mike Davies proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** Mike Davies and Jon Dutton declared a personal interest in item 10(d), they are members of the Parish Plan Steering Group. Michael Guest declared a personal interest in item 10(a). Deborah Lea declared a personal interest in item 6(a), Mike Davies took the Chair for this item.
4. **Open Forum:** None.
5. **Matters Arising:**
  - a) **Emergency Plan:** Michael Guest reported that the emergency plan has now been submitted to Mick Potter at Warwickshire County Council who will print the final document.
  - b) **Casual Vacancy for the position of Parish Councillor:** The Clerk will advertise the position on the notice boards, website and in the Chronicle. A letter of application for the vacancy has been received. The Clerk will reply informing that the position will be advertised and a decision made at the February meeting. CL
  - c) **Traffic Group:** Hilary Birkbeck questioned comments made at the last meeting regarding the issue of the traffic group operating outside of its remit. A proposed letter to residents by the traffic group, for Parish Council approval, had not been received. HB
  - d) **Affordable Housing:** Mike Davies had attended the planning committee meeting which passed the application. The clerk had not received any notification of this decision and will contact the planning department for confirmation. The clerk will write a letter required for the section 104 regarding the ownership of the drainage on the sports field. CL
  - e) **Highways:** There has still been no response on the ownership of the Avon Dassett Road Verge. The grit bins are being refilled following the heavy snowfall. There are no potholes to report following the extreme cold spell. A resident of Mill Lane informed the clerk that the grit bin on Mill Lane has no lid and the grit is washed away during heavy rainfall. The Parish Council agreed to investigate obtaining a new lid, if this is not possible the purchase of a replacement bin was approved. CL
  - f) **Proposed Closure of Fenny Compton Fire Station:** The decision regarding the proposed closure of the Fenny Compton Fire Station has been postponed until later in the spring.
  - g) **Dog Bins:** Jim Twaddle has displayed the dog notices around the village. There are four notices left if required in the future.
  - h) **Police Report:** Jon Dutton had responded on the Parish Council's behalf to the review of policing in Southam. A reply has been received from Inspector Devereux who did not accept that the attendance of officers at Parish Council meetings was the best way of exchanging information, unless there was a specific matter to discuss. The clerk had received information regarding police performance in the Southam area which will be displayed on the website. There were concerns that although crime in the area had fallen, the specific figures for Fenny Compton had increased from 97 to 122 an increase of 20.41%. Keith Turnecliff will look at the increase and see what has significantly increased and report back in the next Safer Neighbourhoods newsletter.
  - i) **Notice board:** The Clerk has sent the letter written by Mike Davies to the supplier asking for immediate action regarding the damage to the notice board on High Street. There has been no response, and Mike will compose a new letter. MD
  - j) **E-On Inventory:** The Clerk has confirmed that there has been no change to the streetlighting inventory.

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- k) **Tree works:** Niall Conway confirmed verbally that he inspected the sycamore tree in Squire Place that was of concern to Mrs Maries and the tree in his opinion did not give any cause for concern.
- l) **Diary Dates:** The Clerk has sent the details of the meeting dates to the Village Hall and Chronicle.
- m) **The Norton Foundation:** Mike Davies reported that this was not applicable for the Parish Council.

### 6. **Correspondence:**

- a) **Warwickshire County Council:** Formal consultation – proposal to increase the Admission Number of the Dasset C of E Primary School from 25 to 30 pupils per year with effect from September 2011 admissions. The Parish Council fully supports the school's request. CL
- b) **Campaign to Protect Rural England:** Copy of a letter sent to the Chief Executive of Stratford District Council highlighting their concerns regarding the lack of enforcement on a planning application for a property in Admington.
- c) **Warwickshire County Council:** Prime Time Newsletter.
- d) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** Decorum Newsletter.
- e) **Warwickshire Rural Community Council:** Warwickshire's Best Village Competition 2010.
- f) **Stratford District Partnership:** Annual Forum - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010.
- g) **WALC:** Nominations for attendance at a royal garden party in July.
- h) **NALC:** Local Council Awards 2010 – Nominations.
- i) **Fenny Compton Playground Group:** Congratulations on the completion of the new under 8's equipment on the playing field. The group now wish to forward the remaining funds in the group's bank account to the Parish Council. The clerk will write to thank the group and confirm details for the transfer of funds. CL
- j) **Colin Greaves:** Mr Greaves has requested a plot in the Parish Council's cemetery for his mother. The Parish Council confirm that they do not reserve plots in the cemetery due to the limited number of plots. Applications for the burial of non-residents should be made to the Parish Council at the time of burial. CL

### 7. **Planning:**

- a) **Planning Inspectorate Appeal 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. Written representation to be received by the 28 January 2010. The Parish Council's original representation will be sent to the planning inspector and no further representation was felt necessary.
- b) **Planning Permission Granted 09/02385/FUL:** Single storey extension to the rear of property. Egkott, High Street, Fenny Compton. Mr Brookes.
- c) **Planning Application 09/02549/FUL:** Deepening of existing balancing pond adjacent to Dog Lane to improve flood defence to the village. Land Off Dog Lane, Dog Lane, Fenny Compton. Fenny Compton Parish Council. The Parish Council fully supports this application.
- d) **Corner Site Memorial Road/High Street:** A copy of correspondence between residents and the Planning Department Stratford on Avon District Council, The Planning Inspectorate and Councillor Chris Williams regarding objections to the appeal decision to erect a three bedroom house on this site.

### 8. **County and District Councillor's Report:**

Councillor Williams had sent a report:

**County Council:** The Public Consultation into the proposals to change the Warwickshire Fire Service has now been completed. The consultation brought to the attention of the Fire Service significant facts that had not been factored into the original proposals. Representations made on behalf of the Fenny Compton Fire Station have been well received. The Fire Service has requested further time to evaluate the many proposals that have been put forward, not only by

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Fenny Compton, but also by other communities in the county. These proposals have to be evaluated, costed and tested before being presented to the full Council. It is expected that this will now happen in early spring.

The Comprehensive Area Assessment results were published last month. 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. Steps are being taken to address this highlighted problem.

It appears that the County Budget due to be set in February will recommend an increase of 2.5% in Council Tax. This low increase has been achieved by savings right across the Council. In the main front line services will not be greatly affected, the real savings are in back office operations and improved efficiencies. The Police are yet to decide by how much their precept will alter and any changes will affect the final amount of Council Tax applied.

### 9. Finance:

- a) **Review of Fees and Charges:** The Parish Council agreed to keep all fees and charges unchanged.
- b) **Review of the Grass cutting Contracts 2010:** The contract for cutting the playing field grass was approved at the last meeting. The Clerk will request a quotation from Mick Jones for the village grass cutting. CL
- c) **Review of the Standing Orders:** The Parish Council agreed to keep the Standing Orders unchanged.
- d) **Banking Error:** The Clerk has been in contact with Lloyds TSB regarding unrequested transfers between deposit and current accounts. The bank has set up a sweeper system to ensure a minimum of £570 was kept in the current account to ensure there are enough funds to pay the standing order. This was not requested and has now been cancelled by the Clerk.
- e) **Budget and Precept Request 2010/2011:** The Clerk has sent the budget and precept request to Stratford on Avon District Council.
- f) **Insurance Premium:** The Clerk has added the under 8's play area to the insurance policy, an additional charge of £101.88 for the rest of the year is payable. It was agreed to get a competitive quote for the insurance for comparison when the policy comes up for renewal in June. Michael Guest agreed to investigate the costs. The clerk will confirm to the insurance company that the playing field pavilion has been secured to the best of our ability, following the break in last year. CL/MG
- g) **Verge grass cutting contribution:** The Clerk has requested the contribution from Stratford District Council.
- h) **Streetlight maintenance 2010/2011:** The Parish Council approved the Street Lighting Maintenance contract with Warwickshire County Council at a cost of £19.85 per lighting point for the 2010/2011 season. Unfortunately as from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 the County Council will not carry out Night Patrols on Parish Council streetlights. They will be relying on members of the public to report faulty equipment to them. CL

#### Bank Balances 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Commuted sum on deposit	£7693.76
Deposit Account	£8287.62
Current Account	£665.80
Business Reserve Account	£13863.59

#### Transfers

21/12/09 Business Call to Current	£200.00
19/01/10 Business Call to Current	£2300.00

#### Interest Income included in Bank Balances

Business Call Account	£0.41
Commuted Sum	£0.32

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### Cheques paid since the last meeting

1411: BT Payment Services Ltd: Broadband and telephone.	£104.52
1412: Severn Trent Water Ltd: Bowling Club Water.	£22.07
1413: Severn Trent Water Ltd: Pavilion Water.	£29.14

### Cheques requiring payment

1414: Allianz Insurance Plc: Additional cover for new under 7's play area.	£101.88
1415: Warwickshire County Council: Annual Streetlighting Maintenance 2009/10	£1327.08
1416: The Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electric	£16.53
1417: E-On: Streetlighting October – December 2009	£321.33
S/O: Catherine Lambert: 2 months' salary	£564.00

### Payments received

None.

Michael Guest seconded by Jim Twaddle, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

#### 10. **Updates:**

- a) **Flood Prevention:** The planning application for deepening the Hall Yard holding ponds has finally been accepted by the District Council. Brian Peers is currently obtaining quotes for the small scale initiatives.
- b) **Playing Field:** Mike Davies is to organise a playing field sub-committee meeting for early February. David Miller enquired whether it would be possible to ask the probation service if they could help with the painting of the outside of the pavilion, if the Parish Council paid for the cost of the paint. The Parish Council agreed to this request. The Chair thanked Mr Miller for all his help with maintaining the playing field facilities. MD
- c) **Play Equipment:** Mike Davies reported that he had made an application for the money from the funders of the play equipment. It is estimated that the cost of the new play equipment to the Parish Council will be approx £2900. Mike had met with one potential supplier to discuss the thoughts of the Playground Group for the Over 8's equipment. The Clerk has formulated an action plan from the Rospa inspection, this has been sent to Playworld for their attention. The clerk has also approached Anthony Askew to address some of the other items of concern. MD/CL
- d) **Parish Plan:** The Parish Council updated the parish plan action plan. The amended plan will be sent to the clerk to display on the website. JD
- e) **Traffic Group:** Awaiting a report from Councillor Chris Williams.

#### 11. **Any Other Business:**

- a) Mike Davies asked if an item for the Village Hall could go on the updates list on the Agenda. This was approved by the Parish Council.
- b) Mike Davies is to attend a fund raising seminar on Wednesday morning.