

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at the Dasset School, Fenny Compton on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 At 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Emma Briscoe, Sam Parkes, Derek Carless, Roly Whear and Alan Payne

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Parish Clerk Lydia Cox and Councillor Nigel Rock (District Council)

### 1 Apologies

Parish Councillor David Johnson and were **accepted**

### 2 Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Carless)

### 3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Payne declared an interest in any discussions around HS2 due to employment

### 4 Requests for Dispensation

None

### 5 Open Forum

A member of the public attended to discuss traffic problems along Bridge Street and the potential for bollards being put up along the pavement. Residents have contacted Highways directly to ask whether bollards could be put up to deter traffic from mounting the pavements. They have responded to say that the pavement is too narrow for bollards but residents are querying this. In recent weeks the school bus and tractors have been on the pavement and the verge. Residents are concerned about the damage to houses and the noise problems, as well as danger to pedestrians

Councillors discussed and agreed that Councillor Kettle should raise the problem with Highways

### 6 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- (i) Speed limit change request Wharf Road/ Station Road – No update
- (ii) Consultation on Proposed South Warwickshire Council – Councillor Payne has submitted a response
- (iii) Consultation on draft recommendations for ward boundaries in Stratford-on-Avon – Deadline has been pushed back so submission has not been made yet

### 7 District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

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

Councillor Rock alerted the Parish Council to the fact that you need to specifically say if you want the terms in the Neighbourhood Development Plan to supersede the Parish Plan

A resident has contacted Councillor Rock to express concerns about Bridge 135 on the canal. It has been inspected by the Canal and River Trust and it is in good order

Complaints have been received about light pollution from HS2 – The District Council are looking into the problem

### 8 Correspondence

The meeting noted the following correspondence:

- Residents correspondence
  - Photos from flooding on 31<sup>st</sup> October

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- These have been sent on to the various agencies

  - Remembrance silhouettes  

This has been discussed in previous years and was decided it was not an appropriate use of council funds
  - Christmas Tree Donation  

Link Up Equine have offered the village an 18 foot Christmas Tree. The tree will be installed, lit, decorated and insured. Councillors discussed and thought that a 12 foot tree would be more appropriate and that the bowls club would be the best position for it. Councillor Dutton will feedback
  - Methodist Chapel War Memorials  

Councillor Rock informed the council that the War Graves Commission should be contacted as they would like to know where they all are and can give advice and potentially money to help with the move  
Clerk will respond to the Methodist Church and get in contact with WGC
  - Bridge Street bollards  

Discussed as part of Open Forum
- Consultation on proposed new electoral arrangements for Stratford-on-Avon has been extended until 06 December 2021
- WALC Diamond Jubilee Community Grant Fund
  - Do we want to offer?
  - Councillors discussed and agreed not to take part
- Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) Consultation
  - Councils across Coventry and Warwickshire work closely together to plan for housing and employment needs. Each Local Authority has a Local Plan which sets out a required amount of growth for its area
  - In delivering sufficient housing and employment land to meet identified requirements it is important that each Local Authority keeps an up to date database of sites, which it needs to assess to see if they are suitable, available and can realistically be delivered to meet the needs of the area, this is known as the HELAA
  - A draft methodology has been written by Coventry and Warwickshire Local Planning Authorities to ensure that sites are being assessed within a common framework which accords with the most up to date National Planning Policy and guidance
  - A six week consultation has been opened to obtain feedback and ends on 22nd December
  - Councillor Dutton will respond
- Queen's Green Canopy
  - Set up to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee next year, the Queen's interest in trees and her concern for the environment/climate change. The planting of trees is a concrete way for everyone from organisations to individuals to help combat climate change and of course celebrate the Jubilee
  - Possibility of obtaining trees from Woodland Trust
  - Trees are registered and will become part of the QGC whose digital map will be presented to the Queen
- Volunteer Drivers
  - During the pandemic, VASA continued working non-stop across south Warwickshire and Rugby district offering its transport services and has provided transport for over 1,000 Covid vaccine appointments

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- However, there is a shortfall of volunteers as the demand grows for VASA's services
- Volunteers are trained and Enhanced DBS checked
- Please contact Emma, the Communications Officer at: emma@vasa.org.uk if you are able to offer any help or require further information
- Voice of Warwickshire
  - WCC are forming a new residents' panel called 'Voice of Warwickshire' to give people an opportunity to share their views
  - People who sign up will be helping deliver the new Council Plan, focusing on big issues in Warwickshire, like health and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability, community safety, education, transport, economic growth, inequalities and inclusion, and more
  - To be eligible to take part, people need to be 18 or over and live in Warwickshire
  - Please sign up to be a Voice of Warwickshire member by visiting <https://bit.ly/VoiceofWarwickshire>
- Free Mature Driver Reviews
  - An hour-long bespoke session, tailored to the individuals needs with an approved driving instructor. The assessment is particularly suited to drivers 70 + with over twenty years of driving experience
  - <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2535/warwickshire-road-safety-partnership-supports-warwickshire-residents-to-carry-on-driving-safely-for-as-long-as-possible>
- Avian Influenza Advice
  - Avian influenza has been detected in wild birds in this area
  - Please do not feed any wild birds including ducks and swans
  - The public should avoid contact with wild birds including their feathers and waste
  - Do not pick up or touch sick, dying or dead wild birds
  - Avoid contact with surfaces contaminated with bird faeces
  - Please keep to the footpaths and keep your dogs on a lead.
  - If you find a dead bird, do not touch or move it
  - Report any dead wild birds to the Defra helpline 03459 335577
  - For disposal contact the District Council on 01789 267575 during office hours and 01926 339577 out of hours
  - Report any sick or dying birds to the RSPCA 0300 1234999

### 9 Planning

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

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Consultation Expiry Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
21/03212/FUL	12 Nov 2021	11 Grants Close, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YA	Provision of first floor balcony to rear of existing dwelling
21/03332/FUL	24 Nov 2021	The Grange, The Slade, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YB	Erection of a single storey kitchen extension
21/03331/FUL	25 Nov 2021	The Grange, The Slade, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YB	Proposed north extension to the farmhouse

Between meetings councillors responded 'no representation' to 21/0312/FUL

Councillors agreed to respond 'no representation' to 21/03332/FUL and 21/03331/FUL

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

Reference	Decision Date	Status	Address	Proposal
21/02685/FUL & 21_02686_LBC	21 Oct 2021	Permission Granted	Old Toft, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2XY	Proposed single storey rear extension, replacement windows and door, retrospective electric vehicle charge point with associated internal and external works

(iii) The following applications have been amended:

- a. 21/01187/FUL: Knotts Cottage , Bridge Street - Proposed single story rear elevation and two storey rear gable elevation

**Clr Rock left the meeting at 20.30**

### 10 Financial Administration

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

NOV_21_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary and Expenses September)	£ 327.50
NOV_21_2_SO	SDC (September Pension Contribution)	£ 102.24
NOV_21_3_DD	Utility Warehouse (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	£ 9.50
NOV_21_4_DD	E.ON (Street lighting)	£ 184.55
NOV_21_5_DD	ICO (Subscription)	£ 35.00
NOV_21_6	Village Hall Hire	£ 48.00
NOV_21_7	Mick Jones (Village Maintenance)	£ 170.00
NOV_21_8	RoSPA (Play Area Inspection)	£ 124.20
NOV_21_9	Frank Mann Farmers (Play Area Cut)	£ 288.60
NOV_21_10	Frank Mann Farmers (Attenuation Pool)	£ 316.80
NOV_21_11	Defibrillator Pads	£ 100.68
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 1,606.38</b>

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

(iii) First draft budget – Councillors discussed and broadly agreed. Additional money will be added for street lighting due to current climate

(iv) Sports pavilion electricity price increase – Councillors **agreed** to remain with Utility Warehouse

(v) Fixed Term Deposit Account – Councillors **agreed** to reinvest

### 11 Updates

(i) Flood Prevention – The business case has now progressed to the next stage of approval having been signed off by the Area Flood Risk Manager at the Environment Agency. The next step is that it has to be checked and approved by the national finance team at the EA

(ii) Trees – Councillors discussed the new tree survey quote. Clerk will get a date in the diary for next Spring and will update for map for the new trees

(iii) Playing Field – Councillor Whear to purchase a lock to put on Shed.

RoSPA Safety Inspection has been completed and a report received. The graffiti has been removed. Loose bolts on see saw have been tightened. Materials to repair play area flooring have been purchased but need warmer weather for the work to be completed. A structural survey of the swings is needed– Clr Whear to look into and Clerk will contact WALC

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan – Plan has been submitted, no feedback as yet. Grant has been applied

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for but nothing heard back

Village website has been updated with latest plans

- (v) Allotments – No updates
- (vi) Highways – No updates
- (vii) Street Lighting – No 1 Station Road has been **approved** for replacement by councillors
- (viii) Traffic – No updates
- (ix) Future Strategy – Initial data gathering meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> November
- (x) 2022 Meeting Dates – Councillors agreed to move back to the village hall from January. 2022 meeting dates were agreed

### 12 Items to Publicise

- (i) Future Strategy
- (ii) Don't drive on pavements

### 13 Future Discussion

Budget, Policies and Procedures, Risk Assessments

### 14 Date of next meeting

The next meeting planned is an Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December

**MEETING CLOSED 21.20**

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## Appendix A

### October Financial Administration

<b>Balances:</b> (See attached bank reconciliation)		<b>£</b>
<b>30 Day Notice</b>		<b>910.82</b>
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b> (High interest deposit):		
Cotters Croft	7,052.63	
PC Balance	2,947.37	
		<b>10,000.00</b>
Deposit	13,379.61	
Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	2,395.56	
WCC Flood Attenuation Grant	202.36	
Over 8's Play Area	604.23	
NP Plan Projects	(527.17)	
Allotments	250.00	
Defibrillator	2,122.06	
<b>Deposit Account</b>		<b>20,562.47</b>
<b>Current Account</b>		<b>11,609.07</b>
<b>Total Balances</b> (See Bank Reconciliation)		<b><u>43,082.37</u></b>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)		
Lydia Cox (Oct Salary)	(327.50)	
SDC (Pension contribution Oct)	(102.24)	
Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(9.50)	
EON (Street Lights)	(184.55)	
ICO (Subscription)	(35.00)	
Village Hall Hire	(48.00)	
Mick Jones (Grounds Maintenance)	(170.00)	
RoSPA (Play Area Inspection)	(124.20)	
Frank Mann Farmers (Play Area)	(288.60)	
Frank Mann Farmers (Attenuation Pool)	(202.36)	
Defibrillator Pads	(100.68)	
<b>Current Account</b>		<b>(1,592.62)</b>

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## Appendix B

### October Bank Reconciliation

<b>Bank Balances</b>		<b>£</b>
<b>30 Day Notice</b>		<b>910.82</b>
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b>		<b>10,000.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account</b>		<b>20,562.47</b>
<b>Current Account</b>	12,416.30	
Less paymentss outstanding:		
APS (Neighbourhood Plan)	(105.00)	
APS (Neighbourhood Plan)	(600.00)	
SDC (Pension contribution Oct)	(102.24)	
<b>Current Account</b>		<b>11,609.07</b>
<b>Total Bank</b>		<b><u>43,082.37</u></b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	42,646.43	
Add receipts since last meeting:		
Wayleave Payment	435.75	
Bank Interest	0.19	
<b>Total Cash Book</b>		<b><u>43,082.37</u></b>

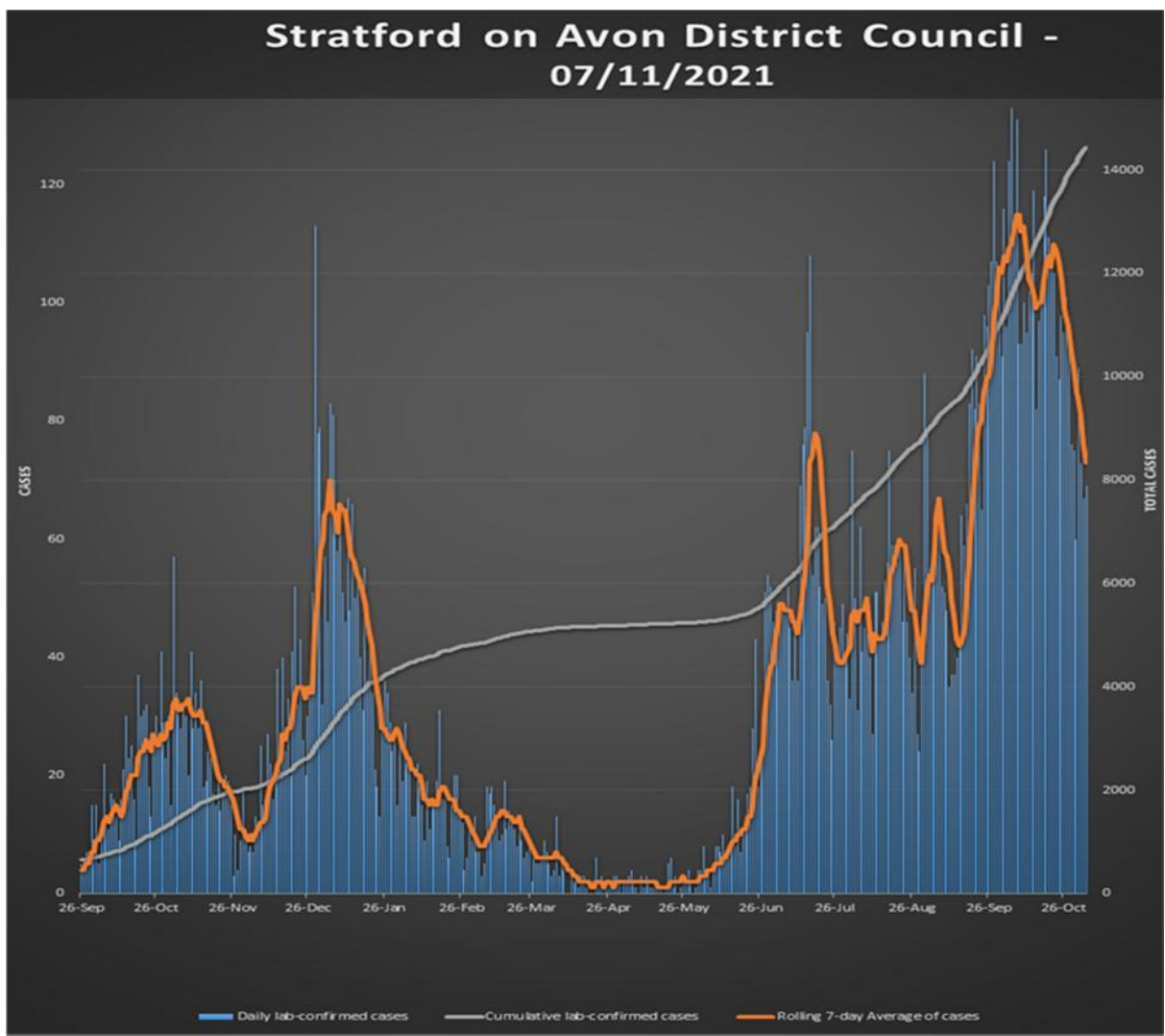
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## Appendix C - District Councillor for Napton and Fenny Compton Report

**Covid Rates** Over recent weeks Covid infections in the District as a whole have been higher than they have ever been, but are now starting to fall back from around 500 per 100,000 a week ago, to below 400. The areas in the east of Stratford District have been almost double these rates and, for reasons not clear, our local areas have been something of a hotspot, but here too the numbers have reduced from the very high infection rate we saw. This was at odds with previous experience where our rural areas tended to be lower

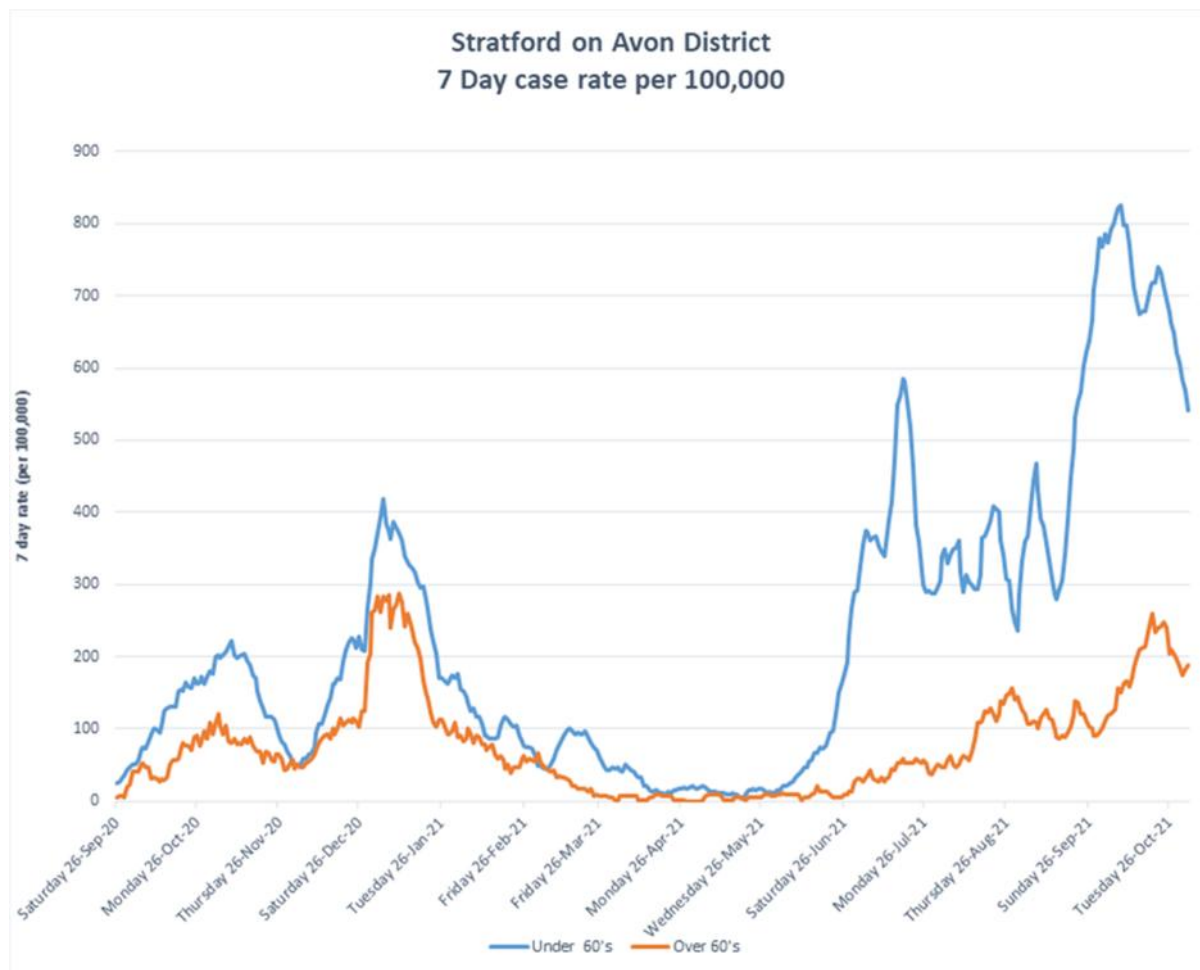
Whilst the majority of cases are still in school age children there have been increasing numbers in the over 60s which is a particularly vulnerable group. Personally I am perplexed by the Government’s messaging that even minor controls (such as mask wearing in shops) are not needed, because it seems that many people think the pandemic is more or less over. A slight fall does not take us back to where we have been





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**Boundary Review & Merger** Work on the potential merger between Stratford and Warwick District Councils has been continuing and the consultation has now closed. A representative sample of residents has been contacted for their opinions, and an analysis of responses is underway. Meanwhile, there are Boundary Commission proposals for changing council ward boundaries if no merger takes place. The Commission's proposal involves a mixture of single councillor wards and wards shared between councillors, as well as some strange looking boundaries

At a series of meetings, Stratford Council has resolved to resist the Boundary Commission proposals in a couple of key matters: 1. that the Boundary Commission have not respected the Council's wish for single member wards, and 2. that the very large two-member ward the Commission proposed from the M40 to Shuckburgh is not acceptable

The Boundary Commission proposals are here: [https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Stratford%20on%20Avon%20Draft%20Recommendations%20Report%20Extension\\_1.pdf](https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lgbce/Stratford%20on%20Avon%20Draft%20Recommendations%20Report%20Extension_1.pdf)

The date for responses to the Commission has been extended to 6th December

The Council went on to unanimously agree a way that overcomes both issues. I had considerable input to that response. No one thinks the choices are entirely satisfactory being driven by numbers rather than communities. Getting the same number of electors for council wards around Southam is impossible while keeping to Southam parish boundaries, so there have had to be some compromises. The Council's response

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is at <https://democracy.stratford.gov.uk/documents/g6038/Public%20minutes%2018th-Oct-2021%2011.00%20Audit%20and%20Standards%20Committee.pdf?T=11>

It's worth saying there are two parishes in my present ward which I am not completely happy about in the Council's response to the proposals, but the numbers cannot be made to work otherwise. It would have been preferable to keep Wormleighton the same Ward as the Priors and Ladbroke would probably be better with Harbury rather than Bishops Itchington

However if the merger of Stratford and Warwick happens – we will have to start again!

**Avian Flu** Cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 have been confirmed in Stratford District near Alcester (a small commercial poultry flock). If you find dead wild waterfowl (swans, geese or ducks) or other dead wild birds, such as gulls or birds of prey, you should report them to the Defra helpline (03459 33 55 77). Do not touch or pick up any dead or visibly sick birds that you find. More information at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#latest-situation>

**Planning Enforcement** There has been a restructuring of the team that deal with suspected infringements of the planning regulations, which has been an area of some concern for a while. It has taken months if not years to investigate cases. It is in everyone's interests to understand whether planning rules have been broken as soon as possible and two new enforcement officers have joined the team. If residents are unsure about whether permission is needed, the duty planning officer may be able to advise 01789 267575. If a breach of planning control is suspected it can be reported at: [planning.enforcement@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.enforcement@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

**Nuisance Lighting** I have had complaints about nuisance lighting from HS2 and other properties. There a number of controls that can be applied but environmental health at Stratford is the first point of advice if it affects a residence. I am discussing HS2 depot lighting with their contractors

**NDP** I asked a formal question (see appendix) at the full council meeting in an attempt to clarify the position of Neighbourhood Plans. The intent of these plans is that they give maximum say to local communities in planning decisions. It seems that this is not working out as I would have wished. I append the formal response. I was surprised to find the old parish plans were not automatically extinguished by the Neighbourhood Development Plan, something that had not been made clear to parishes

## Cllr Nigel Rock

### Appendix

Councillor Rock asked:

This Council has encouraged and approved the 'making' of a significant number of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs). Such Plans have been through extensive public examination to ensure they are in conformance with national and local policy and when 'made' form part of the Core Strategy.

Would the Portfolio Holder agree that local provisions and policies in such NDPs cannot be overridden in determining applications by lesser weight documents with a less rigorous examination process? Would he also agree that Government statements requiring general provision to be made by local authorities, for example for self and custom-built homes, do not override local NDP policies where these are not in conflict?

The Neighbourhood Development planning process has replaced the Parish Planning process. Prior to referendum stage, NDPs are rightly given increasing weight as they take over and replace any Parish Plan for the area. When 'made' the NDP becomes the definitive planning document for the locality. It seems axiomatic that the superseded Parish Plan is extinguished, unless there is a good reason otherwise.

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Is there a process for extinguishing the Parish Plan that has been superseded? Would the Portfolio Holders agree that old, outdated and superseded Parish Plans should not be used to determine applications where they have been superseded by 'made' NDPs for the same locality?

Would the Portfolio Holders agree that NDPs should be given due weight and primacy in the planning system and by Planning Committees?

Councillor Pemberton (Portfolio Holder for Place and Economy) responded as follows:

To clarify the status of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs). Once they are 'made' they form part of the Development Plan for the District and, as such, are given due weight and primacy in the planning system and by the Planning Committee. They hold more weight in the decision-making process than some other documents such as Supplementary Planning Documents and Parish Plans. They, along with the Core Strategy, form the starting point for the determination of applications unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Whilst not part of the statutory Development Plan, other documents (e.g. Supplementary Planning Documents, Parish Plans, emerging local plans, NPPF etc.) can be considered to be a material consideration. Indeed, depending on what a Parish Plan says, it could still be a useful source of guidance for decision-makers, especially if the NDP is silent on a particular matter.

It is important to note that NDPs do not replace Parish Plans. They are different types of planning documents, with NDPs being policy documents and Parish Plans principally providing action plans for local projects. There is a role for both types of document within the existing planning process. As such, once an NDP has been 'made' for an area, it does not supersede any existing Parish Plan for the area, this would remain in place as a material planning consideration. The Parish Council may revise or withdraw a Parish Plan if they so wish which, for example, it is deemed out of date or if all the actions/projects listed have been completed. It is for the Parish Council to notify the District Council if they wish to pursue this course of action.

A key point to bear in mind is that if an NDP is silent about a particular issue, such as providing for self and custom build homes, as with the Core Strategy, the National Planning Policy Framework (para. 11) makes it clear that, where there is no policy in a Development Plan relating to a specific form of development, planning permission should be granted unless there is a clear reason for refusing the proposed development as its adverse impacts would outweigh the benefits.

In a supplementary Question Cllr Rock asked if Parishes should be advised that Parish Plans will continue in force unless otherwise requested at the time an NDP was 'made'. The Portfolio Holder agreed to examine this idea.