

# Fenny Compton Parish Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting Of Fenny Compton Parish Council Held at Fenny Compton Village Hall, Fenny Compton on Monday 18 May 2026 At 7.45pm

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the chair, Samantha Parkes and Martin Birch

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillor Christopher Kettle; Parish Clerk Janette Wolf and incoming clerk Summia Khan

### **2026\_05\_01: Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Roly Whear, David Johnson, Emma Briscoe and District Councillor Gist and were **accepted**

### **2026\_05\_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 20 April 2026 (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were **agreed** (Proposed by Cllr Birch and seconded by Cllr Parkes)

### **2026\_05\_03: Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Birch declared an interest in the Merrie Men

### **2026\_05\_04: Requests for Dispensation**

None received

### **2026\_05\_05: Open Forum**

**County Councillor Christopher Kettle joined the meeting at 19.50pm**

### **2026\_05\_06: Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- I. It was decided to accept tree surgeon Andrew Saunders' quote to fell the goat willow on Cotters Croft. Clerk to advise Mr Saunders and request the quote about trees on Memorial Drive
- II. Clerk replacement: Cllr Dutton proposed Summia Khan as new clerk, seconded by Cllr Parkes. The decision was accepted and Summia was welcomed by the councillors. Plans were discussed to supply her with appropriate office equipment, including a printer, a smartphone and a laptop and budgets were set including £50 for printer; £100 for smartphone; £120 Microsoft subscription; £249 for a laptop. Summia to liaise about a suitable office chair. **Action Cllr Birch to purchase.**
- III. Dog fouling signs. Outgoing Clerk still trying to arrange a handover of signs with Cllr Johnson. Action Cllr Johnson to take this forward.
- IV. Agar and finance. Agar form was agreed and signed off during the meeting. The issue over gov.uk email addresses was again flagged.
- V. Wildflower area: Cllr Dutton met Emma Wilkinson to inspect the areas causing concern. One area near the road is all grass; there is greater variety of flora the further from the road you go. It was decided that options should be presented to residents: (1) leave the area as is; (2) return the whole area to grass; or (3) develop a hybrid where some is cultivated and the remainder left as grass. Cllr Dutton discussed the area with Michael Mann who mows the parish grass areas. Mr Mann has decided to retire but it is understood a member of his family will continue to run the business. **Action Cllr Johnson to confirm whether he has fed back to residents.**
- VI. Insurance for the parish is supplied by Zurich in a three-year deal. This is the third year and the renewal premiums increased by 20%. No justification was given when Zurich were asked about this, although they did offer a cut of around 10%. It was decided that we had no choice but to continue this year. **Action Clerk to share the email trail with Cllrs Parkes and Bristcoe.**

### **2026\_05\_07: District Councillor and County Councillor Reports**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair June 2026

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Lighting: Cllr Kettle reported that lights towards Compton Locks had been installed but that he had been unaware they were going up. There was discussion about who now owns these. They seem to stop suddenly and it was suggested that we get a quote to extend them.

Flooding: Response to Ridgeway quote. Pipe running between Ridgeway and the doctors' surgery is 275ml in diameter. Proposal to replace with 450ml diameter (next size up). Goes into manhole cover in front of surgery and exit below surgery and into brook. Will provide a significant increase in capacity.

There had been discussions about whether to remove the ditch to the south of Station Road but it is not clear whether that is necessary because the new culvert is taking the water. Cllr Kettle has asked for an update.

Full council meeting: the reference to Net Zero is to be removed because of the need to prioritise jobs.

HS2: There is one new change that will impact Hall Road. Stone will be delivered to Banbury and go via A 61 and go to depot or to Wormleighton, this will amount to around 60 deliveries (or 120 lorry movements – one there, one back) a day. Cllr Kettle has made the point this will have an extremely negative impact. There will be a new track in Wormleighton. The work on Stoneton Lane Bridge is proceeding as planned. There is a manmade hedge for bats.

Councillor Kettle left the meeting at 20.42pm.

Cllr Gist: money for primary health care for Fenny residents. Currently working out what the money can be spent on.

Temporary building at Lighthorne Heath could possibly ease volume at Fenny Compton.

For extended reports please see Appendix C and D.

### **2026\_05\_08: Correspondence**

Correspondence has been shared separately prior to the meeting. In addition the following has been received:

- I. A resident has suggested paid for adverts in the Compton Chronicle to drum up support. We use Facebook.
- II. A resident has asked what is happening as far as Compton Locks is concerned up to 2050
- III. Message from resident on Thomson Field who sent in a picture of inconsiderate parking because they couldn't access the field. **Action: Cllr Dutton to message colts.**

### **2026\_05\_09: Planning**

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

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Proposal</u>
26/00605/FUL			Land at Avon Hill Quarries, Avon Dassett CV47 2AA	Five new holiday lets with access/landscaping/change of use. No objection subject to appropriate transport management
26/00827/FUL			15 Northend Road, Fenny Compton	Single and side extension. Granted. No representation
26/00492/PIP		Objection	Land off South Station Road Fenny Compton	Building 9 new holiday homes. Objected on grounds of AS.10; CS.15 and CS16
26/00321/COUQ		Appeal	Barn north of Avon Dassett Road	Change of use from agricultural building into one residential dwelling
26/00330/VARY			Mill Hill Barn	Permission granted for variation to revised plans subject to conditions

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### 2026\_05\_10: Financial Administration

- (i) JD complained about WaterPlus having changed the DD payment. It has been changed back on the phone. **Clerk to pay in the cheque.**
- (ii) Insurance must be added to this month's financial data
- (iii) Councillors completed and approved the Agar form.
- (iv) Councillors discussed whether to continue with the existing high interest account. Was agreed to proceed.
- (v) (Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (**Appendix A and B**) and agreed them.  
(Proposed by Cllr Dutton and seconded by Cllr Parkes)

### 2026\_05\_10 Finance

MAY_25_1	Janette Wolf (May Salary)	(373.48)
MAY_25_2	HMRC (Income tax and NI)	(67.76)
MAY_25_3_DD	Valda (Streetlighting)	(144.86)
MAY_25_4_DD	eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(17.30)
MAY_25_5	Michael Mann (Grasscutting)	(1,351.80)
MAY_25_6_DD	WaterPlus (Sports field water)	(27.10)
MAY_25_7	WALC (P&P for reference book)	(6.00)
MAY_25_8	Reimburse Alun Pritchard (cricket nets)	(795.00)

**Total Balances carried forward** **£33,179.09**

### 2026\_05\_11: Updates

- (i) Play area/sports pavilion: Cllr Birch updated on container. Although there had been plans to move this, the colts want it left where it is. Councillors discussed other possible locations and what the implications would be. As it doesn't appear to be unstable it was decided to leave it but to add to future risk reviews.
- (ii) Broken latches for gates. One is always going to flap because of the prevailing wind direction. We need to consult Cllr Whear for his recommendations.
- (iii) Village planters: Clerk investigated any savings to be had from horse troughs. Not significant savings. Action: Cllr Dutton to circulate details for a square container which costs £85.
- (iv) Flood prevention: garages have been reinstated. Mud has been cleared. Still a risk during heavy rain.
- (v) Cricket nets in place.
- (vi) Track overgrown from station road to playing field.
- (vii) Bowls club: structural engineer coming to visit on 26 May. Cllr Dutton to attend and report back.
- (viii) Bench on Avon Dasset Hill is broken. Is in the bench assessment. **Clerk action**

### 2026\_05\_12: Items to Publicise

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Colts' winning streak; new clerk.

## **2026\_05\_13: Future Discussion**

None specified

## **2026\_05\_14: Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 15 June 2026

**MEETING CLOSED 21.52pm.**

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## Appendix A

### April Financial Administration

Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	803.56	
Allotments	1,000.00	
Defibrillator	885.94	
Cotters Croft	1,499.58	
<b>Allocated Reserves</b>		<b>6,324.90</b>
<b>PC Balance - Budgeted expenses remaining</b>		<b>28,309.62</b>
<b>Unallocated Reserves</b>		<b>1,327.87</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>35,962.39</u></b>

### Within the following accounts:

Current Account		12,625.38
Deposit Account 1		1,626.60
Deposit Account 2		1,147.27
12 Month Partial Withdrawal		10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal		10,558.14
<b>Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)</b>		<b><u>35,962.39</u></b>

### Less Payments (See agenda item 10)

MAY_25_1	Janette Wolf (May Salary)	(373.48)
MAY_25_2	HMRC (Income tax and NI)	(67.76)
MAY_25_3_DD	Valda (Streetlighting)	(144.86)
MAY_25_4_DD	eon (Sports Pavilion Electricity)	(17.30)
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MAY_25_6_DD	WaterPlus (Sports field water)	(27.10)
MAY_25_7	WALC (P&P for reference book)	(6.00)
MAY_25_8	Reimburse Alun Pritchard (cricket nets)	(795.00)

<b>Current Account</b>		<b>(2,783.30)</b>
<b>Total Balances carried forward</b>		<b><u>33,179.09</u></b>

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## Appendix B

### April Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
Current Account	12,625.38
Deposit Account 1	1,626.60
Deposit Account 2	1,147.27
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,558.14
April payments made in May	(373.48)
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b><u><u>35,588.91</u></u></b>
Cash Book Balance b/f	24,149.91
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Bank Interest	17.57
Bank Fees	(4.25)
Lloyds payment to settle complaint	75.00
Varda credit	0.68
Precept	11,350.00
Total Cash Book	<b><u><u>35,588.91</u></u></b>

## Appendix C – County Councillor’s Report

The Council approved the addition of £2.1m to the capital programme to deliver a scheme at The Pears centre to transform accommodation for children and young people.

Cllr Kettle has repeatedly raised concerns about the impact of works on existing residents and business communities by HS2. He reports that the new Chief Executive has pledged works must take into account the impact on communities at an early stage. As a result the B4451 near the Southam Rugby Club has been closed, during a series of weekend workings under traffic management with a brief full closure on the weekend of 18-19 April. There will be further closures later in the spring.

This year, there were 6,535 Warwickshire children who applied for a Reception place by the deadline of 15 January. 88% have been given a place at their first-choice school. A further 9% have been given a place at either their second or third choice, meaning 97% have been given a place at one of their top three preferred schools. There were also 1,321 Warwickshire children who applied for a Year 3 place at a Junior school. Of these, 99% were given their first-choice school.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair June 2026

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We are continuing to try to understand better the level of support for children with SEND in mainstream schools.

**Appendix D - District Councillor's report** *(to come)*