

The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 18th April 2011

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 18th April 2011 commencing at 8:40pm.

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

1. **Apologies:** Mike Davies, Jon Dutton and Jim Twaddle.

2. **Minutes of the last meeting:**

In a response to a query raised by Jim Twaddle on the minutes under item 10(a) the Parish Council agreed to an appendix as drafted by Mike Davies to be inserted as a clarification relating to the Hall Yard flood attenuation apparatus. The Parish Council agreed that the minutes should be amended to show that Jim Twaddle had questioned whether the land had been tested for contamination. Subject to the appendix and amendment Deborah Lea, seconded by Dave Miller, proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st March 2011.

3. **Declaration of Interests:** Deborah Lea declared a personal interest in agenda item 8(c).

4. **Open Forum:** None.

5. **Matters Arising:**

- a) **Affordable Homes – Legal Documentation.** The Chair and Vice-Chair have been in discussion with the Nick Pugh regarding the Section 104 agreement. Additional work may be required to resolve this issue which may cost the Parish Council approximately £200. Nick Pugh is investigating whether this will be covered by the other party, if not the Parish Council agreed to meet these costs. The Parish Council were also agreed that Deborah Lea and Mike Davies, if satisfied, could sign the documents between meetings. MD/DL
- b) **Exercise Watermark:** The Clerk has requested additional sandbags and 'road flooded' signs, 100 sandbags are available but will need to be collected from Warwick Council Offices. Michael Guest has completed feedback to the County Council on the exercise. CL
- c) **Police Report:** Mr Keyte gave his thanks to the Parish Council for their help with his concerns regarding nuisance youths. The Clerk confirmed that she is now receiving the police news updates. The Clerk had also received the Neighbourhood Watch registration form by email which has been forwarded on to the Parish Councillors.
- d) **Highways:** The posts on the Avon Dasset Green have still not been installed. The Clerk has chased the Highways Department who have chased the contractors but still no progress. There has been a problem with a water leak at the junction with High Street and Memorial Road, the road surface is now breaking up. It is understood that repairs are to take place shortly. CL
- e) **Allotments:** Jon Dutton sent the Clerk a report informing the Council that a meeting has taken place with six out of the ten people who expressed an interest in the project. Jon has asked the Clerk to enquire with other Clerks, who might have gone through this process, who they need to contact and asked who owned the piece of land next to the new housing development. Councillor Williams agreed to let Jon know who to contact at the Council and inform him that the Housing Association owns the land next to the housing development. Cllr CW
- f) **Parish Council Contacts:** The clerk has put Mike Davies telephone details on the website. It was agreed not to contact the Chronicle until after May regarding Parish Councillor details. CL
- g) **Bus Stop:** Councillor Williams reported that the bus is not stopping on the A423 hill by the Wharf. They are looking for a stop possibly outside Easi-uplifts.
- h) **Cemetery Rules:** Mike Davies is still in the process of updating the Cemetery Rules. MD
- i) **Merrie Lion:** The Clerk has sent a letter to Purple Sprouting Broccoli Limited but has not received a response.
- j) **SpeedAware:** The Clerk has registered the Parish Council's interest in Option One. The Clerk will complete the application form and send the payment following the meeting. The

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Clerk forwarded details of Option Two to Hilary Birkbeck for the Traffic Group.

- k) **Core Strategy:** Mike Davies attended the meeting at Harbury.
- l) **Dog signs:** The Clerk had found A4 'No Dogs in Playground Area Safety sign through Safety Shop costing £25.65. The Parish Council agreed to purchase this sign together with three A4 'No Dog Fouling' signs. CL

6. **Sports Field Security:**

Dave Miller reported that late on Saturday night two vehicles drove onto the playing field and proceeded to drive some figure of eights and hand brake turns for about 5 minutes and then drove off. Fortunately they did not do much damage to the pitches. The Parish Council postponed locking the gate as the car park area was going to be made available for the builders of the new development, however they have not been seen using it and the building works are now close to completion. DM

The Parish Council agreed to resume locking the car park gate. The Parish Council confirmed that they are not responsible for any equipment stored on the site by the users of the playing field. The Council agreed to the costs of a lock and duplicate keys with a maximum budget of £50.

7. **Correspondence:**

- a) **Returning Officer – SDC:** Results of Uncontested Parish Council election. Notice for the Election of a District Councillor for Fenny Compton and Notice of Poll and situations of Polling Stations for Referendum on the voting system for the UK Parliamentary elections.
- b) **Peter Hughes:** Asking for confirmation of Mr Hughes cemetery duties. Deborah Lea and the Clerk will draw up a list of duties. DL/CL
- c) **WALC:** Newsletter.
- d) **Stratford upon Avon District Council:** A Report from the Senior Citizen's Action Network (SCAN).
- e) **Warwickshire County Council:** Changes to Bus Service Provision. The proposals for Fenny Compton – Thursday Flexibus to Banbury. Additional. Saturday service to Banbury withdrawn.
- f) **NALC:** NALC legal briefing on the Code of Recommended Practice on Publicity and a copy of the Code itself.
- g) **Warwickshire County Council:** Temporary Road Closure C35 – Station Road, Fenny Compton. The road will be closed to through traffic for approx 20m either side of Railway Bridge SJT1/62, on Sunday 8th May 2011, between 07.00hrs and 17.00hrs for examination of the railway bridge.
- h) **Stratford upon Avon District Council:** The Planning Department would like to invite Parish Councillors to a workshop on Planning Considerations. The topics to be discussed include; what are material planning considerations, what are not material planning considerations, community involvement in planning applications at both pre-application stage and at formal application stage. Monday 13th June 2011, 11am-1pm, Council Chambers. Mike Davies would like to attend. MD
- i) **Wendy Maries – Fenny Compton Bowling Club:** Mrs Maries has spoken to the Clerk regarding damage to the steps to the Bowling Club. The concrete is breaking up and may cause a trip hazard. The fencing panel by the Bowling Clubhouse is also loose. Councillor Williams will investigate as to who owns the steps. The Parish Council will ask the Bowling Club to secure the fencing panel themselves. CW
- j) **WALC:** Consultation on future of Local Public Audit after the demise of the Audit Commission.
- k) **Warwickshire County Council:** Invitation to a meeting to discuss the agenda for the next Community Forum which will take place in Fenny Compton. Alternatively if any items would like to be included please let them know.
- l) **WALC:** New legal topic notes on the Equality Act 2010 and a reminder of the relaxation of regulations for street parties.

8. **Planning:**

- a) **Planning Permission Granted 10/02723/FUL:** First floor bedroom and ensuite extension and erection of a single storey green oak framed garden room. Inglenook Cottage, High Street, Fenny Compton. Mr A Rankin.

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- b) **Planning Application 11/00678/AGNOT:** Agricultural store for farm machinery, equipment and feed. Waylands Farm, Wharf Road, Fenny Compton. Mr R Hughes. The Parish Council would like confirmation that an Agricultural need has been proven for a building of such dimensions.
- c) **Planning Application 11/00655/FUL:** Erection of a lean-to conservatory to the rear to replace an existing porch. Kits Close, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton. Ms V Matarasso. No representation. Mike Davies had sent an email confirming his opinion of no representation for this application.
- d) **Scoping Opinion SCOPE/00003:** Comments sought on what matters should be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment. Proposed Stoneton Wind Farm, near Wormleighton. The Parish Council has not responded as this proposal has been referred back to the applicant.
- e) **Planning Application Permission 11/00353/FUL:** Extension of 2 no. classrooms and IT suite. The Dassett C of E Primary School, Memorial Road, Fenny Compton. Ms Barbara Williams-Cooke.

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

Cllr CW

Councillor Williams made the following report:

Street Lighting – As from 5th April 2011 the County Council awarded a new contract for their Highway maintenance, which includes street lighting, to Balfour Beatty. The previous holder of this contract was Carillion. One immediate benefit from this changeover is a significant reduction in the cost of street light maintenance. Most Parish Councils are benefitting by the reduction of some £12 per year for the maintenance of each street light in the Parish. The County Council was keen to ensure that these savings are passed on and not absorbed by the authority.

Potholes – In his Budget Speech the Chancellor announced that there would be a contribution from central government to the cost of highways damage by the severe winter. Although the exact amount is unknown at the moment, it is thought that this could amount to a contribution of around of £200,000 to the cost of repairing Warwickshire roads which last year amounted to some £4 million.

Water Leaks – The predominant water leak at the junction of High Street and Memorial Road is being investigated by Severn Trent. It is thought that where the water is collecting in the road is not necessarily where the leak is occurring and, at the time of writing this report, Severn Trent have applied to close the road for a maximum of 21 days with 2-way traffic controlled by lights down Brook Street whilst they investigate and repair the leak. The requirement of 21 days is a precautionary measure and closure is usually much less. The other leak at the junction of Brook Street and Northend Road has been reported to Severn Trent and they will repair this leak as soon as possible.

10. **Finance:**

- a) **Commuted Sum Re-imburement:** The Clerk has received a letter from Santander apologising of the length of time it has taken to withdraw the Parish Council's cheque and included compensation of £55. The Clerk has now received the cheque.
- b) **Streetlighting Maintenance quotation:** The Clerk has accepted the quotation.
- c) **HMRC PAYE and NIC for Clerk's salary:** Awaiting Mike Davies report as to whether the Parish Council needs to be registered as an employer with HMRC. MD
- d) **Bowling Club Electric:** Not received as yet.
- e) **Grasscutting:** Jim Twaddle asked for an item to be included in Mill Lane. The Parish Council will look at whether the Parish Council owns this piece of land. At present Mill Lane does not have any grass verges cut by the Parish Council.
- f) **Pavilion Electric:** It was agreed to read the meter and then investigate further. Dave Miller will read the meter. DM
- g) **Stratford upon Avon District Council:** Grass Verge Contributions are being cut by the District Council however the Parish Council will still receive a contribution from the County Council.
- h) **External Audit:** The Clerk has received the External Audit paperwork. The Audit will be conducted on the 4th July 2011. The Clerk will now approach the internal auditor. CL
- i) **Insurance:** The Clerk has received the insurance renewal and the cost has increased from £1884 to £2098.8, an increase of £214.80 equal to 11.4%. The Clerk will send the renewal schedule to Zurich Insurance for a competitive quote. CL

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Bank Balances 18th April 2011

Commutated sum on deposit	£6268.14
Deposit Account	£ 29,047.50
Current Account	£688.31
Business Reserve Account	£13382.46

Transfers

19/04/11 Business Call to Current	£1100.00
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Interest Income included in Bank Balances

Business Call Account	£1.14
Commutated Sum	£0.24
Business Reserve Account	£13.87

Cheques requiring payment

1515: M Jones: Grasscutting x 1 and Landscape Maintenance.	£350.00
1516: WALC: Annual Subscription.	£209.00
1517: Warwickshire County Council: Emergency streetlight repair.	£138.17
1518: The Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electric.	£39.70
1519: Stratford upon Avon District Council: Bowling Club Rates.	£72.74
1520: Warwickshire County Council: SpeedAware Option One.	£250.00

Payments Received

1. Internal transfer from Santander Business Reserve Account to Business Call: £565.18
Cotters Croft Commuted Sum reimbursement 2009/10.
2. Compensation from Santander to Business Reserve Account. £55.00

Dave Miller seconded by Michael Guest, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

11. **Any Other Business:**

- a) Tree work: The Clerk will ask Niall Conway to inspect the Wildlife Area and two Cherry trees at bottom of Church Street as requested by a resident. CL
- b) Michael Guest reported that Aqueous are to have a meeting with Dave Tiley in the morning to agree the location of the fence. Brian Peers met with the consultants for the attenuation scheme on the west side of the village. A large holding pond is not feasible due to the costs. The best option so far is to install two smaller ponds to hold back the water. The landowner is supportive of the concept in its initial stages. MG
- c) The Chair highlighted the need to put the Parish Plan Action Plan on the agenda for the next meeting. DL
- d) Dave Miller reported that the overhanging hedge on the playing field has been trimmed back and he is now awaiting the clearing of the ditch. DM
- e) The Clerk asked for clarification on the locations for the Speedaware signs. It was agreed that the locations should be Northend Road and Station Road. CL