

The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 24th May 2010

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 24th May 2010 commencing at 7:55pm.

Present: Miss Deborah Lea in the Chair, Michael Davies, Jon Dutton, Michael Guest, Jim Twaddle, Dave Miller, District and County Councillor Christopher Williams & Parish Clerk Catherine Lambert.

1. **Apologies:** Hilary Birkbeck.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Jon Dutton seconded by Jim Twaddle proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 19th April 2010. Michael Guest seconded by Jon Dutton proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 19th April 2010.
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).
4. **Open Forum:** None.
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Fenny Compton Water – Network:** Jim Twaddle and Jon Dutton had spoken to Alan Rankin who is going to organise the mapping of the Fenny Compton Water network. It was agreed to ask if the Parish Council could hold a copy. JT
 - b) **Litter bin on Cotters Croft Green:** Councillor Williams reported that the District Council would not give approval for another litter bin on Cotters Croft when there is a bin by the Noticeboard opposite the Co-op store. If the Parish Council wanted a bin in this location they would have to pay for the bin together with the regular emptying costs. The Parish Council unanimously agreed not to install a litterbin on the Cotters Croft Green.
 - c) **Affordable Housing:** The clerk confirmed the Parish Council's decision to name the new housing development as Thompson's Field, which was accepted. Deborah Lea and Mike Davies had approved the location for the streetlighting.
 - d) **Emergency Plan:** The clerk has received the publishable version of the emergency plan from Mick Potter. Michael Guest will read this document to see if it is suitable for the website. MG
 - e) **Highways:** The clerk has not yet ordered the salt bin. CL
 - f) **Police Report:** Jon Dutton attended a meeting at Southam Police Station to discuss the crime statistics for this area. The meeting was only attended by Jon and a representative from Ladbroke. There were no new initiatives as a result of this meeting. There is a new acting sergeant at Southam Police Station, who was previously stationed at Wellesbourne. PC Chris Cuthbertson is experienced in community policing.
 - g) **Play Equipment Inspection Course:** Dave Miller has forwarded to the clerk the first play equipment inspection report.
 - h) **Stratford on Avon District Core Strategy Consultation:** The clerk had received an acknowledgment of receipt from Stratford on Avon District Council of Fenny Compton Parish Council's response to the Core Strategy Consultation Document.
 - i) **SpeedAware:** SpeedAware – Temporary Fixed Flashing Signs. This will be discussed in the Traffic Group item.
 - j) **Tourism in Market Towns Questionnaire:** Deborah Lea reported that there was no need to complete this questionnaire.
 - k) **Tots and Toddlers Group:** The group will be holding their meetings in Mollington Village Hall and not the sports pavilion, when Fenny Compton Village Hall is closed for repairs.
6. **Correspondence:**
 - a) **Warwickshire County Council:** Community Development Fund 2010/11. Informing the Parish Council of the launch of the Community Development Fund for 2010/11.
 - b) **Fenny Compton Village Hall:** The Village Hall will be closed from 14th June so that repairs to the floor can be undertaken. It is anticipated that this will take at least 6 CL
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weeks and following this decoration will take place. Dave Miller agreed to attend the Village Hall AGM. The clerk will book the Methodist Chapel meeting room for the June and July meetings.

DM

- c) **Fenny Compton Bowls Club:** Request for funding. Councillor Williams suggested that this would be a good project for the Community Fund. The clerk will forward application details to the Bowls Club. CL
- d) **Mick Potter – WCC:** Exercise Watermark. Between the 4th and 11th March next year there will be a national flood exercise taking place across the whole country called Exercise Watermark. The Parish Council confirmed that they would be interested in taking part. Details to be forwarded to Aqueous. MG
- e) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** Revised Planning Committee Structure. There will be two (area based) planning committees.
- f) **Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership:** 4th Anniversary Event on 6th July 2010.
- g) **WRCC:** Local History Project – Village Shows in Warwickshire.
- h) **WALC:** Parish and Town Council induction training day. 17th July 2010 at Alderminster Village Hall.
- i) **Parish plan steering group:** The Steering Group has now completed its work and has resolved to wind itself up. The Steering Group has a surplus of £1242.93 and wishes to pass these moneys on to the Parish Council, to be utilised in the implementation of such of the recommendations of the Parish Plan as may be determined by the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed to accept these moneys and acknowledged the important work of the steering group, thanking them for all their efforts.

7. **Planning:**

- a) **Planning Application 10/00707/AGNOT:** Erection of replacement barn for the accommodation of livestock. Three Shires Farm, Claydon Lane, Farnborough. Mr D Gaydon. No Representation. A letter has now been received from Stratford District Council's Planning Department objecting to the agricultural notification as the proposed barn is sited within 25 metres of a classified road. A full planning application would therefore be required for this development.
- b) **Planning Application 10/00786/FUL & 10/00848/LBC:** Proposed conservatory to the front elevation. Slade Cottage, The Slade, Fenny Compton. Dr A Robson. No Representation.
- c) **Planning Consent 10/00342/FUL:** Installation of 2no. Solar water heating panels to the roof of the property. 11 Brook Street, Fenny Compton. Mr R Purse.

8. **Traffic:** Hilary Birkbeck had asked if this item could be delayed until the July meeting as he is also on holiday in June. The chair had spoken to Hilary and as Ian Mathie could attend it was agreed to continue with this item.

The Parish Council had been provided with a report from Ian Mathie at the March meeting. This held a number of recommendations from the Traffic Group for possible action by the Parish Council.

Actions required from that report were as follows:

1. *The 20mph speed limit near the surgery to be moved out to the end of the housing zone sign in Station Road:* Councillor Williams informed the Council that any change to the speed limit requires a Traffic Regulation Order. An extension to the 20mph limit at this location would not satisfy national guidance on setting speed limits or County Council policy as the natural speed of the traffic on this length of road is much too high. There would be considerable non-compliance and there would be a serious enforcement problem which would not be regarded as a priority by the police. New 20mph speed limits are now usually accompanied by other traffic calming initiatives. Fenny Compton was part of the 20mph speed limit pilot scheme which did not require any other initiatives when the speed limit was introduced. Ian Mathie asked that this request should not be viewed on its own but as part of a package of measures. The reason the traffic group asked for the extension of the 20mph speed limit was to incorporate the safety of residents using the new play area on the sports field and the new housing development on Station Road.
2. *Install new 20mph speed limit reminder signs in Field Gate Lane:* Field Gate Lane is outside the current 20mph limit and therefore cannot have reminder signs. Councillor

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Williams and Dave Miller felt that there was not a problem with speeding in this area. The police force would also be unable to enforce the speed limit in this area. Ian Mathie highlighted the fact that it would be inside the 20mph if the limit was moved to the end of Station Road.

3. *The “Reduce Speed Now” sign at the Rectory Farm s-bend to be moved to a point at least 50 metres uphill of the 20mph sign on the Avon Dassett Hill near to the village name board:* This sign was intended to highlight the presence of a minor side road on the left, i.e Grants Close. A “Reduce Speed Now” sign can only be used with an associated warning sign (it has to clearly relate to a specific hazard). If the sign were moved it would no longer protect the side road junction. It was agreed to investigate why the speed limit goes directly from 60 to 20mph on the Avon Dassett Road. Ian Mathie asked for another sign of Reduce Speed Now at the entrance to the village.
4. *New white sharks tooth markings to be painted either side of the road immediately before the beginning of the 20mph zone on all three main entrances to the village:* This is a practical possibility however there is no funding currently available. These would need support from the Area Committee. The cost would be £1200 per road and the Parish Council would have to pay for them.
5. *Yellow zig-zag lines or double red lines to be painted across the entrance adjacent to the Co-op:* Zig-zag lines would not be considered for a private access. A white “H” carriageway marking across the access has been requested and is awaiting installation.
6. *Replace the broken oak pavement bollard in Church Street:* The clerk has requested this from the Highways Department.
7. *Install new signage at both ends of Church Street prohibiting access to articulated HGV’s and permitting a maximum 14 tonne size for delivery access only:* Ian Mathie has written to three companies who do mapping for Satellite Navigation systems and has received acknowledgement from one and no response from two. Councillor Williams will ask for the existing sign in Memorial Road to be changed to a pictogram “No HGV” sign. The sign at the bottom of Church Street would be larger and also a pictogram. The cost may be paid by the County Council. The Parish Council agreed to the request for these signs by Councillor Williams.
8. *Install a protected, railed footpath under the railway bridges with a priority traffic flow system in favour of vehicles leaving the village:* There is insufficient forward visibility under the bridges to permit a priority traffic flow system. The bridge is not wide enough to construct a raised footway. A pedestrian activated traffic light system at either end with a marked footpath under the bridge, which would be unlit, would be the only viable alternative. The estimated cost of the scheme is £75,000. The additional cost to light the area would be £30-40,000. Councillor Williams agreed to put a bid in for the scheme. If funding is not available for this scheme, then additional road markings and the cleaning of the bridge to get better light into the tunnel would be considered.

A resident reported an incident where a lorry hit the bridge. Ian Mathie had investigated this incident and On-time confirmed that it was not one of their lorries. Compton buildings did not receive any deliveries at that time and therefore it must have been passing traffic. Network rail confirmed that no substantial damage had occurred and no repairs were needed.

Ian Mathie asked if it would be possible to put letters in black and yellow on either side of the bridge saying “beware of pedestrians”.

Speed Aware signs: There is an acknowledged problem with the speed of traffic entering the village on Station Road and Northend Road. Councillor Williams reported that there is an option to try to install a chicane on the Northend Road. This is expensive at £15,000 and a similar chicane on Station Road is not feasible. Fenny Compton could however be entitled to a SpeedAware scheme with flashing signs. Four weeks after the installation of the SpeedAware signs, there would be police follow up with enforcement. The Parish Council and the SpeedAware team would decide on the frequency of display and location of the flashing signs. The signs could be installed in Station Road and Northend Road. There was agreement that the Parish Council would want to proceed with the enforcement. Councillor Williams will arrange for the SpeedAware team to contact the Parish Council.

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The Parish Council all agreed that they wanted to enforce the speed limits and take up the SpeedAware scheme, and to implement the “no HGV” signs for Church Street.

Ian Mathie reported that he had spoken to On-time regarding reports that they are moving to Banbury. Some of the vehicles from Aston Martin will go to a new depot in Banbury, but there are no plans to move all operations to Banbury.

The Chair thanked Councillor Williams for all his efforts and continued support with the traffic issues in the parish.

9. **County and District Councillor’s Report:**

CLr CW

Councillor Williams made the following report:

As a result of the General Election our Parish has a new MP Jeremy Wright who represents the new constituency of Kenilworth and Southam. At the same time as the General Election, there were County and District Council elections. The County Council results did not alter the political balance but at the District Council the Conservative administration increased its majority by 1. High Speed Rail Link: The County Council is working with various District and Borough Councils in letting the Ministry of Transport know that they do not support the proposal to route the High Speed Link from Birmingham to London through Warwickshire but believe a more appropriate route followed the main transport corridor of the M1. Further consultation is expected in the Autumn.

The appeal for a traveller’s site in Warmington was dismissed. This decision is considered a landmark decision and the travellers have been given 18 months to vacate.

The recent change of central government has produced a dilemma with regard to the Core Strategy. The new government has already indicated that they will revert to a method of “predicting and providing” housing allocation. This will mean that the whole Core Strategy will have to be rewritten to accommodate the new philosophy.

10. **Finance:**

- a) **External and Internal Audit:** The Clerk is to take the audit to the internal auditor on Wednesday. At the next meeting the Parish Council will need to approve the Annual Return which needs to be sent to the External Auditor by the 28th June 2010. CL
- b) **Insurance:** Michael Guest has investigated the insurance costs for next year. The competitive quote with Zurich came in at £2556. Allianz, now Aon, quoted, when the installation and delivery costs to the under 8’s play area were included, £2696.23. The clerk was asked to speak to Aon to see if they will move on their quote, if not then it was agreed to switch to Zurich. The Council agreed that this had been a very valuable exercise. CL
- c) **Commuted Sum Re-imbusement:** Whilst the clerk was compiling the Internal Audit she found that she had not transferred the money for 2008/9 from the Field Gate Lane commuted sum of £875.55. This has now been done.
- d) **Asset Valuation:** The asset valuation has been updated to show the delivery and installation costs of the under 8’s play area.
- e) **Pavilion Electricity meter:** Dave Miller has read the meter, and the clerk will ring the Utility Warehouse with the details. CL
- f) **Format of the budget:** The clerk has sent all the financial records associated with the budget to Mike Davies who will look at amending the format. MD

Bank Balances 24th May 2010

Commuted sum on deposit	£6819.50
Deposit Account	£33207.00
Current Account	£685.36
Business Reserve Account	£13878.77

Transfers

13/05/10 Business Call to Current	£565.00
25/05/10 Business Call to Current	£930.00

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Interest Income included in Bank Balances

Business Call Account	£0.97
Commuted Sum	£0.33

Cheques requiring payment

1435: Peter Hughes: Cemetery Duties: Mr F Brooks	£27.50
1436: Catherine Lambert: Printer Ink Refund.	£31.31
1437: Cash: Petty Cash.	£70.00
1438: MFM Services: Mowing Playing Field April.	£78.00
1439: M Jones: Grasscutting x 2 and Litter picking.	£670.00
1440: The Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electric.	£15.62
1441: E-On: Bowling Club Electric.	£38.01
S/O: Catherine Lambert: 2 months' salary	£564.00

Payments received

1: Stratford on Avon District Council: 6 months precept.	£10085.00
2: J & M Humphris: Cemetery Fees: Mr F Brooks	£160.00

Jon Dutton seconded by Michael Guest, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

11. **Updates:**

- a) **Flood Prevention:** The new grid by the reading room is being installed, and the invoice to the Parish Council will be received shortly. The planning approval for the improvement of the flood attenuation scheme has been problematic. There have been delays due to the new survey and there are problems with the footpath. The issue of the footpath cannot be addressed until planning consent has been given. Aqueous has received a written quote for development of the scheme by the Woad Barn, and Councillor Williams suggested that the costs for this might be funded, at least in part from the Community Fund. The clerk will forward details to Michael Guest.
- b) **Playing Field:** Dave Miller reported that the probation team have painted the pavilion and that they had enough paint to repaint the hard standing walls. The Parish Council agreed to express their thanks to the probation team in writing. Dave Miller will put an item in the Chronicle about the use of the field and pavilion. Mike Davies reported that there will be a playing field subcommittee meeting on the 8th June at 7:45pm in the Village Hall.
- c) **Play Equipment:** No progress to report on the over 8's play equipment. There have been some incidents of vandalism involving the swings.
- d) **Parish Plan:** It was agreed to include an item on updating the action plan at the next meeting.
- e) **Traffic Group:** Previously discussed.
- f) **Village Hall:** Mike Davies reported that he is no longer a Trustee of the Village Hall and could not report back to the Parish Council.

12. **Any Other Business:**

- a) None.

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