

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the Chair, Roly Whear and Martin Birch

**IN ATTENDANCE:** District Councillor Natalie Gist and County Councillor Christopher Kettle

### **2025\_06\_01: Apologies**

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Emma Briscoe, Samantha Parkes and David Johnson and were **accepted**. The Clerk was unable to attend due to illness meaning that some updates were not available. Minutes were recorded by the chair.

### **2025\_06\_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Ordinary meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Councillor Birch and seconded by Councillor Whear)

### **2025\_06\_03: Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Whear declared an interest in Aqueous and therefore any flooding discussions

### **2025\_06\_04: Requests for Dispensation**

None received

### **2025\_06\_05: Open Forum**

Two members of the public were in attendance – an update was requested on the drainage and traffic survey under the bridge. The drainage being considered by the Minor Works team of WCC and we are waiting for the results of the re-running of the traffic survey.

### **2025\_06\_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- (i) Noticeboards: The quote for fitting the three noticeboards was **accepted**. Councillor Gist advised that she had been approached by a representative of Orbit to discuss the siting of the noticeboard at Compton Locks and had requested that Orbit contact the Clerk. It may be appropriate for Cllr Gist to also attend, to raise unfinished works on the site.
- (ii) Station Road footpath widening and Railway Bridge: Clerk has received correspondence to say that the Highways Action Fund application is being considered.
- (iii) Installation of bins: no update available

### **2025\_06\_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports**

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

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

### **2025\_06\_08: Parish Councillor Applicant** No update

### **2025\_06\_09: Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received prior to the meeting:

- (i) Residents' correspondence:
  - Footpath behind Station Road to allotments
  - This is partially strimmed by a resident, the Footpaths Group would be the appropriate party to trim the rest.
  - Footpath at Bear and Ragged Staff green

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- It was reiterated that the land does not appear to be owned and therefore no party is responsible for the upkeep of the paving.

- (ii) Southam Neighbourhood Team Engagement Visit - Next visit will be on Tuesday 15th July between 10 and 11am outside the village hall.
- (iii) Civility and Respect Pledge - Stratford-on-Avon District Council are proud to support the Civility and Respect Pledge which local Councils are signed up to.

To be discussed at the next meeting

- (iv) Third Call For Sites
- The sites submitted during the Third Call for Sites have now been added to our South Warwickshire Local Plan: Preferred Options Consultation Interactive Map.
  - Sites submitted through the 3rd Call for Sites have not yet undergone the HELAA Site Assessment process. Their inclusion on the map is not an endorsement of the site, nor an indication of likely allocation. Site assessment will be undertaken in due course.
  - The SWLP team is continuing to review all responses to the Preferred Options consultation to inform future site selection.
- (v) Informal Consultation - Community Governance Review (Partial)
- Please see Appendix E for details
- (vi) Cllr Kettle request to change night of meeting due to clash with Long Itchington
- To be discussed at next meeting. If staying on a Monday, avoid first Monday of month.

### 2025\_06\_10: 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>
25/00574/FUL	16 June 2025	The Grange, The Slade, Fenny Compton, CV47 2YB	Conversion of a barn into a self-build dwelling
25/01353/TREE	1 July 2025	The Post House, Bridge Street, Fenny Compton, CV47 2XY	- T1 ash - overall crown reduction by approximately 4 metres - T2 holly - overall crown reduction by approximately 3-4 metres - T3 willow - re-pollard back to previous pollard points

25/00574/FUL: The Fenny Compton Neighbourhood Plan was made on 24th April 2023. Policy DE2 of the Plan states that new developments outside the built-up area boundary should be limited to those exceptions listed within Policy AS10 of Stratford District Council's Core Strategy. As this is not the Parish Council's policy, we do not feel qualified to assess whether this threshold has been met, but we would not oppose granting of permission under this condition. Noting the confined working area around the existing building, proximity to the roadway, restricted turning area for large vehicles, and the popularity of the roadway for leisure use by pedestrians, we request that appropriate conditions are put in place to manage the impact of the works on road users and local residents, including by deliveries and turning vehicles.

25/01353/TREE: No representation

- (ii) No decisions have been received since the last meeting.
- (iii) Compton Locks planning enforcement: Regarding the suggestion that a pre-existing pond has been filled in on the site, neither the Parish nor the County Council has been able to find any evidence of the prior existence of

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## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

the pond.

### 2025\_06\_11: Financial Administration

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

JUN_25_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary and expenses)	(492.32)
JUN_25_2_SO	SDC (Pension Contribution)	(121.77)
JUN_25_3	Employer NI	(6.38)
JUN_25_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(201.75)
JUN_25_5_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(21.91)
JUN_25_6_DD	eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(9.82)
JUN_25_7	Michael Mann (Sports Field grass cut)	(641.10)
JUN_25_8	Michael Mann (Village grass cut)	(782.40)
JUN_25_9	Parish Online (Annual subscription)	(84.00)
JUN_25_10	TPS (Sports pavilion painting)	(380.80)

### Current Account

**(2,742.25)**

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

### 2025\_06\_12: Updates

- (i) Play Area/ Sports Field – Dog fouling seems to have improved  
Children have been climbing on the storage unit. Councillors propose fitting anti-climb features to the container after it is moved  
The gate closers have been fitted on the pedestrian gates
- (ii) Flood Prevention – We are waiting on the jetting of the culvert under Station Road. Cllr Kettle reported that there is a plan to replace the gulleys on Station Road. No further update on the drainage under the railway bridge.
- (iii) Trees – tree survey has been circulated, no works required
- (iv) Highways – nothing to report.
- (v) Bowls club upgrade – no update available
- (vi) Village planters – no update available
- (vii) Streetlighting – nothing to report.

### 2025\_06\_13: Items to Publicise

- (i) Discounted Health screening
- (ii) SNT community engagement
- (iii) Do not climb on the storage unit or pavilion.

### 2025\_06\_14: Future Discussion

- (i) Night of meeting

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## **Fenny Compton Parish Council**

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall,  
Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

(ii) Allotments maintenance agreement

### **2025\_06\_15: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

**MEETING CLOSED 20.50**

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Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall,  
Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

## Appendix A

### May Financial Administration

Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	1,293.76	
Allotments	1,000.00	
Defibrillator	885.94	
Cotters Croft	2,249.58	

**Allocated Reserves** **7,565.10**

**PC Balance - Budgeted expenses remaining** **27,432.92**

**Unallocatted Reserves** **(933.87)**

**Total** **34,064.15**

### **Within the following accounts:**

Current Account	4,472.48
Deposit Account 1	4,607.19
Deposit Accopunt 2	4,608.58
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,370.90

**Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)** **34,064.15**

Less Payments (See agenda item 10)

JUN_25_1_SO	Lydia Cox (Salary and expenses)	(492.32)
JUN_25_2_SO	SDC (Pension Contrbution)	(121.77)
JUN_25_3	Employer NI	(6.38)
JUN_25_4_DD	Yu Energy (Street Lighting)	(201.75)
JUN_25_5_DD	WaterPlus (Sports Pavillion Water)	(21.91)
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JUN_25_9	Parish Online (Annual subscription)	(84.00)
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**Current Account** **(2,742.25)**

**Total Balances carried forward** **31,321.90**

## Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall,  
Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

### Appendix B

#### May Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
Current Account	4,472.48
Deposit Account 1	4,607.19
Deposit Account 2	4,608.58
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,370.90
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>34,064.15</b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	36,672.70
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Bank Interest	384.43
Cemetery Income	205.00
Add payments since last meeting:	
April payments made late	(3,098.53)
Bank Fees	(4.25)
Deposit for sports pavilion painting	(95.20)
<b>Total Cash Book</b>	<b>34,064.15</b>

### Appendix C – District Councillor Report

**Stratford on Avon District Council:** The Cabinet for the District Council was agreed at the Annual Council meeting on 14 May. Cllr Susan Juned remains Leader of the District Council and perhaps of particular interest for residents in this ward, Natalie has been re-appointed the Portfolio Holder for Law and Governance for a third year.

Leader – Strategic Leadership and Climate Change Portfolio – Cllr Susan Juned
Deputy Leader and Planning and Economic Development Portfolio – Cllr George Cowcher
Law and Governance Portfolio – Cllr Natalie Gist
Environment and Neighbourhood Services Portfolio – Cllr Lorraine Grocott
Resources Portfolio – Cllr David Curtis
Housing and Customer Services – Cllr Liz Coles
Projects and Communications – Cllr Louis Adam

**Health Screening Events:** Stratford on Avon District Council has joined together with the Graham Fulford Charitable Trust to offer a series of health screening events for both men and women across the District.

The tests on offer cost £14 each, subsidised by the District Council and are:

- For men over 40 – PSA (Prostate screening)
  - For men and women aged 18 and over – diabetes and cholesterol
- Events run from 10am to 2pm and those more relevant to residents in this ward, are at:
- Saturday 12 July at Southam Leisure Centre

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# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

- Saturday 13 September at Stratford Leisure Centre

Residents need to pre-book online and can do this via the District Council's website: [Stratford-on-Avon District Council to host health screening events across the District | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](#)

**Community Safety:** We have been made aware that a resident's cat was killed by an out-of-control dog at a nature reserve in the ward. If we may take the opportunity to remind dog owners that their pet should be under their close control or on a lead at all times. If you cannot rely on your dog's recall, then please keep them on a lead.

**Community Climate Change Fund:** Round Three is now open for applications. As a reminder, the fund will provide opportunities for the following groups to apply for grant funding:

- Town and parish councils
- Properly constituted community and charity groups
- Sports clubs

There is no deadline for applications, and they will be assessed on a quarterly basis, meaning applicants will have to wait a minimum of three months to be informed as to whether they have been successful or not. More information and the online application is available on SDC's website. Please email [climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk) with any queries.

**HS2:** Residents will have noticed a series of weekend road closures of the A423 mostly between Southam and Ladbroke in recent weeks. The reasons given by HS2 and their contractors EKFB has been to harden the road crossing for construction machinery. I and other councillors have challenged the reasoning and short notice of these closures. For some months we have been having some serious and difficult negotiations with HS2/EKFB about their intent for linking in the new bridge near Ladbroke and how much disruption this might involve. As a result of pressures from District and County Councils and Councillors we have succeeded in reducing the closure period of the A423 from a projected period of 12-16 weeks to 2-3 weeks. This will involve some sort of temporary bypass at this spot in late September.

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

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

### Appendix D – County Councillor Report

**Council issues:** Reform have now appointed their Cabinet and we will be watching with interest the policies that are being delivered.

The Councillors' annual discretionary Grant fund of £8,000 has just been launched for 25-26 to support local projects in the Division. Community groups across the Division are invited to apply.

The application window for Round 1 of the Grant Fund 2025-2026 will open on Monday 9 June at 9.00am, closing on Sunday 20 July at 5.00pm.

The projects must be for the benefit of the community in one or more of the following categories:

- Improve community assets and their sustainability
- Improve access to services
- Improve financial capability
- Reduce loneliness and isolation
- Improve physical and/or mental health and wellbeing
- Promote equalities and inclusivity
- Improve the local environment and sustainability.

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# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

### **Division issues:**

Station Road: I have raised the issue of the Station Road bridge flooding to see what can be done to redirect the flow directly into the drain. The Minor Works Team will be looking at what is feasible. However, this is likely to take some time and will be budget dependent. I have asked the FRM team to update me on the progress of the work on the ditch to the southside. However it is Jeff's Hobdays plan to replace all the in-road gulleys on Station Road and run the water off the road into the north side ditch but that requires the north side ditch to be reinstated as he does not believe that the ditch is sufficiently "operational " to take the flow and run it down towards the attenuation ponds below Compton Locks.

**Why I love childminding – Alley's Story:** Alley Hanson runs Ally's House Childminding based in Bishops Tachbrook, she recently shared her childminding story in the hope of encouraging other people to embark on this interesting and rewarding profession. Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6412/why-i-love-being-a-childminder-alley-s-story>

**WCC Cabinet – June 2025:** Find out about everything that was discussed at the June meeting of Warwickshire County Council's cabinet: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6428/warwickshire-county-council-cabinet-12-june-2025>

**New funding for Warwickshire Schools:** Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet has approved a significant investment of over £430,000 to expand specialist education provision and improve primary school facilities across the county. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6427/major-investment-in-school-facilities-to-enhance-support-for-warwickshire-s-children>

**Carers Week 2025:** Do you provide unpaid emotional or physical support to a friend, neighbour, or family member? Then you are one of 52,725 people\* in Warwickshire who is a carer. Find out more about the support available: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6411/council-highlights-support-available-for-carers-across-warwickshire-this-carers-week->

**Doing our bit for a greener Warwickshire:** Residents are being encouraged to celebrate Great Big Green Week (9 -16 June) by making simple everyday swaps that support our countryside, communities and wellbeing. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6422/doing-our-bit-for-a-greener-warwickshire>

**Refugee Week 2025: Community as a Superpower:** Refugee Week 2025 (16–22 June) is being marked across Warwickshire with a vibrant programme of local events that celebrate the strength found in community. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6410/warwickshire-celebrates-refugee-week-2025-community-as-a-superpower>

**Measles cases rising in the West Midlands:** The latest UKHSA monthly update shows measles outbreaks are continuing in our region. Find out how to keep you and your loved ones safe: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6404/measles-cases-rising-in-the-west-midlands-with-risk-of-holiday-season-causing-a-summer-surge>

**Skills Escalator Fund update:** Over 350 Warwickshire businesses have benefitted from funding from the Skills Escalator Fund to support employee training, enabling them to upskill their workforce. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6413/warwickshire-s-workforce-upskilled-with-the-skills-escalator-fund>



# Fenny Compton Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall,  
Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

**Championing children with hidden language needs:** Find out more about how to identify Developmental Language Disorder in children and young people and the support that is available in Warwickshire:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6414/warwickshire-county-council-earns-national-recognition-for-championing-children-with-hidden-language-needs>

**Loneliness Awareness Week 2025:** How are you? This question is regularly asked in conversation, but for many people who experience loneliness, a check-in with a friendly hello may be the only interaction they receive for days or even months. Find out more about loneliness support:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6415/connection-matters-this-loneliness-awareness-week>

**Men's mental health:** With a range of support available across the county, this Men's Health Week (9-15 June) is a chance for men to talk about their health and wellbeing and to discover the support services available across the county. Read more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6417/let-s-start-the-conversation-and-talk-about-men-s-mental-health>

**Graduated approach to SEND:** Schools play a key role in supporting families with children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities through the Graduated Approach: Assess, Plan, Do, Review.

Discover more: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6418/children-with-send-benefit-from-a-graduated-approach->

**Energy bill support available this summer:** Short-term financial assistance to help those who are finding it hard to manage the cost of their energy bills is available until 27 June 2025. Find out more:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/6419/energy-bill-support-available-this-summer>

**WMAS – What 3 Words:** Planning to explore our beautiful countryside this summer? Knowing exactly where you are can save valuable time & even lives! Stay prepared this summer & download What 3 Words so emergency services can find you are in an emergency. Download: <https://what3words.com/products/what3words-app>

**Cancer bus tour:** The Cancer Bus is heading to Warwickshire this June and September, stopping at several key locations across the area. Find out where: <https://www.happyhealthylives.uk/latest-news/nhs-cancer-bus-tour-to-bring-life-saving-screening-information-to-communities-across-coventry-and-warwickshire/>

## Appendix E - Informal Consultation - Community Governance Review (Partial)

- Following the English Devolution White Paper on local government re-organisation, the Council, as part of the process of assessing unitary governance requirements for the District and Warwickshire as a whole, is also considering whether it should undertake a partial community governance review in the autumn, to enable certain parishes to consider their governance arrangements in readiness for any new unitary authority/parish elections in 2027.
- To enable the Council to assess whether a formal review should be undertaken, it is inviting expressions of interest from eligible parish councils and parish meetings, that wish to consider their existing governance arrangements. The Council is permitted to make changes to parish arrangements under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (subject to certain criteria), but this does not extend to changing District Ward, County Divisional or County boundaries.
- With a decision on unitary arrangements not expected until mid-2026, and in addition, waiting for confirmation of which administrative boundaries the Council will initially be working to (with any of these boundaries likely to

## Fenny Compton Parish Council

### Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 At 7.45pm

be subject to a review by the Boundary Commission once the new authority comes into being), any review is proposed to be in two parts.

- Part 1 will cover matters that do not require any external changes to a parish governance arrangements.
  - the creation of a parish from an existing parish (with or without wards) and the name of the parish (existing or new)
  - the establishment of a separate parish council for a new parish or an existing parish meeting (electorate population for both scenarios to be over 150)
  - the dissolution of a parish council (this may be due to the numbers of the parish council being under 150 or it may wish to dissolve to join with another parish council/meeting (the latter would be a Part 2 consideration) – Note it should not be a mechanism to remove an unpopular parish council which should be given an opportunity over two election terms (8 years) to justify that it is contributing to the quality of life for its parishioners)
  - increasing or decreasing seats and any warding proposals.
- Part 2 will cover external boundary arrangements, therefore the District Council will require further details from the Government before it proceeds with any proposals OR it may recommend that due to the timing of the new authority/parish elections, that any changes are deferred until the new authority comes into being
  - whether a parish should be grouped under a common parish council (e.g. joining of separate Parish Councils, Parish Meeting(s) joining with a Parish Council(s), Parish Meetings joining to form a parish council with joint electorates for all proposals to be over 150 ) OR de-grouped from an existing joint parish council arrangement – to assist on this scenario please see Current electorates SDC PCs JPCs document attached
  - the abolition of a civil parish(es) (for the provision of effective local government with a view to keeping community identity and interests, the Council is only likely to accept proposals of abolishing parishes if a larger parish is created to cover the same areas)
  - the alteration of existing parish boundaries (these generally follow geographical features such as rivers, fields, roads, new or expanded housing developments etc. and may be more appropriate in an adjoining parish – The Council, however, is likely to be subject to working with temporary ward boundaries that follow current parish boundaries in respect of creating the new authority (until the Boundary Commission reviews the matter) therefore this matter is more likely to be subject to a recommendation that the matter be deferred until a new authority comes into being).
- The informal consultation process is now open and will expire on Friday 11 July, however, if you need more time to discuss your governance arrangements please let me know – I am happy to take a teams call from respective parishes to discuss any options (on an informal basis).