

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 At 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Emma Briscoe, Martin Birch, David Johnson, Roly Whear and Samantha Parkes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, District Councillor Natalie Gist and County Councillor Christopher Kettle

### **2023\_11\_01: Apologies**

None received

### **2023\_11\_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Parkes)

### **2023\_11\_03: Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore flooding discussions

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the Bowls Club and therefore any discussions involving the club

Councillor Briscoe declared an interest in payment NOV\_23\_12 as relative

Clerk declared an interest in planning application 23/03086/TREE as neighbour

### **2023\_11\_04: Requests for Dispensation**

None received

### **2023\_11\_05: Open Forum**

There was one member of the public in attendance to discuss various matters regarding the Ridgeway development

- Correction to September minutes – discussion around the problems with the pumping station and it's removal to help with flood prevention matters
- Question to County Councillor Kettle regarding an update on the adoption of Ridgeway – Highways team have received various maps from Ridgeway residents regarding the road layout and how they have been laid. Councillor Kettle is awaiting a response from Highways team. As residents have the correct plans it is possible to look at whether the Ridgeway can be adopted. Councillor Kettle had previously stated that too much time had elapsed but that is now not the case

### **2023\_11\_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- (i) Play Area/ Sports Pavilion Refurbishment: Previous District Council cabinet meeting report was incorrect and so funding agreement will be made at next cabinet meeting
- (ii) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No further updates
- (iii) Flooding on Station Road: No further updates – Move to general flooding update going forwards
- (iv) Defibrillator Training: Councillor Parkes has contacted the Red Cross
- (v) Wildflower Meadows: Meadow at Bear and Ragged Staff green was planted three weeks ago. However, broadband construction vehicles have destroyed about 25% of it. The contractors have resown with grass seed. Clerk has contacted broadband supplier but has not heard anything. Clerk to escalate. Continue to copy in county councillor on any further problems like this
- (vi) Green waste in Squire Place: Clerk has contacted various people who are unable to remove the waste. Councillors will do so overtime

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- (vii) Adopt a drain: Clerk has contacted the Highways department and were not open to the idea because of insurance issues

### **2023\_11\_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports**

Councillors Gist and Rock submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Councillors were asked to consult on closure of fire stations and Police and Crime Commissioners precept – Cllr Gist will circulate request

Councillor Kettle submitted a report which can be found in Appendix D

Potential closure of fire station. Cllr Kettle will do his best to ensure that it stays open

18 incidents in year, 2 of high risk. Fenny Compton has the lowest availability of all retained fire stations. Since July about 5-7% availability. Availability even lower during day time hours and this is when the majority of incidents occur. Closure is not a cost saving option – it is about resource being matched to need

If closed, Southam would become a full-time, day resourced centre (8am – 10pm). Outside those hours we would be covered by Leamington/ Stratford/ or Banbury. Fenny would remain as a surge station. 3-month consultation until March. Parish Council asked to comment

### **2023\_11\_08: Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- Residents correspondence
  - Poor condition of canal tow path. Complaint directed to the Canal and River Trust but copied us in as we had previously raised issues
  - Resident has received a reply that work will be carried out but no date has been given
  - Potholes on The Slade outside The Grange
  - Potholes have now been filled
  - The road outside Compton Locks and under the railway bridge is very muddy, doesn't appear to be being swept
  - Road sweeper is operational again
  - 'Hole' in the pavement outside Gwynedd next to the co-op
  - Reported to WCC 3 November 2023 and has now been filled
  - Overgrown brambles at Fieldgate Lane
  - Clerk has contacted Marc Briscoe to undertake the work and this has now been completed
  - Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces
- Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service Press Release
  - At its Cabinet meeting being held on Thursday 9th November, Warwickshire County Council will consider options which include closing Bidford, Fenny Compton, Henley, Shipston, Polesworth, Kenilworth, Wellesbourne and Gaydon as on-call fire stations. These will be turned into so-called 'surge stations' which will be required four times in every five years, and the on-call firefighters required to work from other stations on a shift system or be made redundant.
  - Tristan Ashby, Chief Executive of the Fire and Rescue Services Association which represents firefighters in Warwickshire said: 'The County Council's Cabinet is being asked to make major decisions regarding the future of Warwickshire on-call fire stations, based on the flimsiest evidence, none of which has

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been subject to independent scrutiny. We have severe doubts about the workability of what is being proposed. Local people will lose a valuable local asset with little or no gain to the area.

- Although these proposals will be subject to further consultation, our experience is that fire and rescue services just press ahead with changes regardless of public opinion, or the facts of the matter. We cannot stand by and see on-call stations closed and firefighters made redundant on the basis of these ill-thought-out proposals

### 2023\_11\_09: 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>
23/02801/TREE	7 Nov 2023	Kits Close, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	T1 - ash - Fell
23/02797/FUL	16 Nov 2023	Cowslip Cottage, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	Internal alterations including conversion of garage to create open plan rooms. Alterations to window fenestrations and replacement of all external windows and doors. Construction of oak framed outdoor area with tiled roof to east elevation. Addition of an oak framed timber porch to north elevation.
23/03086/TREE	7 Dec 2023	1 Church Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YE	T1- apple - Fell.

Between meetings councillors **agreed** to respond with 'No representation' for application 23/02801/TREE and 23/02797FUL

23/03086/TREE – Councillors discussed and **agreed** to 'No representation'

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

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
23/02722/TREE	14 Nov 2023	No objection	Hornbeam House, 1 Brook Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YH	-T1 twisted willow - Reduction by 4metres from highest point to maintain shape and stop lots of small dead limbs shedding onto the road.

(iii) 23/02859/TEL28: Installation of 9 metre pole for fixed line broadband, on verge outside 16 Grants Close, Fenny Compton – Information only

(iv) Further Updates

a. Application 23/02012/FUL, Rose Garden, The Tunnel, Farnborough (New self-build 3-bedroom dwellinghouse including new vehicular access and associated development) has been **withdrawn**

b. Compton Locks

- i. Bus stop request – There has been some changes in personnel at WCC which has delayed the request. A request was made for a bus stop with poles and timetable notice, but another site visit will need to take place to progress
- ii. Speed Limit along Station Road – No updates

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### 2023\_11\_10: Financial Administration

- (i) Councillors **approved** the following payments (Proposed by Councillor Parkes and seconded by Councillor Whear):

NOV_23_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO	SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD	Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6	Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
NOV_23_7	RoSPA (Play area safety inspection)	(123.60)
NOV_23_8_DD	ICO (Annual subscription)	(35.00)
NOV_23_9	Mick Jones (Village grass cut)	(490.00)
NOV_23_10	Michael Mann (Playing Field grass cut)	(309.00)
NOV_23_11	Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12	Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)

#### **Current Account**

**(2,644.84)**

- (ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them
- (iii) Grass cutting tender decision – Three quotes were received. One was dismissed as four times the cost of the others. Discussions were had about the remaining two contractors and it was **agreed** to choose Michael Mann. Michael Mann currently has the contract for nearby parish councils and has experience in the village from the sports field contract. The price was competitive

[Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces](#)

### Councillor Kettle left the meeting at 20.35

- (iv) 2023\_24 Budget – Clerk has put together a first draft which was discussed by councillors. Main areas of discussion were whether to include additional reserves for the Play area and sports pavilion. It was agreed to wait until next month to see if a decision has been made by the District Council regarding funding
- (v) Bank Accounts
- a. The Fixed Term Deposit account matures on 22 November. Councillors agreed to reinvest this is a 6 month Fixed Term deposit account with an interest of 3.5%

[Resolution under the Trustee Investment Act 1961 s. 11, power to participate in schemes of collective investment](#)

- b. Should unallocated reserves be transferred to a higher interest generating account? Clerk to review options

### 2023\_11\_11: Updates

- (i) Compton Locks Integration – Chair now have a contact within the rental department so leaflets can also be given to those tenants. c.20 houses now occupied
- (ii) Flood Prevention –
- a. Ridge Way: The survey works on the Ridgeway have shown that the pipe is sized as expected but that it turns 90 degrees and continues down the high street. Whilst the pipes aren't in a bad state of repair, the

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acute change of direction is clearly creating a restriction that contributes to flows surcharging at the top of the Ridgeway. WCC have now asked Balfour Beatty for an updated quote to include some minor repairs to pipework whilst the works to install the new 450mm culvert across the field is undertaken.

Councillor Whear has asked about the possibility of removing the pumping station

- b. Memorial Road: WCC drainage contractors, supported by Highways, attended Memorial Road on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November. They used a camera through to the outfall and confirm it is clear and have uncovered the buried manhole near to the bus shelter. They found two sections of damaged pipe that require further dig down repairs. The damage appears to have been caused when either the telecoms or electricity cables have been laid, and are impacting the performance of the gullies. They are currently in discussion to see if it possible to reinstate these two repairs and manholes, which would provide easy access to finish the surveying and to cleanse the remaining system, now and in the future. There is also a second line of the system, believed to have been historically abandoned. If this were able to be picked up into one of the new manholes, it may be worth exploring if this pipe can be rehabilitated and brought back into service, given that this may be a quick and easy solution to add back some extra capacity
- c. The Doctors Surgery: During WCC site visits a headwall and trash screen in the vegetated area adjacent to the Doctors Surgery have been found. Parish Council have been asked whether this is being maintained by the surgery or whether Aqueous could look at. Councillor Whear to action
- d. Compton Locks: WCC are currently not aware of any issues here. Councillor Whear to follow up and send photos. It appears that the run off is from the field next to, rather than the building site.

### **Resident left the meeting at 21.00**

- (iii) Trees – Discussion around tree on the wildflower meadow at Fieldgate Lane. Councillors agreed to keep a watching brief
- (iv) Playing Field and Play Equipment – The RoSPA Safety inspection was undertaken on 18<sup>th</sup> October. All remedial action has been undertaken by Councillor Whear. The report did mention the state of the edging of the tarmac of the hard standing area. Dependant on the decision regarding the funding of the play area this will either be included in the wider refurbishment, or looked at next year
- (v) Highways – No further updates
- (vi) Traffic – No updates
- (vii) Future Strategy – Chair spoke to the Group Scout Leader regarding the use of the village hall by the scout group. They informally confirmed that they intend to carry on using the hall as their base
- (viii) Risk Assessments –
  - a. Memorial Road Bus stop – Guttering has been repaired by Derek Maries

[Resolution under the Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provision\) Act 1953, s. 4, power to provide and maintain shelters](#)

  - b. Memorial Road Salt Bin – Highways have agreed to empty the bin and then Clerk will organise removal
  - c. Street Lights – Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Some are leaning and will be monitored
  - d. Benches - Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Two benches need remedial work. Clerk to organise repair

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(ix) 2024 Diary Dates: Councillors discussed and **agreed** the following dates:

Monday January 15th  
Monday February 19th  
Monday March 18th  
Monday April 15th: Includes Parish Meeting  
Monday May 20th : Includes Annual Meeting  
Monday June 17th  
Monday July 15th  
August – No meeting  
Monday September 16th  
Monday October 21st  
Monday November 18th  
Monday December 16th

### **2023\_11\_12: Items to Publicise**

- (i) Fire station proposal
- (ii) Grass cutting tender decision
- (iii) Residents moving into Compton Locks

### **2023\_11\_13: Future Discussion**

Budget, bank account, playing field grass tender

### **2023\_11\_14: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

**MEETING CLOSED 21.30**

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## Appendix A

### October Financial Administration

<b>Balances:</b> (See attached bank reconciliation)	<b>£</b>
Traffic Management	2,135.82
Flood Relief Grant	1,683.76
Over 8's Play Area	140.56
NP Plan Projects	86.33
Allotments	500.00
Defibrillator	956.68
Other	5.28
<b>Deposit Account</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
Cotters Croft	2,999.58
PC Balance	7,005.42
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b> (High interest deposit):	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Balances</b> (See Bank Reconciliation)	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)	
NOV_23_1_SO Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6 Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
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NOV_23_11 Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12 Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>(2,644.84)</b>
<b>Total Balances carried forward</b>	<b><u>36,760.80</u></b>

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## Appendix B

### October Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
<b>30 Day Notice (Allocated Reserves)</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b>	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b> 10,754.73	
Less payments outstanding:	
Colts Donation 490.00	
Waterplus 8.48	
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	39,353.66
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Wayleave payment 35.10	
Bank Interest 16.88	
<b>Total Cash Book</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>

## Appendix C – District Councillor Report

### **The New Council Plan**

Thank you for all of your comments on the new Council plan which will guide the administration for the next four years. The results from the public consultation have been collated and the plan is being amended to take account of the comments. It is intended that the new Council plan is confirmed at the December Council meeting.

### **Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund**

On Monday 6 November, Cabinet approved the setting up of a Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund. This is an opportunity for parish councils, as well as properly constituted community and charity groups to apply for grant funding for green initiatives in their local community. The fund will be for £100,000 in two tranches with £50,000 being in the first tranche. Bid will be invited for allocation by March 2024. We will let you have further details once the scheme goes live.

### **Winter Warmth Funding**

New funding options are available to help residents with keeping homes warm and the cost of energy bills. There are three schemes: HUG2 (Home Upgrade Grant) which is funded by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Energy Support Fund and Physical Intervention Fund, both funded by Stratford on Avon District Council. A link to the press release and further advice and information is here: [Winter warmth grants now available from Stratford-on-Avon District Council | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

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### **Live & Local**

The Live & Local Proposal for the Moving Pictures scheme has been received for the 2023 – 26 period. This scheme facilitates live performances in community halls in smaller towns and villages and is vital for our rural communities and which we know is active in Fenny Compton. Currently fifteen venues in Stratford District use the Moving Pictures service hosting their own film clubs with regular screenings throughout the year. We would like to remind parishes of the scheme so that they can make full use of it. A leaflet with further information is attached.

### **Podback Scheme**

This scheme is free recycling of coffee machine pods will be available to residents from 20 November 2023. Podback will supply bags for storage of used containers and Biffa will collect these bags with their regular round for blue bins. They will be deposited at WCC household waste centre where Podback will collect the pods for re-use.

### **Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Public Consultation**

The Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Framework Supplementary Planning Document is presently out for public consultation with it closing at 5pm on Friday 1 December. Please let us have your views. Further information is here:

[Stratford-upon-Avon Gateway Masterplan | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

At a recent meeting of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, the Police and Crime Commissioner did emphasise the importance of residents reporting all crimes to 101. This allows the police to gather data and to direct resources as necessary.

### **HS2 AND ROAD CLOSURES**

Ongoing road closures. The road to Wormleighton is open again and we have received the following update from EKFB:

**“The 4-week full closure of Wormleighton Road has been postponed and will now take place in early 2024.**

Given that closing Wormleighton Road has travel impacts on the local community, we want to be sure that the 4-week closure is timed correctly. The timing needs to fit with when Banbury Road Overbridge is ready for traffic so that connectivity between villages is restored. The bridge is not ready yet, and so postponement reduces the risk of extended delays to local traffic.

The closure of Banbury Road will remain in place until early 2024, near to where we are constructing the Banbury Road Overbridge. Warwick Road remains open for access to Boddington and Byfield. “

As ever, should you need it, the HS2 Helpdesk Team may be contacted on 08081 434 434 or emailed at [S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk). Any changes will be on [www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk)

Cllr Natalie Gist

[Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Cllr Nigel Rock

[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair December 2023

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## Appendix D – County Councillor Report

### Division issues

#### Rainwater and flooding

After previous suggestions that the two schemes, flooding prevention and improved of road drains, were being run separately as road rain water gulleys did not form part of the scheme, I am pleased to say that Jeoffery Hobday, has when the machinery is on site being working with the survey teams to have the road drains in Memorial Road checked by the flood prevention team, saving costs.

I am continuing to chase on what can be done to adopt the Ridgeway and have been provided detailed plans which suggest, to my untrained eye, that the roads were built to an adoptable standard.

#### Harbury Crossroads

Owing to the environmental health impact and problems of piling in front of the adjacent property, SDC EH officers requested work had to cease until a low impact methodology could be developed. This has now been developed and a new design for the protection work of the property to the immediate east of the crossroads. That new design has now been completed.

Last week Warwickshire Highways approved the revised design allowing materials to be ordered to enable the new scheme to be constructed. Owing to a lead time for the bespoke materials, work cannot commence straight away and there is little ancillary work that can be completed before the replacement piling can be completed.

As I noted previously, the timetable has slipped considerably. The current timetable suggest that works will not now be completed until spring, as a result of the need to redesign work.

I am working with officers to get the contractor to find any way to make up for lost time.

I still have funding for further road related schemes in my delegated highways budget. But whilst these are discretionary grants, any proposal is subject to professional scrutiny by the Highways teams and schemes that do not accord with normal highway protocols will not be accepted.

#### HS2

I have had a response from BBV about complaints about the attempted eradication of noxious weeds on the land acquired by HS2. The response from BBV did not align with the Code of Practice for such weeds or I understand with HS2's own manuals. I have had no response from EKFB yet.

I, as have WCC officers, have written back to make it clear that work practices that do not comply with DEFRA published guidelines are not really an acceptable response.

#### Hi speed broadband.

Once again contractors are not informing residents of impending works, are trespassing on private land and some of the reinstatement work leaves much to be desired, WCC officers are doing their best to ensure works are carried out in line with the terms of Permits given and that remedial work succeeds in bring the surface back to the roads / pavements original condition.

#### Schools

I have spent considerable time this month working with parents of children being temporarily or permanently excluded from mainstream schools. Obviously, I cannot disclose details but I am becoming increasingly concerned about this. Regrettably the majority of schools are now Academies who are independent of WCC including over admittance and exclusion policies. I have spoken to the portfolio holder responsible for education and senior officers in the department who share my concerns.

I have however been impressed with the speed with which WCC educational support officers, when they become aware of exclusions, are able to find a place for children for temporary alternative provision allowing then continue their education and then re-enter mainstream education.

#### School transport

I have raised an issue over school bus transport and am awaiting s response form WCC Transport operations over the provision of internal CCTV on buses.

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I have raised the issue of the location of bus stops with the WCC transport officers and with Highway Safety. Highway Safety officer have explained it is not appropriate to place railings against the curb as firstly the railings would have to be set back from the curb edge narrowing the footpath, potentially forcing those with pushchairs or mobility aids to go outside the railing and there is no guarantee that children waiting for buses would not stay contained inside the railings.

### **Orbit Housing**

I was horrified to receive an email from a resident's son, last week, over the failure of his mother's heating and hot water system. She had had no heating for some 30 days. This is not the first time as this has happened in this village with three other elderly residents having no heating in either the depths of winter or the heat of the summer. Having had an inadequate response from the responsive repairs team, "I should get an update on Tuesday", I wrote to an Orbit Group Director to complain, and an engineer visited the site the next day but not knowing what parts were faulty, after 30 days, was unable to repair the system. A brand-new boiler has been fitted today.

### **Councillor Grant Fund**

The deadline for any second applications will be later in the year, but there should be some £1500 available for 2<sup>nd</sup> round projects.

### **Events and other matters**

#### **High Sheriff tree planting (Twitter and Facebook)**

Can you help Warwickshire's High Sheriff with her tree planting mission?

Sophie Hilleary, Warwickshire's High Sheriff, has set out her plan to plant 689 new whips and saplings across the county and is looking for help to identify projects that need her support.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4683/warwickshire-s-high-sheriff-plans-to-plant-689-trees-across-warwickshire>

#### **High Sheriff Award Nominations (Twitter and Facebook)**

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to help their local community?

Why not nominate them for a High Sheriff Award?

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4687/the-high-sheriff-awards-2023-24-celebrating-warwickshire-s-unsung-heroes>

#### **Supported lodgings programme (Twitter and Facebook)**

In a heart-warming example of community support, the Council and local residents are making a difference in the lives of unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people through the Supported Lodgings initiative.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4682/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-youth-finds-support-through-the-supported-lodgings-programme>

#### **Male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Thursday 2 Nov 2023 was Victims of Male Domestic Abuse Day.

One-in-three victims of Domestic Abuse are male. Support is available in Warwickshire from: [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

#MenYouAreNotAlone

#### **Older male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Many older male domestic abuse victims will not have access to the internet. If you know someone who needs help, please suggest Mankind on 01823 334 244.

#MenYouAreNotAlone

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Download image: [MaleDomesticAbuse\\_ElderAbuse.jpg](#)

## **LGBTQ+ male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

If you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community and are experiencing domestic abuse due to your sexuality, please know #YouAreNotAlone

Support is available for you via [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

## **New Warwickshire primary schools (Twitter and Facebook)**

Two new primary schools are included in the options available to parents and carers with children who will start school for the first time in September 2024.

Find out how to apply: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4688/new-warwickshire-primary-schools-included-in-the-2024-options-available-for-warwickshire-parents-and-carers>

## **Warwickshire Buses (Twitter and Facebook)**

Buses are good for our health, good for the economy and good for the environment.

Warwickshire is committed to making bus services them better and pleased to present Warwickshire Buses as the new name for bus service improvements in the County.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4686/warwickshire-buses-the-new-name-for-bus-service-improvements-across-warwickshire>

## **Control room week 2023 (Twitter and Facebook)**

As part of national control room week 2023, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has been celebrating a very special team: Fire Control.

Find out more about the work that they do helping to keep Warwickshire residents safe: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4679/-controlroomweek-is-a-time-to-recognise-the-vital-role-that-warwickshire-s-fire-control-team-play-in-keeping-our-county-safe>

## **Sustainable Warwickshire Podcast – Episode 8 (Twitter and Facebook)**

Did you know that it's estimated by 2050, 4 out of 5 jobs will be linked in some way to fighting climate change?

Listen to the Sustainable Warwickshire podcast to find out more about the development of future skills: <https://sustainablewarwickshire.podbean.com/e/developing-future-skills-in-warwickshire/>

## **Adapting Shakespeare for children session (Twitter and Facebook)**

Residents across the county are invited to attend an engaging online creative writing workshop next week all about the world of Shakespeare.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4695/residents-invited-to-attend-virtual-creative-writing-session-about-adapting-shakespeare-for-children>

## **Neurodivergent language resource (Twitter and Facebook)**

A new resource has launched to encourage people to think about the words they use when talking about neurodiversity.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4696/new-coventry-and-warwickshire-resource-provides-unique-insight-into-neurodivergent-language>

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 At 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Emma Briscoe, Martin Birch, David Johnson, Roly Whear and Samantha Parkes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, District Councillor Natalie Gist and County Councillor Christopher Kettle

### **2023\_11\_01: Apologies**

None received

### **2023\_11\_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Parkes)

### **2023\_11\_03: Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore flooding discussions

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the Bowls Club and therefore any discussions involving the club

Councillor Briscoe declared an interest in payment NOV\_23\_12 as relative

Clerk declared an interest in planning application 23/03086/TREE as neighbour

### **2023\_11\_04: Requests for Dispensation**

None received

### **2023\_11\_05: Open Forum**

There was one member of the public in attendance to discuss various matters regarding the Ridgeway development

- Correction to September minutes – discussion around the problems with the pumping station and it's removal to help with flood prevention matters
- Question to County Councillor Kettle regarding an update on the adoption of Ridgeway – Highways team have received various maps from Ridgeway residents regarding the road layout and how they have been laid. Councillor Kettle is awaiting a response from Highways team. As residents have the correct plans it is possible to look at whether the Ridgeway can be adopted. Councillor Kettle had previously stated that too much time had elapsed but that is now not the case

### **2023\_11\_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- (i) Play Area/ Sports Pavilion Refurbishment: Previous District Council cabinet meeting report was incorrect and so funding agreement will be made at next cabinet meeting
- (ii) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No further updates
- (iii) Flooding on Station Road: No further updates – Move to general flooding update going forwards
- (iv) Defibrillator Training: Councillor Parkes has contacted the Red Cross
- (v) Wildflower Meadows: Meadow at Bear and Ragged Staff green was planted three weeks ago. However, broadband construction vehicles have destroyed about 25% of it. The contractors have resown with grass seed. Clerk has contacted broadband supplier but has not heard anything. Clerk to escalate. Continue to copy in county councillor on any further problems like this
- (vi) Green waste in Squire Place: Clerk has contacted various people who are unable to remove the waste. Councillors will do so overtime

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- (vii) Adopt a drain: Clerk has contacted the Highways department and were not open to the idea because of insurance issues

### **2023\_11\_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports**

Councillors Gist and Rock submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Councillors were asked to consult on closure of fire stations and Police and Crime Commissioners precept – Cllr Gist will circulate request

Councillor Kettle submitted a report which can be found in Appendix D

Potential closure of fire station. Cllr Kettle will do his best to ensure that it stays open

18 incidents in year, 2 of high risk. Fenny Compton has the lowest availability of all retained fire stations. Since July about 5-7% availability. Availability even lower during day time hours and this is when the majority of incidents occur. Closure is not a cost saving option – it is about resource being matched to need

If closed, Southam would become a full-time, day resourced centre (8am – 10pm). Outside those hours we would be covered by Leamington/ Stratford/ or Banbury. Fenny would remain as a surge station. 3-month consultation until March. Parish Council asked to comment

### **2023\_11\_08: Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- Residents correspondence
  - Poor condition of canal tow path. Complaint directed to the Canal and River Trust but copied us in as we had previously raised issues
  - Resident has received a reply that work will be carried out but no date has been given
  - Potholes on The Slade outside The Grange
  - Potholes have now been filled
  - The road outside Compton Locks and under the railway bridge is very muddy, doesn't appear to be being swept
  - Road sweeper is operational again
  - 'Hole' in the pavement outside Gwynedd next to the co-op
  - Reported to WCC 3 November 2023 and has now been filled
  - Overgrown brambles at Fieldgate Lane
  - Clerk has contacted Marc Briscoe to undertake the work and this has now been completed
  - Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces
- Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service Press Release
  - At its Cabinet meeting being held on Thursday 9th November, Warwickshire County Council will consider options which include closing Bidford, Fenny Compton, Henley, Shipston, Polesworth, Kenilworth, Wellesbourne and Gaydon as on-call fire stations. These will be turned into so-called 'surge stations' which will be required four times in every five years, and the on-call firefighters required to work from other stations on a shift system or be made redundant.
  - Tristan Ashby, Chief Executive of the Fire and Rescue Services Association which represents firefighters in Warwickshire said: 'The County Council's Cabinet is being asked to make major decisions regarding the future of Warwickshire on-call fire stations, based on the flimsiest evidence, none of which has

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been subject to independent scrutiny. We have severe doubts about the workability of what is being proposed. Local people will lose a valuable local asset with little or no gain to the area.

- Although these proposals will be subject to further consultation, our experience is that fire and rescue services just press ahead with changes regardless of public opinion, or the facts of the matter. We cannot stand by and see on-call stations closed and firefighters made redundant on the basis of these ill-thought-out proposals

### 2023\_11\_09: 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>
23/02801/TREE	7 Nov 2023	Kits Close, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	T1 - ash - Fell
23/02797/FUL	16 Nov 2023	Cowslip Cottage, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	Internal alterations including conversion of garage to create open plan rooms. Alterations to window fenestrations and replacement of all external windows and doors. Construction of oak framed outdoor area with tiled roof to east elevation. Addition of an oak framed timber porch to north elevation.
23/03086/TREE	7 Dec 2023	1 Church Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YE	T1- apple - Fell.

Between meetings councillors **agreed** to respond with ‘No representation’ for application 23/02801/TREE and 23/02797FUL

23/03086/TREE – Councillors discussed and **agreed** to ‘No representation’

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

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
23/02722/TREE	14 Nov 2023	No objection	Hornbeam House, 1 Brook Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YH	-T1 twisted willow - Reduction by 4metres from highest point to maintain shape and stop lots of small dead limbs shedding onto the road.

(iii) 23/02859/TEL28: Installation of 9 metre pole for fixed line broadband, on verge outside 16 Grants Close, Fenny Compton – Information only

(iv) Further Updates

- a. Application 23/02012/FUL, Rose Garden, The Tunnel, Farnborough (New self-build 3-bedroom dwellinghouse including new vehicular access and associated development) has been **withdrawn**
- b. Compton Locks
  - i. Bus stop request – There has been some changes in personnel at WCC which has delayed the request. A request was made for a bus stop with poles and timetable notice, but another site visit will need to take place to progress
  - ii. Speed Limit along Station Road – No updates

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### 2023\_11\_10: Financial Administration

- (i) Councillors **approved** the following payments (Proposed by Councillor Parkes and seconded by Councillor Whear):

NOV_23_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO	SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD	Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6	Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
NOV_23_7	RoSPA (Play area safety inspection)	(123.60)
NOV_23_8_DD	ICO (Annual subscription)	(35.00)
NOV_23_9	Mick Jones (Village grass cut)	(490.00)
NOV_23_10	Michael Mann (Playing Field grass cut)	(309.00)
NOV_23_11	Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12	Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)

#### **Current Account**

**(2,644.84)**

- (ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them
- (iii) Grass cutting tender decision – Three quotes were received. One was dismissed as four times the cost of the others. Discussions were had about the remaining two contractors and it was **agreed** to choose Michael Mann. Michael Mann currently has the contract for nearby parish councils and has experience in the village from the sports field contract. The price was competitive

[Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces](#)

### Councillor Kettle left the meeting at 20.35

- (iv) 2023\_24 Budget – Clerk has put together a first draft which was discussed by councillors. Main areas of discussion were whether to include additional reserves for the Play area and sports pavilion. It was agreed to wait until next month to see if a decision has been made by the District Council regarding funding
- (v) Bank Accounts
- a. The Fixed Term Deposit account matures on 22 November. Councillors agreed to reinvest this is a 6 month Fixed Term deposit account with an interest of 3.5%

[Resolution under the Trustee Investment Act 1961 s. 11, power to participate in schemes of collective investment](#)

- b. Should unallocated reserves be transferred to a higher interest generating account? Clerk to review options

### 2023\_11\_11: Updates

- (i) Compton Locks Integration – Chair now have a contact within the rental department so leaflets can also be given to those tenants. c.20 houses now occupied
- (ii) Flood Prevention –
- a. Ridge Way: The survey works on the Ridgeway have shown that the pipe is sized as expected but that it turns 90 degrees and continues down the high street. Whilst the pipes aren't in a bad state of repair, the

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acute change of direction is clearly creating a restriction that contributes to flows surcharging at the top of the Ridgeway. WCC have now asked Balfour Beatty for an updated quote to include some minor repairs to pipework whilst the works to install the new 450mm culvert across the field is undertaken.

Councillor Whear has asked about the possibility of removing the pumping station

- b. Memorial Road: WCC drainage contractors, supported by Highways, attended Memorial Road on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November. They used a camera through to the outfall and confirm it is clear and have uncovered the buried manhole near to the bus shelter. They found two sections of damaged pipe that require further dig down repairs. The damage appears to have been caused when either the telecoms or electricity cables have been laid, and are impacting the performance of the gullies. They are currently in discussion to see if it possible to reinstate these two repairs and manholes, which would provide easy access to finish the surveying and to cleanse the remaining system, now and in the future. There is also a second line of the system, believed to have been historically abandoned. If this were able to be picked up into one of the new manholes, it may be worth exploring if this pipe can be rehabilitated and brought back into service, given that this may be a quick and easy solution to add back some extra capacity
- c. The Doctors Surgery: During WCC site visits a headwall and trash screen in the vegetated area adjacent to the Doctors Surgery have been found. Parish Council have been asked whether this is being maintained by the surgery or whether Aqueous could look at. Councillor Whear to action
- d. Compton Locks: WCC are currently not aware of any issues here. Councillor Whear to follow up and send photos. It appears that the run off is from the field next to, rather than the building site.

### **Resident left the meeting at 21.00**

- (iii) Trees – Discussion around tree on the wildflower meadow at Fieldgate Lane. Councillors agreed to keep a watching brief
- (iv) Playing Field and Play Equipment – The RoSPA Safety inspection was undertaken on 18<sup>th</sup> October. All remedial action has been undertaken by Councillor Whear. The report did mention the state of the edging of the tarmac of the hard standing area. Dependant on the decision regarding the funding of the play area this will either be included in the wider refurbishment, or looked at next year
- (v) Highways – No further updates
- (vi) Traffic – No updates
- (vii) Future Strategy – Chair spoke to the Group Scout Leader regarding the use of the village hall by the scout group. They informally confirmed that they intend to carry on using the hall as their base
- (viii) Risk Assessments –
  - a. Memorial Road Bus stop – Guttering has been repaired by Derek Maries

[Resolution under the Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provision\) Act 1953, s. 4, power to provide and maintain shelters](#)

  - b. Memorial Road Salt Bin – Highways have agreed to empty the bin and then Clerk will organise removal
  - c. Street Lights – Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Some are leaning and will be monitored
  - d. Benches - Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Two benches need remedial work. Clerk to organise repair

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(ix) 2024 Diary Dates: Councillors discussed and **agreed** the following dates:

Monday January 15th  
Monday February 19th  
Monday March 18th  
Monday April 15th: Includes Parish Meeting  
Monday May 20th : Includes Annual Meeting  
Monday June 17th  
Monday July 15th  
August – No meeting  
Monday September 16th  
Monday October 21st  
Monday November 18th  
Monday December 16th

### **2023\_11\_12: Items to Publicise**

- (i) Fire station proposal
- (ii) Grass cutting tender decision
- (iii) Residents moving into Compton Locks

### **2023\_11\_13: Future Discussion**

Budget, bank account, playing field grass tender

### **2023\_11\_14: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

**MEETING CLOSED 21.30**

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

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## Appendix A

### October Financial Administration

<b>Balances:</b> (See attached bank reconciliation)	<b>£</b>
Traffic Management	2,135.82
Flood Relief Grant	1,683.76
Over 8's Play Area	140.56
NP Plan Projects	86.33
Allotments	500.00
Defibrillator	956.68
Other	5.28
<b>Deposit Account</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
Cotters Croft	2,999.58
PC Balance	7,005.42
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b> (High interest deposit):	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Balances</b> (See Bank Reconciliation)	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)	
NOV_23_1_SO Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6 Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
NOV_23_7 RoSPA (Play area safety inspection)	(123.60)
NOV_23_8_DD ICO (Annual subscription)	(35.00)
NOV_23_9 Mick Jones (Village grass cut)	(490.00)
NOV_23_10 Michael Mann (Playing Field grass cut)	(309.00)
NOV_23_11 Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12 Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>(2,644.84)</b>
<b>Total Balances carried forward</b>	<b><u>36,760.80</u></b>

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

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## Appendix B

### October Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
<b>30 Day Notice (Allocated Reserves)</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b>	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b> 10,754.73	
Less payments outstanding:	
Colts Donation 490.00	
Waterplus 8.48	
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	39,353.66
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Wayleave payment 35.10	
Bank Interest 16.88	
<b>Total Cash Book</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>

## Appendix C – District Councillor Report

### **The New Council Plan**

Thank you for all of your comments on the new Council plan which will guide the administration for the next four years. The results from the public consultation have been collated and the plan is being amended to take account of the comments. It is intended that the new Council plan is confirmed at the December Council meeting.

### **Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund**

On Monday 6 November, Cabinet approved the setting up of a Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund. This is an opportunity for parish councils, as well as properly constituted community and charity groups to apply for grant funding for green initiatives in their local community. The fund will be for £100,000 in two tranches with £50,000 being in the first tranche. Bid will be invited for allocation by March 2024. We will let you have further details once the scheme goes live.

### **Winter Warmth Funding**

New funding options are available to help residents with keeping homes warm and the cost of energy bills. There are three schemes: HUG2 (Home Upgrade Grant) which is funded by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Energy Support Fund and Physical Intervention Fund, both funded by Stratford on Avon District Council. A link to the press release and further advice and information is here: [Winter warmth grants now available from Stratford-on-Avon District Council | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

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### **Live & Local**

The Live & Local Proposal for the Moving Pictures scheme has been received for the 2023 – 26 period. This scheme facilitates live performances in community halls in smaller towns and villages and is vital for our rural communities and which we know is active in Fenny Compton. Currently fifteen venues in Stratford District use the Moving Pictures service hosting their own film clubs with regular screenings throughout the year. We would like to remind parishes of the scheme so that they can make full use of it. A leaflet with further information is attached.

### **Podback Scheme**

This scheme is free recycling of coffee machine pods will be available to residents from 20 November 2023. Podback will supply bags for storage of used containers and Biffa will collect these bags with their regular round for blue bins. They will be deposited at WCC household waste centre where Podback will collect the pods for re-use.

### **Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Public Consultation**

The Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Framework Supplementary Planning Document is presently out for public consultation with it closing at 5pm on Friday 1 December. Please let us have your views. Further information is here:

[Stratford-upon-Avon Gateway Masterplan | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

At a recent meeting of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, the Police and Crime Commissioner did emphasise the importance of residents reporting all crimes to 101. This allows the police to gather data and to direct resources as necessary.

### **HS2 AND ROAD CLOSURES**

Ongoing road closures. The road to Wormleighton is open again and we have received the following update from EKFB:

**“The 4-week full closure of Wormleighton Road has been postponed and will now take place in early 2024.**

Given that closing Wormleighton Road has travel impacts on the local community, we want to be sure that the 4-week closure is timed correctly. The timing needs to fit with when Banbury Road Overbridge is ready for traffic so that connectivity between villages is restored. The bridge is not ready yet, and so postponement reduces the risk of extended delays to local traffic.

The closure of Banbury Road will remain in place until early 2024, near to where we are constructing the Banbury Road Overbridge. Warwick Road remains open for access to Boddington and Byfield. “

As ever, should you need it, the HS2 Helpdesk Team may be contacted on 08081 434 434 or emailed at [S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk). Any changes will be on [www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk)

Cllr Natalie Gist

[Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Cllr Nigel Rock

[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair December 2023

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

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## Appendix D – County Councillor Report

### Division issues

#### Rainwater and flooding

After previous suggestions that the two schemes, flooding prevention and improved of road drains, were being run separately as road rain water gulleys did not form part of the scheme, I am pleased to say that Jeoffery Hobday, has when the machinery is on site being working with the survey teams to have the road drains in Memorial Road checked by the flood prevention team, saving costs.

I am continuing to chase on what can be done to adopt the Ridgeway and have been provided detailed plans which suggest, to my untrained eye, that the roads were built to an adoptable standard.

#### Harbury Crossroads

Owing to the environmental health impact and problems of piling in front of the adjacent property, SDC EH officers requested work had to cease until a low impact methodology could be developed. This has now been developed and a new design for the protection work of the property to the immediate east of the crossroads. That new design has now been completed.

Last week Warwickshire Highways approved the revised design allowing materials to be ordered to enable the new scheme to be constructed. Owing to a lead time for the bespoke materials, work cannot commence straight away and there is little ancillary work that can be completed before the replacement piling can be completed.

As I noted previously, the timetable has slipped considerably. The current timetable suggest that works will not now be completed until spring, as a result of the need to redesign work.

I am working with officers to get the contractor to find any way to make up for lost time.

I still have funding for further road related schemes in my delegated highways budget. But whilst these are discretionary grants, any proposal is subject to professional scrutiny by the Highways teams and schemes that do not accord with normal highway protocols will not be accepted.

#### HS2

I have had a response from BBV about complaints about the attempted eradication of noxious weeds on the land acquired by HS2. The response from BBV did not align with the Code of Practice for such weeds or I understand with HS2's own manuals. I have had no response from EKFB yet.

I, as have WCC officers, have written back to make it clear that work practices that do not comply with DEFRA published guidelines are not really an acceptable response.

#### Hi speed broadband.

Once again contractors are not informing residents of impending works, are trespassing on private land and some of the reinstatement work leaves much to be desired, WCC officers are doing their best to ensure works are carried out in line with the terms of Permits given and that remedial work succeeds in bring the surface back to the roads / pavements original condition.

#### Schools

I have spent considerable time this month working with parents of children being temporarily or permanently excluded from mainstream schools. Obviously, I cannot disclose details but I am becoming increasingly concerned about this. Regrettably the majority of schools are now Academies who are independent of WCC including over admittance and exclusion policies. I have spoken to the portfolio holder responsible for education and senior officers in the department who share my concerns.

I have however been impressed with the speed with which WCC educational support officers, when they become aware of exclusions, are able to find a place for children for temporary alternative provision allowing then continue their education and then re-enter mainstream education.

#### School transport

I have raised an issue over school bus transport and am awaiting s response form WCC Transport operations over the provision of internal CCTV on buses.

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I have raised the issue of the location of bus stops with the WCC transport officers and with Highway Safety. Highway Safety officer have explained it is not appropriate to place railings against the curb as firstly the railings would have to be set back from the curb edge narrowing the footpath, potentially forcing those with pushchairs or mobility aids to go outside the railing and there is no guarantee that children waiting for buses would not stay contained inside the railings.

### **Orbit Housing**

I was horrified to receive an email from a resident's son, last week, over the failure of his mother's heating and hot water system. She had had no heating for some 30 days. This is not the first time as this has happened in this village with three other elderly residents having no heating in either the depths of winter or the heat of the summer. Having had an inadequate response from the responsive repairs team, "I should get an update on Tuesday", I wrote to an Orbit Group Director to complain, and an engineer visited the site the next day but not knowing what parts were faulty, after 30 days, was unable to repair the system. A brand-new boiler has been fitted today.

### **Councillor Grant Fund**

The deadline for any second applications will be later in the year, but there should be some £1500 available for 2<sup>nd</sup> round projects.

### **Events and other matters**

#### **High Sheriff tree planting (Twitter and Facebook)**

Can you help Warwickshire's High Sheriff with her tree planting mission?

Sophie Hilleary, Warwickshire's High Sheriff, has set out her plan to plant 689 new whips and saplings across the county and is looking for help to identify projects that need her support.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4683/warwickshire-s-high-sheriff-plans-to-plant-689-trees-across-warwickshire>

#### **High Sheriff Award Nominations (Twitter and Facebook)**

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to help their local community?

Why not nominate them for a High Sheriff Award?

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4687/the-high-sheriff-awards-2023-24-celebrating-warwickshire-s-unsung-heroes>

#### **Supported lodgings programme (Twitter and Facebook)**

In a heart-warming example of community support, the Council and local residents are making a difference in the lives of unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people through the Supported Lodgings initiative.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4682/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-youth-finds-support-through-the-supported-lodgings-programme>

#### **Male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Thursday 2 Nov 2023 was Victims of Male Domestic Abuse Day.

One-in-three victims of Domestic Abuse are male. Support is available in Warwickshire from: [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

#MenYouAreNotAlone

#### **Older male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Many older male domestic abuse victims will not have access to the internet. If you know someone who needs help, please suggest Mankind on 01823 334 244.

#MenYouAreNotAlone

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Download image: [MaleDomesticAbuse\\_ElderAbuse.jpg](#)

## **LGBTQ+ male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

If you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community and are experiencing domestic abuse due to your sexuality, please know #YouAreNotAlone

Support is available for you via [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

## **New Warwickshire primary schools (Twitter and Facebook)**

Two new primary schools are included in the options available to parents and carers with children who will start school for the first time in September 2024.

Find out how to apply: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4688/new-warwickshire-primary-schools-included-in-the-2024-options-available-for-warwickshire-parents-and-carers>

## **Warwickshire Buses (Twitter and Facebook)**

Buses are good for our health, good for the economy and good for the environment.

Warwickshire is committed to making bus services them better and pleased to present Warwickshire Buses as the new name for bus service improvements in the County.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4686/warwickshire-buses-the-new-name-for-bus-service-improvements-across-warwickshire>

## **Control room week 2023 (Twitter and Facebook)**

As part of national control room week 2023, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has been celebrating a very special team: Fire Control.

Find out more about the work that they do helping to keep Warwickshire residents safe: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4679/-controlroomweek-is-a-time-to-recognise-the-vital-role-that-warwickshire-s-fire-control-team-play-in-keeping-our-county-safe>

## **Sustainable Warwickshire Podcast – Episode 8 (Twitter and Facebook)**

Did you know that it's estimated by 2050, 4 out of 5 jobs will be linked in some way to fighting climate change?

Listen to the Sustainable Warwickshire podcast to find out more about the development of future skills: <https://sustainablewarwickshire.podbean.com/e/developing-future-skills-in-warwickshire/>

## **Adapting Shakespeare for children session (Twitter and Facebook)**

Residents across the county are invited to attend an engaging online creative writing workshop next week all about the world of Shakespeare.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4695/residents-invited-to-attend-virtual-creative-writing-session-about-adapting-shakespeare-for-children>

## **Neurodivergent language resource (Twitter and Facebook)**

A new resource has launched to encourage people to think about the words they use when talking about neurodiversity.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4696/new-coventry-and-warwickshire-resource-provides-unique-insight-into-neurodivergent-language>

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**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Emma Briscoe, Martin Birch, David Johnson, Roly Whear and Samantha Parkes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Parish Clerk Lydia Cox, District Councillor Natalie Gist and County Councillor Christopher Kettle

### **2023\_11\_01: Apologies**

None received

### **2023\_11\_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Briscoe and seconded by Councillor Parkes)

### **2023\_11\_03: Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore flooding discussions

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the Bowls Club and therefore any discussions involving the club

Councillor Briscoe declared an interest in payment NOV\_23\_12 as relative

Clerk declared an interest in planning application 23/03086/TREE as neighbour

### **2023\_11\_04: Requests for Dispensation**

None received

### **2023\_11\_05: Open Forum**

There was one member of the public in attendance to discuss various matters regarding the Ridgeway development

- Correction to September minutes – discussion around the problems with the pumping station and it's removal to help with flood prevention matters
- Question to County Councillor Kettle regarding an update on the adoption of Ridgeway – Highways team have received various maps from Ridgeway residents regarding the road layout and how they have been laid. Councillor Kettle is awaiting a response from Highways team. As residents have the correct plans it is possible to look at whether the Ridgeway can be adopted. Councillor Kettle had previously stated that too much time had elapsed but that is now not the case

### **2023\_11\_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- (i) Play Area/ Sports Pavilion Refurbishment: Previous District Council cabinet meeting report was incorrect and so funding agreement will be made at next cabinet meeting
- (ii) Upper Lighthorne Primary Healthcare: No further updates
- (iii) Flooding on Station Road: No further updates – Move to general flooding update going forwards
- (iv) Defibrillator Training: Councillor Parkes has contacted the Red Cross
- (v) Wildflower Meadows: Meadow at Bear and Ragged Staff green was planted three weeks ago. However, broadband construction vehicles have destroyed about 25% of it. The contractors have resown with grass seed. Clerk has contacted broadband supplier but has not heard anything. Clerk to escalate. Continue to copy in county councillor on any further problems like this
- (vi) Green waste in Squire Place: Clerk has contacted various people who are unable to remove the waste. Councillors will do so overtime

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- (vii) Adopt a drain: Clerk has contacted the Highways department and were not open to the idea because of insurance issues

### **2023\_11\_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports**

Councillors Gist and Rock submitted a report which can be found in Appendix C

Councillors were asked to consult on closure of fire stations and Police and Crime Commissioners precept – Cllr Gist will circulate request

Councillor Kettle submitted a report which can be found in Appendix D

Potential closure of fire station. Cllr Kettle will do his best to ensure that it stays open

18 incidents in year, 2 of high risk. Fenny Compton has the lowest availability of all retained fire stations. Since July about 5-7% availability. Availability even lower during day time hours and this is when the majority of incidents occur. Closure is not a cost saving option – it is about resource being matched to need

If closed, Southam would become a full-time, day resourced centre (8am – 10pm). Outside those hours we would be covered by Leamington/ Stratford/ or Banbury. Fenny would remain as a surge station. 3-month consultation until March. Parish Council asked to comment

### **2023\_11\_08: Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- Residents correspondence
  - Poor condition of canal tow path. Complaint directed to the Canal and River Trust but copied us in as we had previously raised issues
  - Resident has received a reply that work will be carried out but no date has been given
  - Potholes on The Slade outside The Grange
  - Potholes have now been filled
  - The road outside Compton Locks and under the railway bridge is very muddy, doesn't appear to be being swept
  - Road sweeper is operational again
  - 'Hole' in the pavement outside Gwynedd next to the co-op
  - Reported to WCC 3 November 2023 and has now been filled
  - Overgrown brambles at Fieldgate Lane
  - Clerk has contacted Marc Briscoe to undertake the work and this has now been completed
  - Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces
- Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service Press Release
  - At its Cabinet meeting being held on Thursday 9th November, Warwickshire County Council will consider options which include closing Bidford, Fenny Compton, Henley, Shipston, Polesworth, Kenilworth, Wellesbourne and Gaydon as on-call fire stations. These will be turned into so-called 'surge stations' which will be required four times in every five years, and the on-call firefighters required to work from other stations on a shift system or be made redundant.
  - Tristan Ashby, Chief Executive of the Fire and Rescue Services Association which represents firefighters in Warwickshire said: 'The County Council's Cabinet is being asked to make major decisions regarding the future of Warwickshire on-call fire stations, based on the flimsiest evidence, none of which has

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been subject to independent scrutiny. We have severe doubts about the workability of what is being proposed. Local people will lose a valuable local asset with little or no gain to the area.

- Although these proposals will be subject to further consultation, our experience is that fire and rescue services just press ahead with changes regardless of public opinion, or the facts of the matter. We cannot stand by and see on-call stations closed and firefighters made redundant on the basis of these ill-thought-out proposals

### 2023\_11\_09: 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>
23/02801/TREE	7 Nov 2023	Kits Close, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	T1 - ash - Fell
23/02797/FUL	16 Nov 2023	Cowslip Cottage, Avon Dassett Road, Fenny Compton	Internal alterations including conversion of garage to create open plan rooms. Alterations to window fenestrations and replacement of all external windows and doors. Construction of oak framed outdoor area with tiled roof to east elevation. Addition of an oak framed timber porch to north elevation.
23/03086/TREE	7 Dec 2023	1 Church Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YE	T1- apple - Fell.

Between meetings councillors **agreed** to respond with 'No representation' for application 23/02801/TREE and 23/02797FUL

23/03086/TREE – Councillors discussed and **agreed** to 'No representation'

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

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
23/02722/TREE	14 Nov 2023	No objection	Hornbeam House, 1 Brook Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YH	-T1 twisted willow - Reduction by 4metres from highest point to maintain shape and stop lots of small dead limbs shedding onto the road.

(iii) 23/02859/TEL28: Installation of 9 metre pole for fixed line broadband, on verge outside 16 Grants Close, Fenny Compton – Information only

(iv) Further Updates

a. Application 23/02012/FUL, Rose Garden, The Tunnel, Farnborough (New self-build 3-bedroom dwellinghouse including new vehicular access and associated development) has been **withdrawn**

b. Compton Locks

- i. Bus stop request – There has been some changes in personnel at WCC which has delayed the request. A request was made for a bus stop with poles and timetable notice, but another site visit will need to take place to progress
- ii. Speed Limit along Station Road – No updates

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### 2023\_11\_10: Financial Administration

- (i) Councillors **approved** the following payments (Proposed by Councillor Parkes and seconded by Councillor Whear):

NOV_23_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO	SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD	Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6	Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
NOV_23_7	RoSPA (Play area safety inspection)	(123.60)
NOV_23_8_DD	ICO (Annual subscription)	(35.00)
NOV_23_9	Mick Jones (Village grass cut)	(490.00)
NOV_23_10	Michael Mann (Playing Field grass cut)	(309.00)
NOV_23_11	Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12	Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)

#### **Current Account**

**(2,644.84)**

- (ii) Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (Appendix A & B) and agreed them
- (iii) Grass cutting tender decision – Three quotes were received. One was dismissed as four times the cost of the others. Discussions were had about the remaining two contractors and it was **agreed** to choose Michael Mann. Michael Mann currently has the contract for nearby parish councils and has experience in the village from the sports field contract. The price was competitive

[Resolution under the Local Spaces Act 1906 ss. 9 and 10, power to maintain land for open spaces](#)

### Councillor Kettle left the meeting at 20.35

- (iv) 2023\_24 Budget – Clerk has put together a first draft which was discussed by councillors. Main areas of discussion were whether to include additional reserves for the Play area and sports pavilion. It was agreed to wait until next month to see if a decision has been made by the District Council regarding funding
- (v) Bank Accounts
- a. The Fixed Term Deposit account matures on 22 November. Councillors agreed to reinvest this is a 6 month Fixed Term deposit account with an interest of 3.5%

[Resolution under the Trustee Investment Act 1961 s. 11, power to participate in schemes of collective investment](#)

- b. Should unallocated reserves be transferred to a higher interest generating account? Clerk to review options

### 2023\_11\_11: Updates

- (i) Compton Locks Integration – Chair now have a contact within the rental department so leaflets can also be given to those tenants. c.20 houses now occupied
- (ii) Flood Prevention –
- a. Ridge Way: The survey works on the Ridgeway have shown that the pipe is sized as expected but that it turns 90 degrees and continues down the high street. Whilst the pipes aren't in a bad state of repair, the

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acute change of direction is clearly creating a restriction that contributes to flows surcharging at the top of the Ridgeway. WCC have now asked Balfour Beatty for an updated quote to include some minor repairs to pipework whilst the works to install the new 450mm culvert across the field is undertaken.

Councillor Whear has asked about the possibility of removing the pumping station

- b. Memorial Road: WCC drainage contractors, supported by Highways, attended Memorial Road on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November. They used a camera through to the outfall and confirm it is clear and have uncovered the buried manhole near to the bus shelter. They found two sections of damaged pipe that require further dig down repairs. The damage appears to have been caused when either the telecoms or electricity cables have been laid, and are impacting the performance of the gullies. They are currently in discussion to see if it possible to reinstate these two repairs and manholes, which would provide easy access to finish the surveying and to cleanse the remaining system, now and in the future. There is also a second line of the system, believed to have been historically abandoned. If this were able to be picked up into one of the new manholes, it may be worth exploring if this pipe can be rehabilitated and brought back into service, given that this may be a quick and easy solution to add back some extra capacity
- c. The Doctors Surgery: During WCC site visits a headwall and trash screen in the vegetated area adjacent to the Doctors Surgery have been found. Parish Council have been asked whether this is being maintained by the surgery or whether Aqueous could look at. Councillor Whear to action
- d. Compton Locks: WCC are currently not aware of any issues here. Councillor Whear to follow up and send photos. It appears that the run off is from the field next to, rather than the building site.

### **Resident left the meeting at 21.00**

- (iii) Trees – Discussion around tree on the wildflower meadow at Fieldgate Lane. Councillors agreed to keep a watching brief
- (iv) Playing Field and Play Equipment – The RoSPA Safety inspection was undertaken on 18<sup>th</sup> October. All remedial action has been undertaken by Councillor Whear. The report did mention the state of the edging of the tarmac of the hard standing area. Dependant on the decision regarding the funding of the play area this will either be included in the wider refurbishment, or looked at next year
- (v) Highways – No further updates
- (vi) Traffic – No updates
- (vii) Future Strategy – Chair spoke to the Group Scout Leader regarding the use of the village hall by the scout group. They informally confirmed that they intend to carry on using the hall as their base
- (viii) Risk Assessments –
  - a. Memorial Road Bus stop – Guttering has been repaired by Derek Maries

[Resolution under the Local Government \(Miscellaneous Provision\) Act 1953, s. 4, power to provide and maintain shelters](#)

  - b. Memorial Road Salt Bin – Highways have agreed to empty the bin and then Clerk will organise removal
  - c. Street Lights – Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Some are leaning and will be monitored
  - d. Benches - Assessment completed by Councillor Birch. Two benches need remedial work. Clerk to organise repair

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(ix) 2024 Diary Dates: Councillors discussed and **agreed** the following dates:

- Monday January 15th
- Monday February 19th
- Monday March 18th
- Monday April 15th: Includes Parish Meeting
- Monday May 20th : Includes Annual Meeting
- Monday June 17th
- Monday July 15th
- August – No meeting
- Monday September 16th
- Monday October 21st
- Monday November 18th
- Monday December 16th

### **2023\_11\_12: Items to Publicise**

- (i) Fire station proposal
- (ii) Grass cutting tender decision
- (iii) Residents moving into Compton Locks

### **2023\_11\_13: Future Discussion**

Budget, bank account, playing field grass tender

### **2023\_11\_14: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

**MEETING CLOSED 21.30**

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## Appendix A

### October Financial Administration

<b>Balances:</b> (See attached bank reconciliation)	<b>£</b>
Traffic Management	2,135.82
Flood Relief Grant	1,683.76
Over 8's Play Area	140.56
NP Plan Projects	86.33
Allotments	500.00
Defibrillator	956.68
Other	5.28
<b>Deposit Account</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
Cotters Croft	2,999.58
PC Balance	7,005.42
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b> (High interest deposit):	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Balances</b> (See Bank Reconciliation)	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)	
NOV_23_1_SO Lydia Cox (Nov Salary and expenses)	(650.16)
NOV_23_2_SO SDC (Pension contribution Nov)	(182.32)
NOV_23_3_DD Utility Warehouse (Electricity)	(29.47)
NOV_23_4_DD Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(222.69)
NOV_23_5_DD WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(22.60)
NOV_23_6 Fenny Compton Colts Donation	(490.00)
NOV_23_7 RoSPA (Play area safety inspection)	(123.60)
NOV_23_8_DD ICO (Annual subscription)	(35.00)
NOV_23_9 Mick Jones (Village grass cut)	(490.00)
NOV_23_10 Michael Mann (Playing Field grass cut)	(309.00)
NOV_23_11 Royal British Legion (Wreath)	(50.00)
NOV_23_12 Marc Briscoe (Fieldgate Lane)	(40.00)
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>(2,644.84)</b>
<b>Total Balances carried forward</b>	<b><u>36,760.80</u></b>

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## Appendix B

### October Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
<b>30 Day Notice (Allocated Reserves)</b>	<b>5,508.43</b>
<b>12 Month Partial Withdrawal</b>	<b>10,005.00</b>
<b>Deposit Account (Unallocated Reserves)</b>	<b>12,639.00</b>
<b>Current Account</b> 10,754.73	
Less payments outstanding:	
Colts Donation 490.00	
Waterplus 8.48	
<b>Current Account</b>	<b>11,253.21</b>
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	39,353.66
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Wayleave payment 35.10	
Bank Interest 16.88	
<b>Total Cash Book</b>	<b><u>39,405.64</u></b>

## Appendix C – District Councillor Report

### **The New Council Plan**

Thank you for all of your comments on the new Council plan which will guide the administration for the next four years. The results from the public consultation have been collated and the plan is being amended to take account of the comments. It is intended that the new Council plan is confirmed at the December Council meeting.

### **Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund**

On Monday 6 November, Cabinet approved the setting up of a Stratford on Avon Community Climate Change Fund. This is an opportunity for parish councils, as well as properly constituted community and charity groups to apply for grant funding for green initiatives in their local community. The fund will be for £100,000 in two tranches with £50,000 being in the first tranche. Bid will be invited for allocation by March 2024. We will let you have further details once the scheme goes live.

### **Winter Warmth Funding**

New funding options are available to help residents with keeping homes warm and the cost of energy bills. There are three schemes: HUG2 (Home Upgrade Grant) which is funded by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Energy Support Fund and Physical Intervention Fund, both funded by Stratford on Avon District Council. A link to the press release and further advice and information is here: [Winter warmth grants now available from Stratford-on-Avon District Council | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

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### **Live & Local**

The Live & Local Proposal for the Moving Pictures scheme has been received for the 2023 – 26 period. This scheme facilitates live performances in community halls in smaller towns and villages and is vital for our rural communities and which we know is active in Fenny Compton. Currently fifteen venues in Stratford District use the Moving Pictures service hosting their own film clubs with regular screenings throughout the year. We would like to remind parishes of the scheme so that they can make full use of it. A leaflet with further information is attached.

### **Podback Scheme**

This scheme is free recycling of coffee machine pods will be available to residents from 20 November 2023. Podback will supply bags for storage of used containers and Biffa will collect these bags with their regular round for blue bins. They will be deposited at WCC household waste centre where Podback will collect the pods for re-use.

### **Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Public Consultation**

The Stratford on Avon Gateway Masterplan Framework Supplementary Planning Document is presently out for public consultation with it closing at 5pm on Friday 1 December. Please let us have your views. Further information is here:

[Stratford-upon-Avon Gateway Masterplan | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

At a recent meeting of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel, the Police and Crime Commissioner did emphasise the importance of residents reporting all crimes to 101. This allows the police to gather data and to direct resources as necessary.

### **HS2 AND ROAD CLOSURES**

Ongoing road closures. The road to Wormleighton is open again and we have received the following update from EKFB:

**“The 4-week full closure of Wormleighton Road has been postponed and will now take place in early 2024.**

Given that closing Wormleighton Road has travel impacts on the local community, we want to be sure that the 4-week closure is timed correctly. The timing needs to fit with when Banbury Road Overbridge is ready for traffic so that connectivity between villages is restored. The bridge is not ready yet, and so postponement reduces the risk of extended delays to local traffic.

The closure of Banbury Road will remain in place until early 2024, near to where we are constructing the Banbury Road Overbridge. Warwick Road remains open for access to Boddington and Byfield. “

As ever, should you need it, the HS2 Helpdesk Team may be contacted on 08081 434 434 or emailed at [S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:S2enquiries@hs2.org.uk). Any changes will be on [www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2inwarwickshire.co.uk)

Cllr Natalie Gist

[Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:Natalie.Gist@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Cllr Nigel Rock

[nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.rock@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

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## Appendix D – County Councillor Report

### Division issues

#### Rainwater and flooding

After previous suggestions that the two schemes, flooding prevention and improved of road drains, were being run separately as road rain water gulleys did not form part of the scheme, I am pleased to say that Jeoffery Hobday, has when the machinery is on site being working with the survey teams to have the road drains in Memorial Road checked by the flood prevention team, saving costs.

I am continuing to chase on what can be done to adopt the Ridgeway and have been provided detailed plans which suggest, to my untrained eye, that the roads were built to an adoptable standard.

#### Harbury Crossroads

Owing to the environmental health impact and problems of piling in front of the adjacent property, SDC EH officers requested work had to cease until a low impact methodology could be developed. This has now been developed and a new design for the protection work of the property to the immediate east of the crossroads. That new design has now been completed.

Last week Warwickshire Highways approved the revised design allowing materials to be ordered to enable the new scheme to be constructed. Owing to a lead time for the bespoke materials, work cannot commence straight away and there is little ancillary work that can be completed before the replacement piling can be completed.

As I noted previously, the timetable has slipped considerably. The current timetable suggest that works will not now be completed until spring, as a result of the need to redesign work.

I am working with officers to get the contractor to find any way to make up for lost time.

I still have funding for further road related schemes in my delegated highways budget. But whilst these are discretionary grants, any proposal is subject to professional scrutiny by the Highways teams and schemes that do not accord with normal highway protocols will not be accepted.

#### HS2

I have had a response from BBV about complaints about the attempted eradication of noxious weeds on the land acquired by HS2. The response from BBV did not align with the Code of Practice for such weeds or I understand with HS2's own manuals. I have had no response from EKFB yet.

I, as have WCC officers, have written back to make it clear that work practices that do not comply with DEFRA published guidelines are not really an acceptable response.

#### Hi speed broadband.

Once again contractors are not informing residents of impending works, are trespassing on private land and some of the reinstatement work leaves much to be desired, WCC officers are doing their best to ensure works are carried out in line with the terms of Permits given and that remedial work succeeds in bring the surface back to the roads / pavements original condition.

#### Schools

I have spent considerable time this month working with parents of children being temporarily or permanently excluded from mainstream schools. Obviously, I cannot disclose details but I am becoming increasingly concerned about this. Regrettably the majority of schools are now Academies who are independent of WCC including over admittance and exclusion policies. I have spoken to the portfolio holder responsible for education and senior officers in the department who share my concerns.

I have however been impressed with the speed with which WCC educational support officers, when they become aware of exclusions, are able to find a place for children for temporary alternative provision allowing then continue their education and then re-enter mainstream education.

#### School transport

I have raised an issue over school bus transport and am awaiting s response form WCC Transport operations over the provision of internal CCTV on buses.

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 At 7.45pm

I have raised the issue of the location of bus stops with the WCC transport officers and with Highway Safety. Highway Safety officer have explained it is not appropriate to place railings against the curb as firstly the railings would have to be set back from the curb edge narrowing the footpath, potentially forcing those with pushchairs or mobility aids to go outside the railing and there is no guarantee that children waiting for buses would not stay contained inside the railings.

### **Orbit Housing**

I was horrified to receive an email from a resident's son, last week, over the failure of his mother's heating and hot water system. She had had no heating for some 30 days. This is not the first time as this has happened in this village with three other elderly residents having no heating in either the depths of winter or the heat of the summer. Having had an inadequate response from the responsive repairs team, "I should get an update on Tuesday", I wrote to an Orbit Group Director to complain, and an engineer visited the site the next day but not knowing what parts were faulty, after 30 days, was unable to repair the system. A brand-new boiler has been fitted today.

### **Councillor Grant Fund**

The deadline for any second applications will be later in the year, but there should be some £1500 available for 2<sup>nd</sup> round projects.

### **Events and other matters**

#### **High Sheriff tree planting (Twitter and Facebook)**

Can you help Warwickshire's High Sheriff with her tree planting mission?

Sophie Hilleary, Warwickshire's High Sheriff, has set out her plan to plant 689 new whips and saplings across the county and is looking for help to identify projects that need her support.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4683/warwickshire-s-high-sheriff-plans-to-plant-689-trees-across-warwickshire>

#### **High Sheriff Award Nominations (Twitter and Facebook)**

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to help their local community?

Why not nominate them for a High Sheriff Award?

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4687/the-high-sheriff-awards-2023-24-celebrating-warwickshire-s-unsung-heroes>

#### **Supported lodgings programme (Twitter and Facebook)**

In a heart-warming example of community support, the Council and local residents are making a difference in the lives of unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people through the Supported Lodgings initiative.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4682/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-youth-finds-support-through-the-supported-lodgings-programme>

#### **Male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Thursday 2 Nov 2023 was Victims of Male Domestic Abuse Day.

One-in-three victims of Domestic Abuse are male. Support is available in Warwickshire from: [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

#MenYouAreNotAlone

#### **Older male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

Many older male domestic abuse victims will not have access to the internet. If you know someone who needs help, please suggest Mankind on 01823 334 244.

#MenYouAreNotAlone

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Download image: [MaleDomesticAbuse\\_ElderAbuse.jpg](#)

## **LGBTQ+ male domestic abuse (Twitter and Facebook)**

If you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community and are experiencing domestic abuse due to your sexuality, please know #YouAreNotAlone

Support is available for you via [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk)

## **New Warwickshire primary schools (Twitter and Facebook)**

Two new primary schools are included in the options available to parents and carers with children who will start school for the first time in September 2024.

Find out how to apply: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4688/new-warwickshire-primary-schools-included-in-the-2024-options-available-for-warwickshire-parents-and-carers>

## **Warwickshire Buses (Twitter and Facebook)**

Buses are good for our health, good for the economy and good for the environment.

Warwickshire is committed to making bus services them better and pleased to present Warwickshire Buses as the new name for bus service improvements in the County.

Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4686/warwickshire-buses-the-new-name-for-bus-service-improvements-across-warwickshire>

## **Control room week 2023 (Twitter and Facebook)**

As part of national control room week 2023, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has been celebrating a very special team: Fire Control.

Find out more about the work that they do helping to keep Warwickshire residents safe: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4679/-controlroomweek-is-a-time-to-recognise-the-vital-role-that-warwickshire-s-fire-control-team-play-in-keeping-our-county-safe>

## **Sustainable Warwickshire Podcast – Episode 8 (Twitter and Facebook)**

Did you know that it's estimated by 2050, 4 out of 5 jobs will be linked in some way to fighting climate change?

Listen to the Sustainable Warwickshire podcast to find out more about the development of future skills: <https://sustainablewarwickshire.podbean.com/e/developing-future-skills-in-warwickshire/>

## **Adapting Shakespeare for children session (Twitter and Facebook)**

Residents across the county are invited to attend an engaging online creative writing workshop next week all about the world of Shakespeare.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4695/residents-invited-to-attend-virtual-creative-writing-session-about-adapting-shakespeare-for-children>

## **Neurodivergent language resource (Twitter and Facebook)**

A new resource has launched to encourage people to think about the words they use when talking about neurodiversity.

Find out more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/4696/new-coventry-and-warwickshire-resource-provides-unique-insight-into-neurodivergent-language>