Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at the Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 21st June 2021 At 7.45pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Derek Carless, Alan Payne and Roly Whear

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, Councillor Nigel Rock (District Council) and Councillor Chris Kettle (Warwickshire County Council)

1 Apologies

Councillors Emma Briscoe, Sam Parkes and David Johnson

2 Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and Ordinary meeting held on 17th May 2021 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Carless and seconded by Councillor Payne)

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Payne declared an interest in any discussions around HS2 due to employment and a personal interest in planning applications 21/01589/FUL & 21/01590/LBC

Councillor Whear declared an interest in planning application 21/01020/FUL

4 Requests for Dispensation

None

5 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

(i) Berry Meadow grass cutting – Clerk to resend documents to Councillor Rock regarding disputed ownership

(ii) Playing Fields/ New play area equipment/ teen shelter – No progress to report from Councillor Parkes regarding the set-up of a new group. Clerk to contact those that expressed an interest again

Since the last meeting a 'Councillors grant fund' has been advertised which would be useful but unfortunately the deadline was too soon for the Council. The community needs to be consulted before any grants are applied for

(iii) Boundary Changes – Councillor Dutton completed a response and it has been submitted. Clerk to send to Councillor Rock for information

(iv) Neighbourhood Development Plan Aspirations Document – Councillor Johnson has written a first draft and has distributed to other Councillors for review. Comments have been received and Councillor Carless will add to the document. It will then need to be reviewed by the Village Hall committee

Councillor Whear joined the meeting at 20.00

(v) Speed limit change request Wharf Road/ Station Road – No updates at present but Councillor Kettle will continue to raise the issue

(vi) WI Centenary Garden – Between meetings Councillors agreed to support this initiative

6 SDC Report

Councillor Rock submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Councillor Dutton asked how to replace single litter bins with two sectioned litter and recycling bins. Councillor Rock will investigate

Emma Wilkinson joined the meeting at 20.05

WCC Report

Councillor Kettle discussed the latest updates regarding flooding (Further details can be found in the Updates section) and also updated the council on 'county lines' gangs that have been active in surrounding villages. Any relevant information should be reported to the police

7 Open Forum

Emma Wilkinson attended to discuss the possibility of creating Managed wildlife areas - Not mowing between May and July to allow for wildflowers. By way of background it was explained that since 1930, 97% of wildflower meadows have been lost and 50% of farmland birds. Wildflowers can help reduce flooding as they have a bigger root structure than grass and the insects and bees that they would attract pollinate crops

Mrs Wilkinson suggests that we continue to mow a metre away from the path to keep tidy and anywhere that would impede motorists views would also need to be kept clear

Various areas were discussed as possible sites but the large space at the junction of Fieldgate Lane and Meadow Way has been suggested as a trial

Mrs Wilkinson has already spoken to Mick Jones (grass cutting contractor) and he would be keen to alter his role to enable this work. Some training maybe needed. There are also resources available for the project. Kew Gardens send free seeds out and the Scout Association and various individuals have offered to help. The area would need to be dug over in the autumn and prepared for planting

Councillors discussed the idea and are supportive. It was agreed that residents would be consulted before deciding upon next steps

Emma Wilkinson left the meeting at 20.30

8 Correspondence

The meeting noted the following correspondence:

- Residents correspondence
  - Hedgerow by the doctor's surgery – Can it be cut back as it overhanging the footpath and obstructing the line of sight for anyone wanting to cross the road
  - Cricket club memorial bench to be relocated
  - Traffic along Church Street - Various correspondence detailing damage to vehicles and properties, speed of traffic, danger to pedestrians and size of vehicles using the road
  - Fenny Compton Colts have raised questions about the structure of the building and the Parish Council's plans for it going forwards

- Grass cutting at Field Gate Lane
- Village grass cut – Leave some areas for wildflowers?
- Concern raised about damage to the Slade Green verges and wooden posts due to the volume of HGVs going to the construction site and using the single lane. There are also gouges to the banked verge where The Slade becomes single lane (outside The Lodge)

- Burials
  - Sandra Brooks buried on 24th June
- Works
  - BT Contractors laying underground duct on the green as part of the works to the current building site on the Slade Lane on 24th June
  - Temporary closure of C35 Dassett Road/ Lower End/ Church Hill/ Avon Dassett Road commencing 8th July 2021
- Wall at Mill Lane
  - School has had notification that an order has been raised to fix the wall
  - Latest arrival time is 2nd July
- Police Safer Neighbourhood Team Communications
  - SNT's are keen to resume regular contact and meetings again and is agreed that the most effective way to do this is via Parish council meetings. Some SNT areas have been trialling quarterly meetings with all parish councils together in 1 meeting with the police leading/chairing the meeting. This will ensure each parish has regular meetings and the chance to put concerns across as well as to gain any information from police and other parishes
  - As the trials on other SNT areas seem to have worked very well it has been decided to role this out across the force. Therefore we will seek to arrange a meeting with the Parish council Clerks, which will be held on a quarterly basis. The aim of this is for the parish councillors to feedback information to the Clerks who in turn, on this meeting will discuss issues with the police, likely the beat manager and/or Sergeant
- Mobile Library
  - Returns on Friday July 9th and 30th, August 20th,September 10th, October 1st and 22nd, November 12th and December 3rd and 24th
  - Station Road 13.30 for 15 minutes
  - Grants Close 13.50 for 15 minutes
- Warwickshire County Councillors Grant Fund 2021/2022
  - The Fund is aimed at community and voluntary organisations and provides each of the County's 57 Councillors with a pot of £6000 to support small-scale projects within their division that support the following outcomes:
    - Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent
    - Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure

- All applications should aim to build community capacity and improve the health and wellbeing of people living in Warwickshire
  - Improve community assets and their sustainability
  - Improve access to services
  - Improve financial capability
  - Reduce loneliness and isolation
  - Improve physical and/or mental health and wellbeing
  - Promote equalities and inclusivity
  - Improve the physical environment or reduce the environmental impact
- Projects that continue to support Covid-19 and the wider impacts of the pandemic will also be considered
- Applications will need to be submitted using our online application form
- Deadline for applications is Sunday 11 July 2021 5pm
- For more information and to complete an online application form please go to www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cllrgrants

- National Scams Awareness Fortnight
  - Launched on Monday 14th June
  - In 2019-20, UK fraud victims reported losing over £2.3bn to scams. These ranged from bogus investments to romance and computer 'fix' scams. This year has seen many COVID related frauds as well. Fraudsters are very clever and are quick to take advantage of new technology and national and global situations, such as the pandemic
  - For more information, visit: https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2171/scams-awareness-fortnight-2021-launched
- Warwickshire's Community Pledge
  - Over the course of the pandemic, organisations have been required to undertake a number of actions to operate safely. The Community Pledge brings these together and provides an opportunity for settings across Warwickshire, such as communal halls or places of worship, to make a positive commitment to ensuring COVID secure best practice is observed by staff and visitors in their facilities. The pledge covers key guidance including social distancing, face coverings, ventilation, vaccinations, testing and isolating, staff health and well-being and risk assessments
  - Warwickshire community groups can sign-up to the Community Pledge and find out more about how to be COVID secure at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/covidcommunitypledge. Once signed-up they will also have access to a Community Pledge poster to promote the venue as a safe space to be enjoyed responsibly by the local community
  - For more information visit https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/community/warwickshire-covid-secure-community-pledge

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(i) Clerk to contact landowner regarding hedgerow by the doctors surgery

(ii) Clerk to contact the Cricket Club to find out whether they would be willing to fund the fixings for the memorial bench

(iii) Clerk to respond to Church Street residents regarding their concerns. WCC have previously confirmed that they won't enforce a weight limit on the road. The Parish Council have undertaken a traffic management consultation and new signage was recommended. Council have approved this and are waiting for WCC to complete the work

(iv) Chair to respond to Fenny Colts regarding their comments and explaining the longer term strategy post the Neighbourhood Development Plan

(v) Grass has already been cut at Fieldgate Lane

(vi) Clerk to contact contractors on The Slade regarding damage caused to The Green

(vii) Clerk to confirm next steps with BT Contractors regarding work on The Green

9 Planning

(i) The following applications have been received for consideration since the last meeting:

Reference	Consultation Expiry Date	Address	Proposal
21/01733/TREE	17 June 2021	2 Dog Lane, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YD	T1: Conifer hedge - approximately 4m in height - reduce height by half to 2 m and trim faces. T2: Ash - approximately 18m in height. Grows from side of brook and has substantial lean to North East over back garden. Strip Ivy -pollard reducing height to approximately 10m and reduce north east side to balance. T3: Pine - Fell, is situated in the middle of the garden and stands over four trees which are too closely planted and they should thrive in its absence. It is competing with T2 Ash, leans and has bad form. It has a low amenity value. T4: Hedge row of mixed species, approximately 3.5 metres in height, reduce height to 1.75 metres and trim face. T5 Lawson cypress, approximately 5m in height.-sever Ivy at base., thin canopy by 20%, reduce overlong branches to allow light into bed underneath.
21/01831/TREE	23 June 2021	In The Parish Of, Fenny Compton	Ash (T1) Remove dead wood and remove limb overhanging the school Willow (T2) Pollard to 4m Walnut (T3) reduce by 5m
21/01020/FUL	28 June 2021	Close Cottage , Church Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YE	Block existing doorway with brick / blocks and finish with render to match existing finish of house
21/01187/FUL & 21/01188/LBC	28 June 2021	Knotts Cottage , Bridge Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2XY	Proposed Two Part Single Storey Rear Extension with Associated Internal and External Works
21/01589/FUL & 21/01590/LBC	30 June 2021	Bayards, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton, Southam CV47 2XY	Reinstatement of slot opening to front elevation, installation of air source heat pumps to rear of property and solar pv ground array in land to rear

Between meetings Councillors agreed to respond with 'no representation' for application 21/01733/TREE

Councillor Payne departed the room for discussions regarding applications 21/01589/FUL & 21/01590/LBC

Councillors agreed to respond with 'no representation' for all other applications

Signed_____Chair July 2021

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(ii) The following decisions have been received since the last meeting:

Reference	Decision Date	Status	Address	Proposal
21/00765/FUL	19 May 2021	Refused	Waylands Farm, Wharf Road, Fenny Compton, CV47 2XD	Proposed 2no. dwellings for market rental along with parking and amenity space
21/01297/TREE	28 May 2021	No Objection	The Grange, The Slade, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YB	G1, cypress x6no. - Remove

Councillor Rock left at 20.55

10 Financial Administration

(i) Councillors **approved** the following payments (Proposed by Councillor Payne and seconded by Councillor Carless):

JUN_21_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary and Expenses June)	£ 314.80
JUN_21_2_SO	SDC (April Pension Contribution)	£ 98.27
JUN_21_3	BHIB (Insurance)	£ 1,154.65
JUN_21_4_DD	Utility Warehouse (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	£ 15.03
JUN_21_5	Mick Jones (Grass cut)	£ 595.00
JUN_21_6	Frank Mann Farmers (Playing fields grass cut)	£ 288.60
JUN_21_7	Frank Mann Farmers (Flood pool)	£ 97.20
JUN_21_8_DD	E.ON (Street lighting)	£ 184.55
Total		**£ 2,748.10**

(ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and **agreed** them

(iii) Reserves Policy – Councillors unanimously agreed the circulated policy. (Proposed by Councillor Whear and seconded by Councillor Carless). Clerk will add to the website

(iv) Councillor Payne will do the usual quarterly check at the beginning of July

11 Updates

(i) Flood Prevention – A meeting was held with WCC on 8th June

Storage was considered but requires volume of 14000 cm meaning a 2m high embankment and would only remove 8 properties from the at risk list

The recommendation is for individual property resilience. There are 46 residential properties eligible for funding. Commercial properties are excluded - this includes the surgery. WCC would like to undertake survey on 4 or 5 properties by independent surveyor to back up the business case

The business case is with WCC for internal approval. The total value is c£800k. Under the funding WCC would pay for standard property solution. These would be in keeping with the type of property and suitable for conservation area.

Once approved, owners of qualifying properties will need to submit an expression of interest. A property survey will then be undertaken and a recommendation made

Councillor Carless asked who would contact the residents – It will be WCC due to GDPR issues

Signed_____Chair July 2021

Other flood protection interventions discussed:

- Flood routing from the Ridgeway - use of the S106 budget provided by the developer Natural Flood Measure - these would further reduce likelihood of flooding but further surveys and landowner discussions required
- Highway drainage - investigation into current issues in Memorial Road, gulley cleaning assessment and future cleaning regime based on risk, culvert cleansing
- Riparian owners/maintenance - take action where legal responsibilities are not being met

(ii) Trees – No updates

(iii) Playing Field – Rubber matting repairs will be done in the next few weeks by Councillor Whear

Councillor Whear will find out when the new tennis nets will be fitted

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan – No further work is needed by the team after clarification from consultant. Next step is to apply for a small grant to cover the consultant's time to write the Basic Conditions Statement. This will then be submitted to SDC for them to complete their Regulation 16 consultation

(v) Allotments – Lease registration is still with land registry

(vi) Highways – A job has been raised to have the gully pot replaced outside 9 High St, the work will be carried out in the next couple of months

The "slow" marking in Church Street is extremely worn, however WCC don't attend to singular issues and instead refresh whole streets or even villages. WCC have looked around the village and have found that the remainder of the white lining is in fairly good order, therefore they will wait until there has been some deterioration so that a comprehensive package of renewal work can be done together

Clerk will raise a job for the removal of Diversion signs that have been left on Bridge Street

(vii) Street Lighting – No 2 Fieldgate Lane street light is not working and WCC have been contacted

It has been confirmed that ex-telegraph poles (where BT and all electrical services have removed leaving only the street light in place) are the responsibility of the Parish Council. These will therefore be added to the annual risk assessment checklist

(viii) Traffic Calming – No further updates

Speedwatch – Waiting for the police to start training the volunteers

12 Items to Publicise

(i) Managed wildlife areas

(ii) Reporting drug use

(iii) Repairs to playground

(iv) County Councillors Grant applications

13 Future Discussion

Future Strategy

14 Date of next meeting

The next meeting planned is an Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 19th July

MEETING CLOSED 21.30

Signed_____Chair July 2021

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Appendix A

May Financial Administration

Balances: (See attached bank reconciliation)		£
30 Day Notice		910.77
12 Month Partial Withdrawal (High interest deposit):		
Cotters Croft	7,527.63	
PC Balance	2,472.37	
		10,000.00
Deposit	15,556.31	
Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	2,510.00	
WCC Flood Attenuation Grant	456.76	
Over 8's Play Area	604.23	
NP Plan Projects	177.83	
Allotments	250.00	
Defibrilator	2,122.06	
Deposit Account		23,813.01
Current Account		10,875.90
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)		45,599.68
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)		
Lydia Cox (Salary)	(314.80)	
SDC (Pension Contrbution)	(98.27)	
BHIB (Insurance)	(1,154.65)	
Mick Jones (Grass cut)	(595.00)	
Frank Mann Farmers (Grass cut)	(385.80)	
E.ON (Street lighting)	(184.55)	
Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(15.03)	
Current Account		(2,748.10)
Total Balances carried forward		42,851.58

Signed_____Chair July 2021

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Appendix B

May Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances		£	
30 Day Notice		910.77	
12 Month Partial Withdrawal		10,000.00	
Deposit Account		23,813.01	
Current Account	11,288.97		
Less payments outstanding			
Lydia Cox (Salary)	(314.80)		
SDC (Pension Contrbution)	(98.27)		
Current Account		10,875.90	
Total Bank			45,599.68
Cash Book Balance b/f		45,599.47	
Less payments between meetings:			
Add receipts since last meeting:			
Bank Interest		0.21	
Total Cash Book			45,599.68

Signed_____ Chair July 2021

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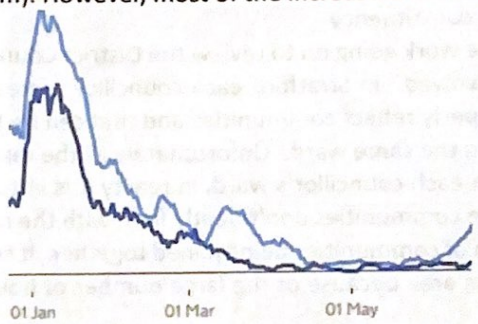
Appendix C - District Councillor for Napton and Fenny Compton Report

Not much has changed since I submitted my report to the Chronicle on populations which I also include below

Covid

You might be interested in the data from https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/cases?areaType=ltla&areaName=Stratford-on-Avon but the summary is that Stratford district, having bounced along at 10 cases (per 100,000) or below through most of April and May, it is now reported that the rate has risen to about 50 (a little higher in the areas around Southam). However, most of the increase is in the under 50s (pale blue line)



Digging down into the data shows the rise is in fact in under 35s - and the 20-25 age group is running at 207 in the last week. One can only hope the vaccination age range coming down will control this

Bids

The District Council has put some bids in for funding of Stratford town centre regeneration. I felt constrained to comment that east of the district was being forgotten again, earning a modest rebuke from the leader

Other

I hear that conservation work has started to repair the beacon tower on the Dassett Hills Country Park

Orbit Homes

I am awaiting any updates on progress

Changing populations

The South Warwickshire Local Plan consultation talks about 35,000 new homes by 2050 and identifies seven different growth options. Clearly, whatever options are chosen, South Warwickshire looks like taking a substantial number of new houses. The numbers are to fulfil government targets for south Warwickshire. Like many people, I have concerns about the potential government Planning Bill, which some have said will mean 'open season for developers' in rural areas. Theresa May has said of the Government proposals that they will put the 'wrong homes in the wrong places'. The ideas being put forward have been described as the biggest shake up to the planning system

Signed_____Chair July 2021

for more than 70 years. It seems local control over what gets built and where would be much reduced

In response to such growing and moving populations, the Boundary Commission tries to keep election boundaries in step. Because of our election system, this means trying to keep each area for electing MPs and Councillors almost the same size in term of the numbers of voters. How boundaries are drawn can affect the outcome of elections because the system is not proportional to how votes are cast

For MPs, the Boundary Commission for England has produced draft plans for consultation on new parliamentary constituencies. There are some changes planned for 2023 which if implemented would affect the Kenilworth & Southam constituency boundaries. The changes being debated are around the present boundaries with Rugby and Warwick constituencies, so locally, our area would remain in the same parliamentary constituency

Also there has been some intensive work going on to review the District Council's ward boundaries, with which I have been heavily involved. In Stratford each councillor represents a ward. My key interest is that councillors can properly reflect communities and that can be hard to do if residents don't really have common issues in the same ward. Unfortunately as the main objective is to have nearly same number of electors in each councillor's ward, in reality it is virtually impossible to get this consistency - towns and village communities don't neatly fit in with the numbers. We can end up with some strange combination of communities being joined together. It certainly is a very tricky problem to resolve in the Southam area because of the large number of houses added on around the town

In a controversial proposal supported by a majority of councillors, towns have been split up, but then villages have been added on to make up the numbers. This would apply in Shipston, Wellesbourne, and Alcester for example. Stockton would be combined with Southam. I disagreed with this concept which does not seem to accord with the boundary commission's requirement 'to ensure that the ward boundaries reflect the interests and identities of local communities, as well as promoting effective local government'. I will be writing to the Boundary Commission with alternative proposals that I think are more sensible. In fact I proposed leaving things as they are until we see if the merger with Warwick happens, because we might have to do it all again. It will be up to the Boundary Commission to decide what to do. A final decision will be made in February 2022 after draft recommendations are published by the Boundary Commission in November, when we can all have our say

Nigel Rock
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Signed_____Chair July 2021