

The Minutes of Fenny Compton Parish Council Meeting – 12th December 2016

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on 12th December 2016 commencing at 7.45pm.

Present: Miss Deborah Lea in the Chair, Jon Dutton, Michael Guest, Derek Carless, Sam Parkes, Neil Andrew, Councillor Christopher Williams & Parish Clerk Catherine Lambert.

1. **New Councillor to sign their Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form:** Neil Andrew signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form. The Clerk informed him that he needs to complete a Declaration of Pecuniary Interest form within 28 days. The Clerk had informed the Returning Officer and Monitoring Officer of Neil's appointment.
2. **Apologies:** Ian Hartwell.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Derek Carless, seconded by Deborah Lea, proposed acceptance of the Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held on the 21st November 2016.
4. **Declaration of Interests:** Sam Parkes declared a personal interest in item 7(g). Neil Andrew declared a personal interest in item 7(l).
5. **Open Forum:** None.
6. **Planning:**
 - a) **Planning Application 16/03403/OUT:** Residential development and means of access for up to 39 houses. Land West of, Avon Dasset Road, Fenny Compton. Mr N Parkin. Councillor Williams informed the meeting that he has objected to the application on the grounds that it is against a number of policies included in the Core Strategy. Local residents attended the meeting and discussed their concerns and objections to the application, these included the following: The location of the development is outside the village in a dominant position. The access onto the Avon Dasset Road is not satisfactory. The site is a ridge and furrow field. The site is also within the area around the Scheduled Ancient Monument at Gredenton Hill Fort, which was not mentioned in the application. The fact that there is no footpath access to the village and most residents would need to use their car to access local services. The speed survey in the application showed information on the traffic leaving the village, but not of that entering the village. The survey showed that the majority of traffic was speeding. When entering the village the speed limit changes directly from the national speed limit of 60mph to 20mph. It is unusual for the speed limit to change so dramatically especially when descending a hill. It would therefore be an unsuitable area to locate a housing development. A resident was told that the site is within a Special Landscape Area and adjacent to the Conservation Area. The Core Strategy states that small developments might be allowed but not a large scale development. There was concerns regarding the ecological survey included in the application. The development would be very dominant in the landscape, the ground level is 5m higher than that at Grants Close. This site was not identified in the Core Strategy as a potential site for development. Following these discussions Michael Guest proposed that the Parish Council object to this application, which was unanimously agreed by the Parish Council. Residents were reminded that they are free to respond to the application in their own right. Jon Dutton agreed to draft a response.
 - b) **Compton Building Site:** Councillor Williams introduced Mr Painter on behalf Orbit Homes, and the planning consultant for Compton Buildings. He told the meeting that Bloor Homes had wasted a lot of time for Compton Buildings and they have now found Orbit Homes who are looking to submit a buildable scheme to make a site that works. They put forward a scheme to the Parish Council but were not seeking support at this stage, however they welcomed input from the Council. The aim is to put forward a reserved matters planning application. Access for the site had already been agreed under the outline planning application. The scheme put to the Parish Council was lower in density to fit in with the village. This proposal is for 98 homes. The plan still leaves a site for commercial development. The opposite side of the road is still to be a balancing pond and open space. The sizing of the housing would be predominantly family houses, 40% would be 3 bedrooms, 40% 4 bedrooms the remainder would be 1 and 2 bedrooms. This makes the scheme contrary to the Core Strategy. 35% of the homes would be social housing. A buffer strip has been incorporated around the edge. If they include more 1 or 2 houses,

JD/CL

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then the density increases and the total number of homes will increase, which does not sit well in a rural setting. The density of houses is lower. They have set out to respect the landscape and the village. Based on the plans set out before the Council the Parish Council was positive in their opinion, however no decision could be given until a formal planning application is received.

- c) **Notice of Decision. Approval 16/02284/REM:** Application for approval of reserved matters relating to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline planning permission 13/01346/OUT (Outline planning permission, with all matters reserved except access, for the erection of 13 residential dwellings (following demolition of existing dwelling) with associated access, and the provision of allotments). Land East of High Street, Fenny Compton.
- d) **Notice of Decision. Consent with Conditions 16/03151/TREE:** T1: Birch: reduce crown by one-third to height of 7m. T2: Birch: reduce crown by one-third to height of 7m. T3: Elder: reduce crown spread to 4m. T4: Cherry: reduce crown to garden side to reduce leaf area by 1m. T5: Hornbeam: reduce crown spread to 3m. The Post House, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton.
- e) **Planning Application 16/03512/FUL:** Proposed temporary permission (2 years) for the siting of demountable structure for use as a classroom and storage area in connection with existing training use (extension of 14/01631/FUL). Apple Construction Training Ltd, Unit 2 and 4, Station Fields, Fenny Compton. Mrs K Bendzak. No Representation.
- f) **Planning Application 16/03858/FUL:** Removal of garage door, new gable window to match opposite gable and a new window to the WC. The Old School, Church Street, Fenny Compton. Mr and Mrs H Birkbeck. No Representation.

7. **Matters Arising:**

- a) **Tree work:** Andrew Saunders has cut back the tree on the playing field which over hangs No 15 Meadow Way. The Clerk had reported the trees on the Avon Dasset Road to the Highways Department. Ruth Dunn reported the condition of the trees on the corner of Church Street and Avon Dasset Road which the Parish Council will monitor. The Parish Council had received a request from Helen Hide Wright regarding trees overhanging her and other properties on Meadow Way from the playing field. The Parish Council agreed to respond to this request highlighting that any resident is able to remove any overhanging branches into their property up to the edge of their boundary at their own cost. The Parish Council did not agree to take any action at present as the trees do not give any cause for concern regarding their condition. CL
- b) **Footpath by Station Road Electricity Substation:** Derek Carless reported that the work was completed yesterday. Thanks were given to the Footpath Group. DC
- c) **Defibrillator:** Sam Parkes will report back at the next meeting. SP
- d) **Land Registry:** Michael Guest reported that he is awaiting a cost estimate from the solicitors. He had advised them that the Parish Council will not progress with the registration of the verge on the Avon Dasset Road by Rectory Farm Court. MG
- e) **Highways:** Ian Hartwell had contacted Orbit Housing and spoke to David Hanson who assured him that the matter was a Warwickshire County Council Highways issue. Ian filled in an online report in the hope that this may resolve the issue and some repair may be done. Helen Hide Wright emailed asking the Parish Council to consider the state of the drains and potholes in the village. The drains at the bottom of Mill Lane have been blocked for months and the water flows continuously onto the road. It recently had formed ice over a considerable part of the road and pavement, causing a hazard to pedestrians and road users. There are a number of potholes coming down the hill into Fenny Compton, from Avon Dasset as well as numerous ones on the approach to the village from Northend Road. The Clerk had also received an email from Helen King regarding the blocked drains on Mill Lane. The Clerk reported this defect immediately to the Highways Department who responded that the drain which is blocked belongs to Severn Trent Water and the Highways Department has informed them. There was a gully further up Mill Lane that was blocked but this was cleared. The drain on the corner of Northend Road was reported by Councillor Williams and the Clerk asked for an update. The Highways Department confirmed that there is a defect in for jetting all the gullies, they have also asked one of their apprentices to look at the area with a view to patching. They will be inspecting the area this coming Thursday. CL/IH
- f) **Street lighting:** The Clerk had reported the streetlight on Dog Lane which has been repaired and the replacement lanterns are due to be installed the beginning of December. CL

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- g) **1 The Willows, High Street:** Sam Parkes and Jon Dutton will continue to report this issue to Severn Trent Water requesting a repair. SP/JD
- h) **Monitoring of Planning Conditions:** The Clerk has sent the planning spreadsheet and has started sending the planning decision notices to Derek Carless. DC/CL
- i) **Waylands Farm Footpath diversion:** Councillor Williams has asked for a copy of this diversion to be sent to him and the Parish Council, as the diversion has been approved. Cllr CW
- j) **Property Marking Pack:** It was agreed to organise a property marking event in the New Year and advertise this in the Chronicle.
- k) **Pensions:** Jon Dutton reported that he had contacted the pension's regulator and was told that the Parish Council's staging date for auto enrolment is 1st April 2017. On this date the Council will need to write to their employee offering to enrol them into a pension's scheme, although the Parish Council don't have to make contributions to it. They will then need to submit a Declaration of Compliance. JD
- l) **Brook Street:** Jon Dutton reported that he had obtained a camera and looked at the recordings over a two week period. There has been no incidents yet of anyone going the wrong way down Brook Street. Councillor Williams has spoken to the Highways Department who state that this is not their problem it is a police issue. The police need evidence. Jon Dutton had spoken to the County Council and is awaiting a response. JD
- m) **Mike Davies Documentation:** The Clerk had contacted the web team again to close Mike Davies email account. She will contact them again to include a new email address for Neil Andrew. Jon Dutton and Derek Carless are still to put up the signs for the playing field. CL/JD/DC
- n) **Facebook page:** Jon Dutton reported that the Parish Council Facebook page is now up and running. 60 people have liked it. He will continue to update the page with current issues. JD/IH
- o) **BT Consultation:** Jon Dutton had responded to the consultation as agreed at the last meeting.
- p) **Speed Survey:** The Clerk had forwarded this as requested to the Gaydon Speedwatch Group. The question was asked at the last meeting whether to carry out a new speed survey in Fenny Compton. This will be an Agenda item for the January meeting.
- q) **Dave Miller:** The Clerk had responded to Mr Miller's letter and had received no response.
- r) **Website:** The Clerk had not received any further information from the web team regarding the new system.
- s) **War Memorial:** The paving around the war memorial will be discussed under an Agenda item for the January meeting.

8. Correspondence:

- a) **Anthony Curtis:** Asking for information on the precept. Can the Parish Council add more to its website to add transparency to the role of Parish Councillor? Could we have more of a profile of the Councillors? The Clerk will respond regarding the precept and Jon Dutton will formulate a description of the role of a Parish Councillor to be included on the website and possibly the Chronicle. CL/JD
- b) **Warwickshire County Council:** Forthcoming Changes to 75 Bus Service.
- c) **Helen Hide Wright:** Requesting that the Parish Council undertakes work on the trees overhanging the residential properties in Meadow Way and Field Gate Lane. Also a request to ask the Parish Council to consider the state of the drains and potholes in the village. This was discussed under matters arising.
- d) **Tom Hunt:** He has just discovered that a planning application has been made for 39 houses on land between Grants Close and the Avon Dassett Road. Any development here in his opinion would be seriously detrimental to the village and surrounding area, and also increase the likelihood of flooding further down the village.
- e) **Helen King:** There has been a persistent stream of water flowing down Mill Lane from an overflowing drain cover half way up Mill Lane for upwards of a year or more now. This morning a huge stretch of solid ice had formed and this is a significant hazard for pedestrians and cars traveling along the road as well as school children who use this route every day. The Clerk had passed this correspondence on to the Highway's Department.
- f) **Lisa Blake:** A request to include a link on the Parish Council website to the job search engine Jobbydoo. The Parish Council declined this request.
- g) **WALC:** WALC County Training Partnership Events Programme 2017. Circulate to all Parish Councillors. CL
- h) **Warwickshire County Council:** December Cyber Crime Update.

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- i) **Warwickshire County Council:** For your information – Patient Transport Briefing Note.
- j) **Warwickshire County Council:** HS2. Information regarding the different community funds that are available to bid for and when the process will start. They are currently waiting for more information about the panel and its members. Also attached is the draft Code of Construction Practice, which outlines how their contractors will have to behave during the construction of the line, along with the role of the planning authority.
- k) **Warwickshire County Council:** Warwickshire Minerals Plan (2017 – 2032) Public Consultation. Passed to Michael Guest.
- l) **Stratford on Avon District Council:** Revised register of electors.
- m) **Local Council Review:** Newsletter.
- n) **Fenny Compton Water Ltd:** The Chair had received a verbal communication from the Fenny Compton Water Company, they need to install equipment on the verge of Avon Dassett Road. They need this equipment for the company to continue, they wish to start work in January. They will need planning consent. The equipment will need access to the electricity supply and they would like to connect this to the adjacent streetlight. The Chair had asked them to submit their request in writing but this had not been received. The Clerk was concerned that the Parish Council have an unmetered electricity supply which is administered via a signed inventory. A 24 month fixed electricity contract has just been signed and any addition is not allowed under the current contract and inventory. The Parish Council agreed that there was not enough information from the Water Company at present and agreed that they could not provide the electricity they need. Councillor Williams told the Parish Council that the Water Company should contact Stratford on Avon District Council who would help them resolve their problems.

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

Councillor Williams gave the following report:

Jim Graham, the Chief Executive of Warwickshire County Council, has announced his retirement to take effect on 5th February 2017, the day after the Budget setting process. There will be no replacement until after the May 2017 elections for County Councillors and whichever party has the majority will select the new Chief Executive to the County Council.

The Conservative Group have announced their proposals for the next financial year regarding budgetary predictions. There is disappointment that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not allow for any additional funding for the care of the aged which in Warwickshire accounts for 40% of the budgetary expenditure. It is proposed to increase Council Tax by 1.99% together with an additional 2% which will be ring fenced towards care for the aged. This proposal will require government support as was given last year. There will be no cuts to the Fire Service and no closures of any Fire Station. The proposals will be debated at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 2nd February 2017. A review of the new dual carriageway between M40 and Jaguar Land Rover will commence in January. This is to allow the new system to become recognized by users and already there has been a noticeable reduction in drivers using short cuts through local villages.

Gaydon/Lighthorne Heath proposals – There will be an exhibition in Lighthorne Heath Village Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday 13th and 14th December between 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. It is advertised as an invitation to attend a Public Exhibition on B4100 Banbury Road scheme. In essence, the road scheme is to help connectivity between Lighthorne Heath and the new community. It is expected that full planning application for the improved scheme will be submitted in 2017. It is hoped that this event will allow visitors to view, discuss and comment on the draft proposals.

10. **Finance:**

- a) **Budget Calculations 2017/18:** The Clerk had drawn up a preliminary budget for the Councillors to discuss. The Clerk has not received any information from the District Council regarding the setting of the Council Tax base and the Council Tax Support Grant. The approval of the budget and precept request will take place at the January meeting.
- b) **Pavilion Electricity:** The Clerk has not received the December invoice.
- c) **Cheque signatories:** The Clerk had forwarded the completed form.
- d) **Streetlight Electricity Contract:** The Clerk confirmed acceptance of the quote which was approved.
- e) **Grass mowing Quote:** The Clerk had contacted MFM Services to ask for a quote to mow the playing field areas for 2017.
- f) **Aqueous:** Michael Guest had requested a cheque to cover the cost of the Aqueous insurance this will be taken from their earmarked reserves.

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Bank Balances 12 December 2016

Commutated sum on deposit	£3,733.24
Deposit Account	£16350.94
Higher interest fixed term deposit	£15000.00
Current Account	£343.89
Partial Withdrawal High Interest Deposit	£10443.80

Transfers

13/12/16: Business Call to Current Account	£2800.00
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Interest Income included in Bank Balances

Business Call Account	£0.78
Commutated Sum	£0.15

Cheques paid since the last meeting

None.

Cheques requiring payment

1950: Andrew Saunders: Remove 2 major limbs off oak tree on playing field.	£150.00
1951: Fenny Compton Tots and Toddlers: Donation.	£100.00
1952: Fenny Compton Footpath 2000. Donation.	£50.00
1953: Fenny Compton Village Hall: Donation.	£2200.00
1954: Zurich Insurance: Aqueous Insurance.	£324.28
1955: Derek Carless: Printing Costs for Neighbourhood Plan Update.	£34.50

Payments Received

None.

Michael Guest, seconded by Sam Parkes, proposed acceptance of the financial statement, which was agreed.

11. **Updates:**

- a) **Flood Prevention:** Michael Guest reported that work will begin in January to explore the viability of the flood attenuation pond in the field off the Avon Dassett Road. MG
- b) **Playing Field and play equipment:** Michael Guest reported that he had met with Four Global who carried out a survey of the playing field and pavilion, their report will come out in March. Jon Dutton reported that he had still not received an invoice from the plumber for the tap in the pavilion. Concerns were raised regarding the Colts changing the combination of the car park lock without notifying the Parish Council. Contractors were unable to access the field until the Clerk had obtained the combination, despite Jon asking twice for this information. It was agreed that communication between the Colts and the Parish Council needs to improve and that it might be a good idea to attend a Colts Committee meeting. Jon Dutton is to attend another meeting on Friday to obtain another quote for the replacement of the pavilion doors. JD
- c) **Play Equipment:** Jon Dutton reported that he had read the RoSPA report and there were a few items that needed attention. He will investigate these further to address the concerns. JD
- d) **Business Continuity Action Plan:** The Clerk is continuing to implement the recommendations. CL
- e) **Neighbourhood plan:** Derek Carless reported that he has submitted the area designation application to Matthew Neal of Stratford District Council. This is the first step in the Neighbourhood Plan process. As discussed at the last meeting, a second flyer to update residents on the outcome of the public meeting and the fact that in order for it to happen more volunteers are needed for the steering group, was printed and distributed. In addition an article for the Chronicle has been drafted, but owing to their seasonal timetable, this will not be published until the February edition which is delivered at the end of January. A good response had been received following the distribution of the second flyer. 8-10 residents were willing to be on the steering group and 10-12 people were willing to help out generally. These residents were distributed evenly throughout the parish. The Parish Council confirmed that Derek Carless and Michael Guest would represent them on the Steering DC

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Group. The next step is to set up the first meeting of the steering group in January. Derek Carless registered the Parish Council with the Ordnance Survey free of charge and the Council now has a licence to use their maps.

12. **Diary Dates for 2017:** The Clerk had circulated a draft list of Diary Dates for 2017. The meeting in April needed to be amended as the third Monday in the month is Easter Monday. It was agreed to move this date to the 24th April 2017. CL

13. **Items for future discussion:**
 - a) **Bowling Club:** In the Compton Chronicle there was an article by the Bowling Club offering the pavilion for hire. As this belongs to the Parish Council and they have not been approached, questions regarding the insurance were raised. It was agreed that the Chair would write a letter to the Bowls Club to say that the Parish Council require to be consulted before they proceed with this. DL