

The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 18th May 2015

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 18th May 2015 commencing at 8.05pm.

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

1. **Apologies:** Councillor Williams arrived at 8.30pm.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Jon Dutton, seconded by Mike Davies, proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 20th April 2015.
Michael Guest, seconded by Jon Dutton, proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th April 2015.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** None.
4. **Open Forum:** None.
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Election Results:** Graham Raspin from the District Council has confirmed the results of the Parliamentary and District Council Elections. Councillor Christopher Williams was re-elected as District Councillor for Fenny Compton and Jeremy Wright was re-elected as MP for Kenilworth and Southam.
 - b) **Farmers Market:** Mike Davies reported that he contact Alcester Town Council who have gone through the process of becoming a Market Authority. However, Alcester has a full time Town Clerk and are in a different position to Fenny Compton. Mike agreed to talk to WALC to find out more information on the responsibilities which the Parish Council might be assuming. MD
 - c) **Allotment Provision:** Jon Dutton had nothing further to report at this time.
 - d) **Land Registry:** Mike Davies reported that he had met with Deborah Lea and Michael Guest. The Parish Council can definitely prove that they own the Sports Field, the Squire Place Wildlife Area, Cotters Croft open spaces and Field Gate Lane open spaces as they are already registered at the Land Registry. The Parish Council holds enough evidence to register the bowling green. The areas that cannot be proved are the Avon Dassett Green and the War Memorial and the land around it. The Clerk will investigate the documentation for the Parish Council Cemetery. It was agreed to wait and collate all the evidence before approaching solicitors to register the land. CL
 - e) **Highways:** The verge by Grants Close has been repaired. The footpath on Church Street has been marked up to be repaired. The Clerk had enquired again regarding the blocked drain by the school. Patch replied that he had looked at the site after several hours of fairly heavy rain and found that there was no leaking from the chambers or gully, He has however, raised a defect to have them jetted. He thought that the Parish Council should be aware that there is a history of fairly slow storm water drainage in and around this area, it was investigated several years ago by his colleague Nigel Chetwynd. The result of his investigation was that they could not improve the flow as it was a capacity issue, rather than damaged pipework. The Clerk will report a number of pot holes at the entrance to the Slade and in Memorial Road. Michael Guest reported that he had inspected the Slade at the far end and the pot holes have been infilled. He thought that the road would be suitable for use by a 4x4 vehicle but unsuitable for a smaller car. CL
 - f) **Streetlighting:** The Clerk has reported the light opposite the Doctor's surgery was on in the day again. The Clerk has not received a list of alternative suppliers as promised by E-On. She will chase this for the next meeting. CL
 - g) **Police Report:** The Community Forum which was to take place on the 3rd June has now been cancelled. The next meeting will be held on the 9th September 2015.
 - h) **Standing Orders:** Mike Davies is still in the process of updating the Standing Orders. MD
 - i) **Email addresses:** Mike Davies has been waiting for the election before updating the email addresses. He will need to remove the details for Keith Bloodworth and Nigel Leck and confirm that Ian Hartwell's email address is working. MD
 - j) **Documents that must legally appear on Councils' Websites.** The Clerk has started to implement the changes required. Mike Davies is still to scan the last Annual Return on CL/MD

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the Clerk's behalf.

- k) **Transparency Code for Parish Councils:** Michael Guest had re-read all the documents. He distributed a copy of the WALC summary for Councillors to look through and report back next month.
- l) **Overgrown hedge adjacent to 3 Field Gate Lane:** The work has been completed.
- m) **Empty homes:** Sheree Johansen reported that she will visit the property at the Wharf, She has asked the Conservation Officer to have a look at the other property to give her his opinion as to whether or not he feels that an Improvement Notice is in order. She has also written to the owner but to date has not received a response.
- n) **Canal and River Trust:** Mike Davies is unable to attend the meeting for the Canal and River Trust.
- o) **Freedom of Information – “Datasets”:** This new legislation relates to documents held electronically. The Council will need to go through the publication list to see if they need to add anything to it. Mike Davies reported that this is still to be done. MD
- p) **WALC:** Legal Topic Notes Updates on Legal Proceedings, Staff Pensions and Section 137. Mike Davies is to look at this documentation. MD
- q) **Diversion of Public Right of Way SM143a:** The Clerk has received a copy of the Order for the diversion.

6. Correspondence:

- a) **WALC:** NALC Event for new Councillors elected in May.
- b) **Fenny Compton PCC:** Request for funding towards the mowing costs of the Churchyard. To be considered at the next meeting.
- c) **WALC:** Good Councillors Guide Addendum and upcoming training reminder.
- d) **WALC:** Election Special Newsletter. Circulate to all Parish Councillors. CL
- e) **Warwickshire County Council:** HS2 Spring Bulletin.

7. Planning:

- a) **Planning Permission Granted with Conditions 15/00501/FUL:** Demolition of garage and workshop/store to allow erection of dwelling house in grounds of Manor Lodge (resubmission of withdrawn application 14/02748/FUL). Manor Lodge, Northend Road, Fenny Compton.
- b) **Planning Consent Granted with Conditions 15/00458/LBC:** To undertake maintenance of the property, in line with Structural engineer report. This is to stitch the RH-front elevation using Heliflex 'L' rods to prevent further lateral movement of the stone walls. Bedding joints will then be lime-mortar filled to match existing brickwork patina. The Hollies, Church Street, Fenny Compton.
- c) **Notice of Decision 15/01206/LBP:** Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Works. Mill Hill Cottages, The Slade, Fenny Compton.
- d) **Planning Application 15/01025/FUL:** Conversion and extension of barns into a single dwelling and annex. Some poorly built lean-to structures behind the barns east elevation will be demolished. Land Rear Of School Hill Farm House, Church Street, Fenny Compton. Mrs Margaret Grant. This item was discussed at the special meeting held on the 12th May 2015. Response by Fenny Compton Parish Council to the consultation. Fenny Compton Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal for the following reasons:
 - 1. The proposed development represents an over development of the site.
 - 2. The proposed development is not in sympathy with adjacent buildings, particularly as the site is located in the Fenny Compton Conservation Area.
 - 3. The proposed development does not address the problem of existing flooding on the site, which will potentially be exacerbated by the proposed treatment of surface water drainage.
- e) **Planning Application 15/00575/LBC:** Rebuilding/replacement of rear/side boundary and replacement of existing windows. Chestnut Cottage, Rectory Farm Court, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton. Mr Richard Shore. No Representation.
- f) **Planning Application 15/01339/FUL:** First floor rear extension. The Orchard, Dog Lane, Fenny Compton. Mr Duncan Rone-Clarke. No Representation.

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

Councillor Williams reported

On 7th May 2015, all of the residents within Stratford District Council voted not only for their Parliamentary candidate but also for their new District Councillor. This particular election utilised new boundaries taking into account the reduction in council size from 53 to 36. Councillor Williams was pleased to say that he has been re-elected as Fenny Compton's District Councillor for the next four years in the Napton & Fenny Compton Ward with a 75.2% turnout.

Draft Core Strategy: The Government Inspector in his Interim Report published on 17th March indicated that he was content with 70% of the proposals but considered that the District Council should re-address the proposals put forward after the closing date when the Core Strategy was proposed. In particular, he said that they should re-consider the application to develop Wellesbourne Airfield with 1,500 homes and a late submission for a development on the outskirts of Southam near Dallas Burston Polo Ground. He also considered that the housing allocation is probably insufficient to meet the current economic boom that is occurring in Stratford District.

The Council is, of course, considering these proposals and whilst this has incurred a delay in securing an approved Core Strategy they are still confident that the final document will be approved in the autumn. Mike Davies asked where the extra 2500 houses are likely to go. Councillor Williams responded that the level of development is to take place over 15 years, however some will go to local centre villages. There is clearly an appetite to develop Wellesbourne airfield which is a more sustainable proposal. Michael Guest said that the only defence the Parish Council has against development is an approved core strategy.

Clearly, as a result of the Election there is an appetite for devolution. Greater Manchester is being offered the lead and Birmingham is lobbying for a "Greater Birmingham Authority" to embrace not only Birmingham and the surrounding Metropolitan areas but Solihull, Coventry and Warwickshire as well. Councillor Williams believes that the only sensible option is a Coventry Warwickshire (and possibly Solihull) Authority of just over one million people. However, before Warwickshire can agree to anything the Districts and Boroughs have to agree and if they want to avoid an extra tier of government Unitary status must be an option.

9. **Finance:**

a) **Internal Audit:** The Clerk had taken all the relevant documentation to Mrs Pogmore who carried out the Parish Council's Internal Audit. There was only one item of slight concern regarding the calculation of the Clerk's salary. She is paid for 4 weeks in a month, however there are more than 28 days in most months. There were no other matters arising. The Clerk is due for her appraisal shortly and her salary will be recalculated at this time.

b) **Approval of Fenny Compton Parish Council's Annual Accounts 2014/15:** Following the completion of the Internal Audit the Parish Council approved the financial accounts 2014/15. This was proposed by Michael Guest, seconded by Jon Dutton, and agreed by all.

c) **External Audit: Approval of the Annual Return 2014/15:** The Clerk had circulated a copy of the figures entered into the Statement of Accounts together with the notes for the auditor.

CL

Resolution: Proposed by Jon Dutton, seconded by Mike Davies and agreed by all the Parish Council approved and signed the statement of accounts.

Resolution: Proposed by Jon Dutton, seconded by Michael Guest and agreed by all the Parish Council approved and signed the Annual Governance Statement. The Clerk will now forward all the necessary documentation to the External Audit.

d) **Financial Regulations:** Mike Davies reported that he, Deborah Lea and Jon Dutton had met to discuss the draft financial regulations. Michael Guest had also given his feedback on the document. Michael Guest, seconded by Jon Dutton proposed the approval of the financial regulations subject to the small amendments discussed. Thanks were given to Mike Davies for all his hard work with this item.

e) **Insurance Renewal:** Michael Guest and the Clerk had confirmed acceptance of the quote by Aon.

f) **Pavilion Plumbing:** The Chair had agreed to accept the quote for the plumbing work in the pavilion by Superior Plumbing Services for £457.20 in order for the work to go ahead as soon as possible.

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Bank Balances 18th May 2015

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| Commuted sum on deposit | £4,252.26 |
| Deposit Account | £20,324.61 |
| Higher interest fixed term deposit | £15,000.00 |
| Current Account | £181.79 |
| Partial Withdrawal High Interest Deposit | £11560.04 |

Transfers

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| 19/05/15: Business Call to Current Account | £3800.00 |
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Interest Income included in Bank Balances

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| Business Call Account | £1.15 |
| Commuted Sum | £0.18 |

Cheques paid since the last meeting

None

Cheques requiring payment

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| 1836: MFM Services: Mowing the playing field and play area. | £270.00 |
| 1837: Mrs Pogmore: Internal Audit Fee. | £100.00 |
| 1838: M Jones: Grasscutting and Landscape Maintenance. | £960.00 |
| 1839: Catherine Lambert: Petrol Allowance to attend the Internal Audit. | £32.87 |
| 1840: Aon UK Limited: Insurance Premium. | £1181.16 |
| 1841: Superior Plumbing Services: Pavilion Plumbing. | £457.20 |
| 1842: Andrew Saunders: Tree work. | £90.00 |
| S/O: Catherine Lambert: 2 months' salary. | £642.56 |

Payments Received

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| Stratford on Avon District Council: 6 months Precept. | £9475.00 |
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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 had nothing further to report. Councillor Williams reported that the meeting with Aqueous and the County Council which was to be held shortly has been postponed until the middle of June.
- b) **Playing Field:** The football club replied to the Clerk that they had forwarded their keys for the pavilion to the Colts Football club. Mike Davies reported that the plumbing work in the Pavilion has been completed.
- c) **Play Equipment:** Mike Davies reported that he needs to organise the work outlined in the RoSPA report. He also informed the Parish Council that he may have found another source of funding for the over 8's play equipment.
- d) **Superfast Broadband:** Mike Davies reported that he and Keith Hicks are to attend a meeting on the 18th June 2015 at Stratford on Avon.

11. **Any Other Business:**

- a) Deborah Lea had received complaints regarding the grass cutting in Grants Close. These had been passed on to the Clerk and Councillor Williams. Councillor Williams responded that the County Council Legal Department have been in contact with the Housing Association regarding the ownership of the land in question. Orbit are now taking responsibility and will organise the cutting of the grass.
- b) Councillor Williams confirmed that the best example of a Neighbourhood Plan is Kineton's. He has organised for Ken Priddis to attend the Parish Council's meeting in July to explain what is involved.

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