

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 15th July 2019 commencing at 7:45pm.

Present: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Michael Guest, Derek Carless, Sam Parkes, Roly Whear, Ian Hartwell, Cllr Bob Stevens, Cllr Nigel Rock and Parish Clerk Lisa Andersson.

1. **Acceptance of Apologies:** Alan Payne, was unable to attend due to previous commitments.
2. **Minutes of The Previous Meeting:** Michael Guest, seconded by Derek Carless, proposed acceptance of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th June 2019.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** None.
4. **Dispensations:** None.
5. **Open Forum:** The residents with the planning appeal for the fence on Brook Street came to notify the PC that they would be lodging another appeal, to clad the fence with Horton Stone, as they have been advised by their builder that a wall is not possible. The PC advised that they could only comment when the appeal application has been received.

Another resident raised the issue of the additional 150 houses proposed by the planning authorities for Fenny Compton. The PC advised that the Neighbourhood Plan would reinforce the fact that the built up boundaries have been agreed on, and that Fenny Compton would meet their housing quota when the Compton Buildings development goes ahead. Cllr Rock noted that he had given a lengthy report to the authorities stating these facts. (See Cllr Rock's report in appendix.) The PC were displeased that the planning authorities had not notified them about the proposed consultation.

PC Sid Hammond attended the meeting to report back on rural crime and more specifically the recent incident at the Co-Op. He reported that the response time between the police receiving the call, and arriving at the scene was 8 minutes – which is apparently well below the accepted standards for rural response time (15 minutes is considered acceptable). All vehicles involved have been seized. The theft was orchestrated by an organised crime group, but specific individuals are yet to be identified. A tracking unit had been placed in the ATM prior to the event, and hence the police were able to track the ATM fairly quickly. Decreases in budget have meant fewer numbers of police in rural areas, resulting in the police in the area being stretched. The police feel that the increase in rural crime is not as severe as social media is making out. There have been an increase in van break-ins. Residents reporting issues and giving feedback on suspicious people or issues is extremely helpful to the police. If you see anything you feel needs reporting you can email the Safer Neighbourhoods team on southam.snt@warwickshire.police.uk but if you have an actual crime to report, then still contact 999 or 101. There will be a meeting in Arlescote on the 3rd September where the police commissioner will discuss rural crime issues.

6. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Traffic and Speeding:** Derek Carless is battling to get contact details for the correct person to deal with.
 - b) **Defibrillator at Doctors Surgery:** Sam Parkes has provided further information that was requested for the Lottery funding application, and is expecting to hear back within 12 weeks.
 - c) **Resident: Bench on The Slade needs repairing:** No further update.

d) **Zurich (tree issues):** A quote has been received to deal with the high risk items noted on the tree report. The quote was for £1400 (no VAT), and the acceptance of this quote was proposed by Michael Guest and seconded by Derek Carless.

The Clerk requested a quote from Sacha Barnes Ltd for updating the tree report annually, and the quote received was for £285 plus VAT, should the report required be just an update, with no major new issues to report on. This needs to be built into next years' budget.

e) **Slade Green:** The green appears to be recovering.

f) **Replace Clamps on Swings:** The cost to replace the entire swing set would be approximately £3400. To dig out and remove the existing swings cost £175 plus VAT, but this was when done in conjunction with putting in the new swing, so it was felt that it would be substantially more if done as a standalone job. It is felt that the frame of the swing was still robust, and that the swings could just be replaced. Roly Whear offered to take the clamps to work to be looked at by a specialist, to ascertain the reason for the failure in the first place.

g) **Resident:** Parking near the Co-Op. No further progress made. The Clerk has been trying other avenues, but has made no progress.

h) **Grass Cutting Issue with Orbit:** Cllr Rock has looked into this issue, and will continue to pursue it.

7. Correspondence:

a) **Over 60's Club:** Grant application. The PC regrets that there are no funds available in the budget to cover their outings and Christmas meal.

b) **Resident:** Request for cctv cameras at the entrance and exits to the village. Highways have reported that they have no say in this, and that it would be a decision for county or district council. The feedback from our district and county councillors was that this was only done in bigger towns.

c) **Fencing by the Substation:** Boundary fencing was put in in 2018. It was not installed in line with the boundary line, as SDC felt that it had less chance of being damaged if it was in line with the gate post. This has proved to be the case. With the addition of the concrete block it makes the entrance gate unusable.

d) **RoSPA:** Reminder to book the annual playground inspection. The costs have remained the same year on year, and the PC decided the Clerk should go ahead and book the inspection.

8. Planning:

a) **Application(s) reference: 19/01132/FUL:** To attach the existing outbuilding to the main house. Fenny Lodge, Brook Street. No representation.

b) **Application(s) reference: 19/01771/TREE:** T1 – conifer – Fell. T2 – yew – Fell. Bayards, Bridge Street. No representation.

c) **Application(s) reference: 19/01653/VARY:** Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 18/003808/FUL (Erection of dwelling house and garage) to enable the intergral double garage to be converted into living accommodation and associated fenestration and door alterations. Planning Site, Mill Lane. No representation.

d) **Application(s) reference: 19/01863/TREE:** T2 – siviler birch – Remove. T3 – silver birch – Remove. T4 – rowan – Remove. The Post House, Bridge Street. No representation.

e) **Notice of Decision: Consent Granted with Conditions: Application reference 19/00055/LBC.** Bayards, Bridge Street.

f) **Application(s) reference: 19/01299/FUL:** Alterations to rear elevation to change doors and windows. Meadow Barn, Avon Dasset Road. No representation.

g) **Notice of Decision: Permission with Conditions: Application Reference: 19/00883/FUL:** Application for full planning permission comprising the conversion of existing agricultural buildings to provide two residential dwellings. The Grange, The Slade.

h) **Appeal Decision: Appeal Ref: APP/J3720/W/19/3225779:** Wayland Farm Cottage, Station Fields. Dismissed.

i) **Notice of Decision: Permission with Conditions: Application Reference: 19/01174/FUL:** New extensions to the existing residential property to create an additional bedroom and bathroom on the first floor; a new dining room; a new entrance area on the ground floor and changes to fenestration. 13 Northend Road.

Michael Guest again noted his displeasure over the fact that the PC was not officially notified about the planning consultation regarding additional homes added to the quota for Fenny Compton. Cllr Rock noted that there were other villages who made the same complaint. Cllr Guest asked when the PC would receive official notification regarding this consultation.

Cllr Rock noted that a formal response to the consultation from the PC would be advisable. Jon Dutton and Roly Whear agreed to work on this.

9. **County and District Councillors Report:**

See Appendix 1 for Cllr Bob Stevens' report and Appendix 2 for Cllr Nigel Rocks' report. The inclusion of this report as an appendix does not assume that the PC agrees with all points mentioned in the report, it is merely a copy of the report given at the meeting.

10. **Finance:**

a) *Agreement of Payments/Signing of Cheques:* Payment for invoices was agreed and then presented for payment.

b) *Bank Reconciliation and Finance for the Meeting:* The various bank balances were reported on to the Parish Council as noted below.

Bank Balances 15th July 2019

Commuted Sum on Deposit	£ 910.19
Deposit Account	£26,281.09
High Interest fixed term deposit	£0.00
Current Account	£ 2533.05
Partial Withdrawal High Interest Deposit	£10,000.00

Transfers

Business to Call Account	£1,500.00
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Interest Income Included In Bank Balances

	July
Business Call Account	£0.04
Commuted Sum	£1.17

Cheques Paid Since Last Meeting

None

Cheques Requiring Payment

1) 2221 E.On: Street Light Electricity	£215.14
2) 2222 Lisa Andersson: Expenses	£33.30

3) 2223	Frank Mann Farmers: Grass Cutting	£334.80
4) 2224	Utility Warehouse: Pavilion Electricity	£11.16
5) 2225	WCC Pension Fund: Pension contribution (June & July)	£195.70
6) S/O	Staff Salary June	£313.47
7) S/O	Staff Salary July	£313.47

Payments Received

None.

Michael Guest noted that contrary to previous belief, the grant amount not yet spent by the Neighbourhood Plan in the previous financial year, does not actually have to be given back and reapplied for.

Jon Dutton has been reworking the format of the monthly budget update to a more user friendly format.

Derek Carless, seconded by Roly Whear, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was **agreed by all**.

11. Updates:

a) **Flood Prevention:** Alan Payne sent in an update stating that progress from WCC was slow, and that there was a meeting planned for August.

b) **Playing Field/Play Equipment:** The dog bin lid has still not been repaired by Street Scene.

Action: Clerk to follow up again.

The quotation of £9000 for fixing the roof was met with a positive response by the party interested in opening a café at the sports pavilion. He suggested that he may consider funding this, but would need to consider this. He also wondered if he could attend the NP meeting to see what the plans for the village were. It was noted that he was allowed to attend as a member of the public.

The Clerk has had a response from Severn Trent stating that they own the access road, and that their management company would be in contact to discuss access rights.

c) **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** The third draft has been completed. The headlines of the draft will be put to the village at an open meeting on the morning of the 27th July. There shall be banners erected in due course, and it will be advertised on social media, notifying the village of the event.

d) **Allotments:** The fitting of the water meter is awaited. There have been a request for some sheds. The planning offices at SDC state that a planning application would be required for these sheds.

e) **Highways:** The Clerk has made contact with the power company, and is awaiting a response. The PC is concerned that should one of these branches damage a power line, that it will cut off electricity supply to the village, or part thereof.

Action: Clerk to follow up on this issue.

The issue with the pole in the drain on the corner of Memorial and High Streets has been reported by Highways to BT (who own the pole). BT suggested that Highways move their drain, to which they responded that that was a ridiculous suggestion. Highways shall chase BT to remove the pole.

Action: Clerk to follow up with Highways on this issue.

Highways have raised a request for jetting the drain on the corner opposite Manor Court.

- f) **Street Lighting:** The light closest to the Wharf is still not functioning in spite of the Clerk continuing to follow up with the service provider. The light lens on number 1 High Street has been replaced. The new pole and apparatus on Dog Lane and the 2 concrete columns being replaced on Bridge Street have been completed. The one on Dog Lane is just awaiting the electricity to be connected.
- g) **GDPR:** Sam Parkes will do further work on this during the school holidays.
- h) **Traffic:** As per update in item 6 a).

12. Clerk Vacancy

13. Items to Publicise:

- a) Feedback from PC Sid Hammond
- b) Housing Consultation
- c) Neighbourhood Plan Consultation
- d) Rubbish Near the Substation

14. Items for Future Discussion:

- a) Vacancy.

15. Date of Next Meeting: 16th September 2019.

The meeting closed at 21:39.

Appendix 1 -

County Councillor Bob Stevens' report:

Fenny Compton Parish Council WCC report July 2019

General

The County Councils present 4 year medium term programme comes to an end this year It was based on keeping the county's finances healthy and streamlining the work force to meet the mandatory responsibilities of the Council at a time of austerity. The Leader in conjunction with the Chief Executive have finally announced their ambitions for the next 4 years and beyond and an organisation structure has been finalised. The main thrust will be to maintain the county's prosperity and to help those less well-off, and hence vulnerable, to find employment with a dignified retirement in old age. Also to encourage firms to take on apprentices and prepare school leavers for their futures. However until a settled budgetary process is agreed precise details cannot be finalised and this will not happen until the government has determined the outcome of Brexit and passed necessary legislation on local government finances. At present it is "same jobs different personalities doing them"

Highways

As well as the disruption to some local roads as a result of work for HS2, this is the season for the surface dressing programme and an opportunity for road repair and maintenance. Coordination of road closures and traffic diversions is carried out wherever possible although emergencies (Severn Trent) and work overruns often creates added confusion. The county councils web page on road works is the most accurate indication of what is taking place, when and where, but I find it very cluttered. I have asked for a simpler alert system to be explored. I keep your clerk informed whenever I can of impending closures subject to change!!

HS2

This is likely to be a regular item in my reports. Work at Wormlieghton has now started and the laying of the ducting for the power cable to the boring machine progresses. Site surveying (off the main roads) continues as the line is finalised and the position of the maintenance and accommodation sites is decided. Acceptable access points with a clear visibility is creating some delays as in some cases HS2 want to cut down listed trees that get in the way! Farmers, too, are concerned about their harvest and the effect of road closures as they transport their crops from the field to the loading points, (even more tractors on the Fosse!) There are a series of meetings over the next few weeks to try and resolve some of these problems but at the end of the day the Hybrid Bill is final and HS2 are expecting to start the main works early next year come what may. There was a useful meeting with Jeremy Wright 10 days ago, when many of the problems that presently exist were raised.

Grants

There was a premature closure of my community grant and a second round will start in September. CEMEX and HS2 still operate community grant schemes

Bob Stevens – County Councillor Feldon Division

Appendix 2 –

District Councillor Nigel Rock's Report:

Report from Cllr Nigel Rock July 19

I have arranged for PC Sid Hammond to come to the PC meeting to explaining the latest situation on crime in our area.

On planning policy I will be making the following speech in the council chamber on 15 July. Update – I did so. I was one of two members out of 36 to vote against the proposal. The rest of the Lib Dem group (10) abstaining and the conservatives voting for the proposal enblock.)

I have been put here to represent Napton and Fenny Compton, both villages in the hinterland of Southam. In the document before us, Napton is to have an additional 85 homes. Napton village presently has 377 homes so that is an expansion of 22%. Fenny Compton presently has 330 homes but on this proposal there are reserve sites of 150 homes. This, added to the 80 homes already approved but not yet built, plus a further 20 awaiting determination would result in a potential expansion of this Rural Warwickshire village of 75%. A higher proportion than any other town or village.

It is correctly argued in this document that the infrastructure around Southam is under strain, particularly secondary education, and there are additional considerations. My ward, including Napton and Fenny Compton villages, share the same overstretched NHS GP network, the same Southam police beat and other local Southam resources including an infrastructure joined by an A-Road network centred on Southam.

A zone around Southam has been set out where development should be limited, defined by the nominal catchment area of Southam College. This boundary has a bite out of the southern boundary near Fenny Compton. For reasons best known to others, the boundary uses mediaeval features relied on by the Saxons around lost villages to the south, villages which substantially disappeared in the Black Death. (Watergall, Hondell, Radbourn, Chapel Ascote) the boundary ignores the A road network of today.

On this basis Fenny Compton may not be technically be in the catchment of Southam College but is directly connected by the A423 - it is quicker to get to Southam college than to Kineton school and, as might be expected, some parents from Fenny Compton already send their children to Southam College. The expansion of Fenny Compton on anything like this scale would be bound to place pressures on Southam College - in an opposite effect to the stated desire of the policy.

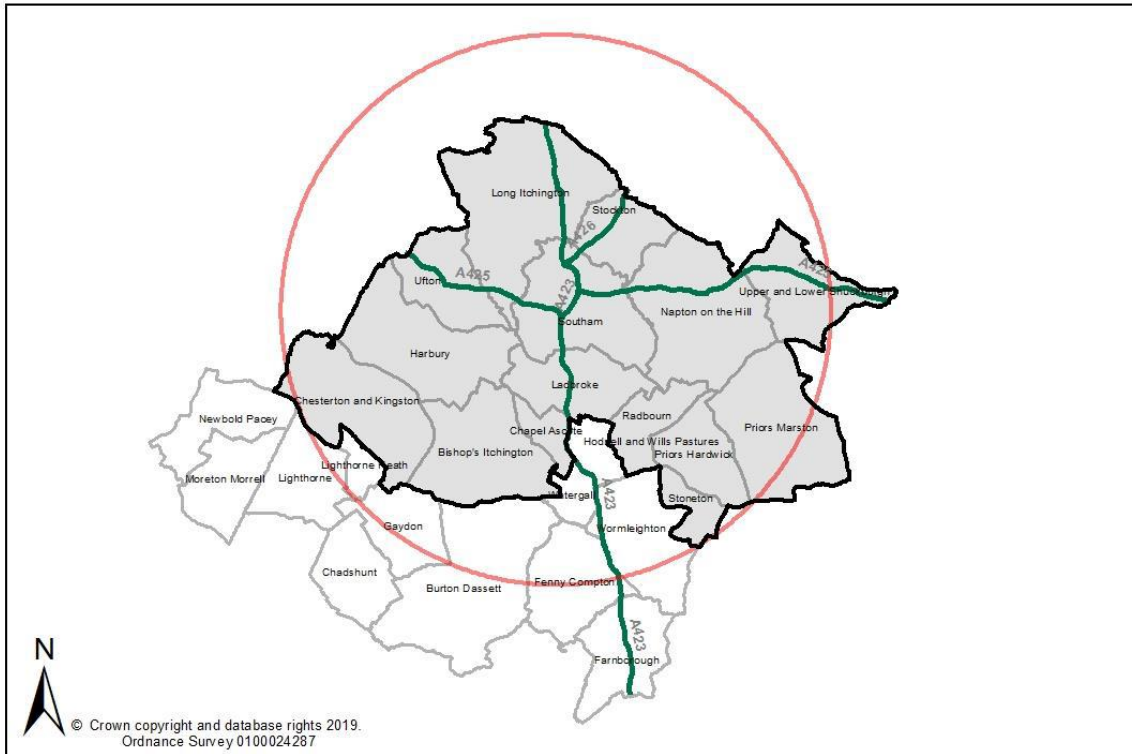
It is clearly wise to limit development around Southam, but pushing extreme additional numbers of homes to just outside a theoretical boundary line would surely seem unreasonable. And Napton with its additional 85 is inside that Southam catchment anyway.

I can see the desirability of the council keeping control of our planning policy but for my ward this proposal is unreasonable. I ask the Cabinet to look again at this proposal. As it stands, I will be voting against it.

Finally, it has been said there is plenty of opportunity for representation during the consultation period. This period is 6 weeks from August to September – the holiday period. How does this look to the public? Many parish councils do not meet in August and many village magazines do not have an August issue. These are important channels of

Report from Cllr Nigel Rock July 19

communications in our rural communities. Can we not have a more appropriate consultation period?



Southam College Catchment Area