

## The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011

### **The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011 commencing at 7.45pm.**

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

1. **Apologies:** Jim Twaddle and Keith Bloodworth. Chris Williams arrived at approx 8:30pm.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Dave Miller, seconded by Jon Dutton, proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** Dave Miller declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 9(c) as he is a member of the Bowling Club and left the room whilst this item was discussed.
4. **Open Forum:** None.
5. **Matters Arising:**
  - a) **Fields in Trust:** Mike Davies reported that he has started to complete the relevant documentation. The next Sita funding applications will be in March. Michael Guest questioned when the Parish Council needed to decide what buildings will be acceptable on the playing field. Mike Davies replied that it will be after the application has been accepted. MD
  - b) **Traffic Management:** Councillor Williams is still awaiting the County Council's decision on whether the costs for the speed signs will be implemented. Councillor Williams confirmed that the village is eligible for one sign on the Northend Road. If the costs are implemented he will bid for one sign, if not then he will bid for two. Cllr CW
  - c) **Streetlight No 2 Station Road:** Annette Mackie confirmed that the new pole bracket would be installed on the 16<sup>th</sup> November, however it had not been done by the 17<sup>th</sup> November. The Clerk will chase. CL
  - d) **Allotments:** Jon Dutton reported that the letters to local landowners have been sent out.
  - e) **Tree works:** The Clerk met with Allister Morgan and obtained a competitive quote, he had concerns regarding the condition of the chestnut tree on the Green. It was agreed that the Clerk will ask Niall Conway to quote just for the work in the Wildlife Area, if this is within £500 then this will be accepted. The Clerk will then contact the District Council's tree specialist to give advice on the condition of the tree on the Avon Dassett Green. CL
  - f) **Affordable Homes – Legal Documentation.** Mike Davies reported that our solicitors are still expecting it to be a few more weeks before all the documentation is completed. Dave Miller reported that he is still awaiting the top soil for the disturbed area around the new development. It was agreed that he would get a quote and email the Clerk for the cost of the new top soil. MD/DM
  - g) **Exercise Watermark:** Michael Guest had bought a new box to put the flood signs and sand bags in. This has been put in the post office with the other emergency box. Michael confirmed that he had completed the updates to the emergency plan and he has emailed this to the County Council who will bind and send back the finished document. This is the last time that the County Council will offer this service for free. MG
  - h) **Police Report:** 5 gas canisters were stolen from Fenny Compton Marina. A PCSO came to the village hall before the cinema evening to talk to residents, this was organised through the Neighbourhood Watch Group.
  - i) **Highways:** The Clerk has asked M Jones to keep the bus shelter clear of litter.
  - j) **Parish Council Contacts:** The Clerk has forwarded contact details to the Chronicle but they were not published. The Chair's email address through the website is still working.
  - k) **Dog signs:** Keith Bloodworth had confirmed to the Clerk that he had received the sign. However, Keith is away on holiday and his staff could not find the package. The Clerk will contact Keith when he is back from his holidays. CL/KB
  - l) **Standing Orders:** Mike Davies is still in the process of updating the Standing Orders. MD
  - m) **Mobile Skate Park:** Mike Davies asked for this item to remain on matters arising. MG
  - n) **Data Protection and the Parish Council:** The Clerk had completed part of the application however she was unsure how to answer Part 2. Michael Guest agreed to take all the

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- documentation to complete the application.
- o) **Bench, bins and salt bin:** Derrick Hassett from SDC confirmed to the Clerk that the district council will replace both of the bins at their own cost. Due to budget restrictions they may be second hand. Dave Miller has experienced difficulties purchasing new tiles for the wooden bus shelter. It was suggested that Dave Miller should contact Dave Walker. CL/DM
  - p) **Superfast Broadband:** Mike Davies had nothing to report.
  - q) **Napton on the Hill PC:** Due to the cost of the training at £50 per person Mike Davies did not attend and Jim did not attend as he was away on work.
  - r) **CPRE Planning Guide:** Mike Davies had circulated the Planning Guide to the Parish Council as he felt that it was a useful document.
  - s) **Warwickshire Waste Core Strategy:** Jim Twaddle had confirmed that he had responded on the Parish Council's behalf but had not yet sent the clerk a copy. CL
  - t) **Fenny Compton Football Club:** Dave Miller had obtained a quote for replacing the showers in the Pavilion from M.G.F Electrical and General Maintenance at a cost of £340. This quote was forwarded to all Parish Councillors for their approval which was given. DM  
The Clerk had written to the Football Club via Keith Bloodworth to explain the actions taken by the Parish Council.
  - u) **Parish Plan:** Jon Dutton will pass the updated Action Plan to the Clerk to put on the website. JD

### 6. Correspondence:

- a) **Boddington Windfarm:** Mike Davies attended a meeting regarding an amendment to the planning application for a wind farm at Boddington. The application was to decrease the proposed height of the wind turbine. Mike advised that there was no need to take any further action. One outcome of the meeting was a suggestion that due to the large number of applications for wind farms Parish Councils might work more closely together when applications are received.
- b) **Broadview Energy:** An invitation to third public exhibition regarding the proposed Starbold Wind Farm on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011 2pm-8pm at Knightcote Village Hall.
- c) **WALC:** Information on a new form of information service called Up2date which WALC will be providing to assist member councils to keep up to date with current issues very specific to parish and town councils. The Clerk will forward this to Parish Councillors. CL
- d) **WALC:** The Association would be very grateful for the Parish Council's views on the following. Warwickshire County Council is looking for building on the Local Councils' Charter and putting in place a document which will describe the closer working relationship with parish and town councils. Before a formal document is drawn up by the County Council, the Parish Councils views on the proposals would be welcomed, by 30 Nov if possible.
- e) **James Yeoman – Savills Ltd:** Writing on behalf of their client Christ Church regarding the potential for developing land off High Street, Fenny Compton. They envisage that the site could accommodate in the region of 15 dwellings and consider that development there would sit well in relation to the existing built up area of the village. They would welcome a discussion with the Parish Council on this proposal. The provision of housing in the village was discussed. It was agreed to ask Mr Yeoman to the Parish Council Meeting in January to discuss this issue further. CL
- f) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** Information on the Draft Tourism Strategy Workshops held in September. Pass to Mike Davies. MD
- g) **WALC:** Briefing Event for Parish Councils. A reminder that there are spaces available on the 3 December Briefing for Chairman and Councillors, particularly aimed at those wishing to improve their community engagement skills.
- h) **Warwickshire County Council:** Consultation details on Library Opening Hours. Closes 11 December 2011. Pass to Parish Councillors. CL
- i) **Warwickshire County Council:** Highways newsletter.
- j) **WALC:** Newsletter.
- k) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** Recycling Information.
- l) **Warwickshire Lieutenancy Office:** County Service to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2012.
- m) **Warwickshire County Council:** Winter Services in Warwickshire 2011/12. Page 586

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- n) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** The District Council will no longer fund Annual Independent Inspections for play areas.
- o) **Jim Twaddle:** The Clerk received an email from Jim Twaddle explaining that due to work commitments he is resigning from the Parish Council. The Chair recorded the Parish Councils thanks for all the work Jim had done during his time on the Parish Council. The Clerk will contact the Returning Officer tomorrow and advertise the casual vacancy accordingly. CL
- p) **Bill Leech:** Editor of Henley NEWS Online: Freedom of Information Request. The Clerk will ask for the fees before supplying the information requested. CL
- q) **WALC:** In conjunction with CPRE they are holding a number of free workshops on planning and how to make use of it for the benefit of your community. Send to Jon Dutton. Mike Davies expressed an interest in attending the event at Dunchurch. JD/MD

### 7. **Planning:**

- a) **Planning Notification Amended Details 11/01857/FUL:** Change of use of land to domestic curtilage to accommodate solar panel array to be used in connection with the neighbouring domestic property. Rock Haven, Mr M Walker. For clarity, an amended location and block plan has been submitted. For information only.
- b) **Planning Permission with Conditions 11/01636/FUL:** Single storey side extension. Northgate, Mill Lane, Fenny Compton.
- c) **Planning Permission with Conditions 11/01676/FUL:** Proposed rear extension and new metal railings to front. Hill House, Church Street, Fenny Compton.
- d) **Planning Permission with Conditions 11/01677/LBC:** Proposed rear extension, new metal railings to front, new stone cills to windows and internal alterations including creation of new walls for WC, open up side of stairs and installation of balustrading, window removed to create access to garden room, window and wall removed from kitchen, new opening between kitchen and dining room, existing door replaced with double doors to dining room, stairs, new window to utility, opening blocked up to bedroom 1 and new opening formed through to bathroom, lower existing floor to existing position. Hill House, Church Street, Fenny Compton.
- e) **Planning Consent 11/01947/TREE:** T1 poplar: pollard back to previous pollard points or fell. Kits Close, Avon Dasset Road, Fenny Compton.
- f) **Planning Permission with Conditions 11/01857/FUL:** Change of use of land to domestic curtilage to accommodate solar panel array to be used in connection with the neighbouring domestic property. Rock Haven, Avon Dasset.
- g) **Planning Application 11/02501/FUL:** Single storey rear and side extension and first floor rear extension. Porch to front elevation. Windyridge, Mill Lane, Fenny Compton. Mr and Mrs Gavin Fisher. No Representation.

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

Cllr CW

Councillor Williams reported that the County Council's budget has been reduced by £80 million and the Government indications are that there will be a further reduction of £30 million. Therefore there will be a need for more savings. The County Council has an obligation for looking after children, elderly and the roads. There will be closer working with border counties to produce efficiency savings.

The Public Consultation for HS2 ended in September and the government is currently reviewing the responses. Parliament discussed the proposals and came down in favour of supporting the need for a high speed rail network in the UK. The Select Committee concluded that there appeared to be justification for proceeding with high speed rail but that they had concerns regarding the impact on the environment, particularly in Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire. They advised HS2 that they should revisit proposals for the route to consider whether or not the best option had been chosen. The Labour Party submitted their response some weeks after the closing date. Their proposals supported the original Option 2 which was for the route to follow closely the M40 and make Heathrow a transport hub rather than a spur as currently proposed. They also indicate that their route would cost some £6 billion less than the proposed route under consideration. One important feature of their proposal is that the route through south Warwickshire would be on land between M40 and the B4100. The government has indicated that its response to the Public Consultation will be announced, probably, in late December 2011. Warwickshire County

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Council continues to be opposed to the principle of high speed rail. It does not believe that the damage to the environment and the unproven economic benefits justify the proposed expenditure on the project.

The next meeting of the Southam and Feldon Community Forum will be held at Southam Primary School on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. The main theme for discussion will be changes in the National Health Service and how they will affect our district.

The County Council has published their Winter Gritting Schedule and as far as our community is concerned there are no significant changes to the regular gritting routes. As with last year we will be utilizing the Snow Wardens in villages to advise when salt stocks are low in the villages and if there are any specific problems that need attention.

### 9. Finance:

- a) **Budget 2012/2013:** The Clerk had prepared a draft budget with notes which was discussed. It was agreed to move the funds allocated to election costs to the contingency. **Resolution:** The Parish Council formally approved the budget for 2012/2013 and agreed a Precept Request of £18880. This is unchanged from this year. This was proposed by Michael Guest, seconded by Mike Davies and agreed by all. The Clerk will send the budget and precept request to Stratford on Avon District Council. CL
- b) **External Audit: Matters Arising.** The external auditor has written to the Clerk and confirmed that an unqualified audit opinion has been given. The matters arising have been dealt with. The Clerk has advertised the closure of the audit and will send a copy to the external auditor. CL
- c) **Bowling Club Rates 2013:** The Bowling Club have paid their £50 for the annual collection of the recycling bin. A letter has been received asking for funding towards improvements to the bowling green. Their AGM is to be held shortly then a copy of the accounts will be sent to the Parish Council. Wendy Maries the Secretary to the Bowling Club attended the meeting. She confirmed that half of the clubs members are from Fenny Compton, the others are from the surrounding villages including Northend, Avon Dassett, Kineton, Lighthorne and Gaydon. There are 25 playing members and 7 social members. The cost of membership is £30 with most clubs in the area charging more. The club plays 50 matches in a season and runs a bar which brings in revenue. Players pay a match fee. The Chair reminded the meeting that the Bowling Club is owned by the Parish Council. The Chair asked if this would be the only funding request. Wendy Maries confirmed that it would. She also informed the meeting that next season, which will start the end of April through to mid September, the bowling green will be 75 years old. The Bowling Club will be celebrating the 75 year anniversary and extended an invitation to Parish Councillors to come along to the Bowls Club and see what they are about. The quote for the repairs to the green is from a company in Stratford upon Avon and they look after the major greens in the area. The Bowling Club is asking the Parish Council for a contribution towards these costs. It was proposed and agreed by all that the Parish Council, as owners of the Bowling Green, should pay for the repair works on the condition that the Bowling Club contribute £700 towards the cost of the work. The work is expected to commence in March.
- d) **Commuted Sum reimbursement:** The Clerk has received a bankers draft from Santander and the Clerk transferred the funds from the Field Gate Lane Commuted sum. All the commuted sum reimbursements are now complete for 2010/2011.
- e) **Bank Account:** The Clerk spoke to an investment specialist at Lloyds TSB today. The Parish Council can transfer a minimum of £10,000 out of the deposit account into a fixed term account for a higher interest rate. However the funds cannot be released until the end of the term. The term can be as short as six weeks or up to three years. This item was deferred until the next meeting.
- f) **Tarmac chippings:** The Clerk reminded Keith Bloodworth that an invoice for the Tarmac Chippings will be needed before a cheque can be paid. Keith is still chasing. KB
- g) **Grasscutting Quote M Jones:** The Clerk has received M Jones quote for the Grasscutting for the 2012 season. The cost of mowing the village has been kept unchanged at £305 per cut and the landscape maintenance at £10 per hour. It was proposed by Mike Davies, seconded by Michael Guest and agreed by all that the Parish Council should accept this quote.

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### Bank Balances 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011

Commutated sum on deposit	£5701.76
Deposit Account	£35516.95
Current Account	£1063.22
Business Reserve Account	£12863.59

### Transfers

21/11/11 Business Reserve Account to Deposit	£518.87
21/11/11 Commuted sum on Deposit to Deposit	£568.23
22/11/11 Business Call to Current	£1800.00

### Interest Income included in Bank Balances

Business Call Account	£1.43
Commutated Sum	£0.27

### Cheques requiring payment

1569: The Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electric.	£26.21
1570: Clement Keys: External Audit 2010/2011.	£342.00
1571: MFM Services: Mowing Playing Field – October.	£120.00
1572: M Jones: Grasscutting and Landscape Maintenance.	£340.00
1573: E-On: Bowling Club Electric.	£31.87
1574: Playsafety Limited: Play Equipment Inspection.	£100.80
1575: Brady Corp. Ltd: Safety Shop Sign.	£31.48
1576: Smart n Tidy: Landscape Maintenance for War Memorial.	£91.00
1577: Dave Miller: Car Park Edging for the Playing Field.	£42.12
1578: Severn Trent Water Ltd: Bowling Club.	£5.79
1579: Severn Trent Water Ltd: Pavilion.	£122.28
S/O: C Lambert: 2 months salary.	£564.00

### Payments Received

Bowling Club: Reimbursement for Annual Collection Fee for Recycling Bin.	£50.00
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Michael Guest seconded by Jon Dutton, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

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

- a) **Flood Prevention:** Michael Guest reported that the Halls Yard project is finished, the contractor used has been excellent. The grass seed which has been spread is growing well. The footpath diversion can stay in place to protect the area for six months. The District Council has been successful in obtaining funds for the west side of the village these will be available in 2012/2013. The first project is to draw up plans for an attenuation scheme on the west side and a survey of the area is about to be started. The next project would be based around the Doctor's surgery. Aqueous had a plan to protect the garages around Berry Meadow by linking a grill to the manhole. Unfortunately someone has tarmaced over the grill which will make the situation worse. Councillor Williams agreed to get the grill re-instated. MG
- b) **Playing Field:** Dave Miller reported that he is still awaiting the top soil and chippings. As previously discussed the showers in the pavilion are going to be replaced. Dave attended the cricket club meeting and asked for a key to the garage so that the rollers can be moved for which they have agreed. Mike Davies is to complete the retrospective planning application for the new buildings. The small dog fouling signs have been put up. Mike Davies had contacted Playworld to make repairs to the play equipment. DM/MD
- c) **Play Equipment:** Mike Davies reported that he has completed meetings with 4 suppliers to obtain quotes and plans for the over 8's play equipment. One quote that has been received back is approximately £56,000. The Clerk handed Mike the Rospa Play Equipment Inspection Report. MD

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

- a) Mike Davies reported that there was an article in the Chronicle by the Football Club who

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were planning to hold a summer fair on the playing field. It was felt that it would have been polite to contact the Parish Council first to obtain their consent.

- b) Councillor Williams commented on the problem of anti social behaviour around the transformer on the corner of High Street and Station Road. The site is in the ownership of two people one being the District Council. The District Council would be prepared to put up a fence around the area but there is a footpath that runs through it. Michael Guest reported that a working party goes out and tries to clear the ditch that runs around the area from items deliberately placed to block the flow of water. The penalty is now quite severe for anyone found blocking watercourses and it was felt that this would be a good item to be put in the Chronicle. It was agreed that Michael and Brian Peers would look at the area to see what needs to be done. It may be something that the probationers can do.

Cllr  
CW/MG