

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 July 2026 At 7.45pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Jon Dutton in the chair, Cllr David Johnson , Cllr Roly Whear, Cllr Samantha Parkes and Cllr Martin Birch

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Kettle, District Councillor Natalie Gist and Clerk Summia Khan.

2026_07_01: Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Emma Briscoe were **accepted**

2026_07_02: Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 June (already circulated) were considered and the minutes were agreed (Accepted by Cllr Dutton and Cllr Whear)

2026_07_03: Declarations of Interest

Cllr Parkes declared an interest in the doctor surgery

2026_07_04: Requests for Dispensation

None received

2026_07_05: Open Forum

(i) Issue: water flow

The leak is located on Avon Dassett Road. A resident has reported water flowing from an Openreach manhole across the junction after rainfall. During the winter, this water freezes, creating a significant safety hazard for pedestrians and road users. The persistent water flow is also contributing to damp problems within the resident's home.

The issue was reported to both Openreach and Warwickshire County Council (WCC) approximately six months ago, but no action has been taken.

This request is to establish which organisation is responsible for the leak and to ask that they prioritise the necessary repairs due to the ongoing safety risks and impact on the resident's property.

Action: Cllr Dutton to raise this with County Cllr Kettle to progress the matter.

(ii) Issue: Hall yard land Maintenance.

Resident reported that Hall yard land must be maintained in return for flood prevention use. He explained that the weeds keep returning, suggests selective herbicide (Grazon) instead of strimming. He also recommended a contractor that can handle the Hall Yard.

Action Cllr Dutton to check with the current maintenance contractor, clarify their position and address the issue.

Matters Arising – Previous Minutes

(iii) Dog-Fouling Signs

Cllr Johnson reported that he had received four dog fouling signs and intended to install them after the meeting. The signs would be positioned at key entrance points and on the perimeter fencing to encourage responsible dog ownership.

It was noted that, although there had been some discussion about whether additional signage might inadvertently encourage more dog walking on the field, the Council agreed that promoting responsible behaviour and reducing dog fouling should remain the priority.

2026_07_06: District Councillor and County Councillor -Reports

District Cllr Gist updated the Council on the July 2026 District Councillors' Report. She advised that both Councils had approved the South Warwickshire Local Plan to proceed to the Regulation 19 consultation stage and encouraged residents to take part in the forthcoming public consultation.

She also reported that the Government had approved proposals for a North/South Warwickshire unitary authority, expected to

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be introduced in 2028.

An update was provided on the delayed installation of grit bins at Compton Locks, with Orbit continuing to be chased for delivery.

District Cllr Gist further reported that approximately £200,000 of Section 106 funding had now been transferred to support primary healthcare in Fenny Compton. She is working with Fenny Compton Surgery and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to secure the funding for the surgery, and noted that support from the Parish Council may help progress the matter.

County Cllr Kettle Report:

County Cllr Kettle reported that the Station Road pavement widening has been prioritised and is expected to be completed soon. He also provided updates on the Ridgeway flood improvement works, the ongoing discussions regarding the school playing field footpath, the local surface dressing programme, and confirmed that the Hambridge repairs are nearing completion, with the road expected to reopen shortly.

2026_07_07: Correspondence

Churchyard Maintenance Complaint

An email was received from a resident regarding long grass and poor maintenance in the churchyard. The matter has been forwarded to Keith Distin, as maintenance of the churchyard is the responsibility of the Church.

Cllr Whear suggested that the matter be recorded as a formal complaint.

Action: Clerk Khan to log the complaint.

Grounds Maintenance

The correspondence had been received from the Parish Council's grass-cutting contractor advising that the grass-cutting frequency had been reduced from every two weeks to every three weeks during the summer period due to slower grass growth. The contractor also confirmed that hedge cutting would continue during July and August, and that the agreed additional maintenance works would still be completed.

Action: Continue with the revised maintenance schedule and monitor the condition of the grounds.

Church Interment Request

A further request was received regarding the interment of a resident's mother at Fenny Compton Church. The matter has already been passed to Keith Distin, who will manage all church-related arrangements.

Action: No further action required by the Parish Council.

Drainage Improvement Scheme – Surgery

The correspondence received from Warwickshire County Council regarding a proposed drainage improvement scheme. The proposal is to install and connect pipework from the field to the Surgery, using existing routes and pipe sizes where possible. The scheme is considered a significant improvement but requires confirmation that it meets Warwickshire County Council's standards.

Mobile Library Service

A request was received from WCC Library Service for suggestions to improve the Mobile Library Service, which visits Fenny Compton monthly. Cllr Dutton agreed to promote future visits through Facebook and noticeboards and suggested that the service consider visiting the Compton Locks development.

Action: Cllr Dutton to publicise the next Mobile Library visit.

Sports Pavilion Update

Following a request from District Cllr Gist, the Council agreed to share its experience of implementing the new sports pavilion with Bishop's Itchington Parish Council. A meeting has been arranged for 31 July.

Action: Attend meeting and provide feedback on the pavilion project.

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Bench Relocation Request

An email was received from Susanne Brand requesting that the bench be moved from the Village Hall to the bus stop.

Action: Clerk Khan to review previous emails for costs and further information before further discussion.

Drainage Under Bridge

A resident requested an update regarding a previous email concerning drainage under the bridge.

Action: County Cllr Kettle to follow up the matter and provide an update.

Footpath / Right of Way Update

An update was provided regarding the footpath across the school playing field. A resident has taken over the matter and suggested that a permitted right of way could be considered.

County Cllr Kettle explained that a permitted right of way allows access by agreement with the landowner but does not replace an existing public right of way. Any permanent change would require a formal diversion process.

County Cllr Kettle to suggest the school with possibility of applying for a legal diversion or alternative right of way and ensure this is included within the consultation process.

Audit and Standards Committee Vacancy

The Council was advised of a vacancy on the Audit and Standards Committee for a rural parish council representative. The role would involve approximately four meetings per year.

Action: Cllr Dutton agreed to be nominated as the Parish Council representative.

2026_07_08: Planning

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

Reference	Proposal	Address	Proposed Response
26/01329/LBC	Replacement doors and window to kitchen at rear of property	The Hollies Church Street Fenny Compton Southam CV47 2YE	No representation
26/01328/FUL	Replacement doors and window to kitchen at rear of property	The Hollies Church Street Fenny Compton Southam CV47 2YE	No representation
26/01514/FUL	Change of Use from mixed use live/work (Class B1/C3) to full residential use (Class C3)	The Old School Church Street Fenny Compton Southam CV47 2YE	No representation

Hedgerow Protection

The Council discussed applying for protection of a historic hedgerow between Compton Locks and the main village. The hedgerow is believed to date back to 1845.

Action: Cllr Whear to investigate the process and requirements for hedgerow protection.

2026_07_09: Financial Administration

(i) (Councillors noted the bank balances and bank reconciliations (**Appendix A and B**) and agreed them. (Proposed by Cllr Whear and seconded by Cllr Parkes)

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2026_07_10 Finance

JUL_26_1	Summia Khan (Salary and expenses)	436.49	
JUL_26_2	Warks LGPS (pension)	88.93	
JUL_26_3	HMRC (NI)	3.16	
JUL_26_4_DD	Valda Energy (streetlights)	110.31	
JUL_26_5_DD	eon (pavilion electric)	14.00	
JUL_26_6	FMF Contractors Ltd (cut through to sports field)	336.00	
JUL_26_7	Frank Mann Farmers (sports field)	221.40	
JUL_26_8	FMF Contractors Ltd (grass cutting)	1,105.20	
JUL_26_9_DD	WaterPlus (sports pavilion water)	13.75	
JUL_26_10	Rutland Garden Classics (planters)	723.00	
JUL_26_11	WALC (WALC and NALC subs)	470.00	
JUL_26_12	Trevor Gill (internal audit)	570.00	
Current Account			4,092.24

Cllr Dutton receipt will be added to the September finance.

External Audit Report

Cllr Dutton confirmed that further information was required to complete the final audit report. The requested information was provided before the deadline.

2026_07_11: Updates

Play Area/ Sports Pavilion

Cllrs Whear and Cllr Johnson to investigate options to repair or replace the gates on the car park. Recent damage to the fence and sports pavilion was noted, Cllr Whear to arrange for repairs. There has also been damage to the small storage hut which is currently used to store line marking equipment. The Colts have been contacted to see whether they still need the hut, to inform a decision on whether it should be repaired, no reply as yet. Issues with antisocial behaviour and damage to be reported to Southam Safer Neighbourhood team via District Cllr Gist. Clerk Khan to book annual playground inspection.

Flood prevention: covered under correspondence

Trees: A number of trees with dead branches have been identified on Station Road and the playing field. Clerk Khan will arrange for these to be inspected and any remedial work undertaken.

Street lights: no issues reported

Bowling Club Repair/Upgrade: no update

Village Planters: The planters have been delivered. Cllr Dutton to provide a costed plan to install and fill these to the next meeting.

Managed for Nature Areas

The Council discussed the ongoing management of the Managed for Nature areas following discussions with the leads for the Fieldgate Lane and Bear & Ragged Staff sites.

It was agreed that the management approach at Fieldgate Lane would be modified by dividing the site into different management areas, allowing for more active management where appropriate. The existing management approach at the Bear & Ragged Staff site will remain unchanged.

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The Council agreed that the site leads will provide regular monthly updates which will be shared with residents through the Parish Council's Facebook page and website.

Action: Cllr Dutton to investigate the provision of information boards for both the Fieldgate Lane and Bear & Ragged Staff sites.

Speeding Concerns

Cllr Dutton reported that a resident had raised concerns regarding speeding and suggested the use of speed cameras. County Cllr Kettle explained that speeding enforcement is the responsibility of the Police, while Warwickshire County Council focuses on road safety measures.

County Cllr Kettle advised that the speed survey results for Fenny Compton did not currently meet the threshold for further action. He confirmed that the matter had been reviewed and explained that areas with higher levels of speeding and serious incidents, such as Priors Hardwick, had been prioritised.

2026_07_12: Items to Publicise

Vandalism of park equipment, with the Council noting the damage caused and the importance of reporting any incidents to help prevent further damage.

2026_07_13: Future Discussion

No updates

2026_07_14: Date of next meeting

The next meeting is the Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday 21 September 2026

MEETING CLOSED 21.22pm.

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Appendix A

June Financial Administration

Balances: (See attached bank reconciliation)		£
Traffic Management	2,135.82	
Flood Relief Grant	803.56	
Allotments	1,000.00	
Defibrillator	885.94	
Cotters Croft	1,499.58	
Allocated Reserves		6,324.90
PC Balance - Budgeted expenses remaining		19,585.79
Unallocatted Reserves		2,130.24
Total		<u>28,040.93</u>
Within the following accounts:		
Current Account		4,434.59
Deposit Account 1		1,627.96
Deposit Account 2		1,382.41
12 Month Partial Withdrawal		10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal		10,590.97
Total Balances (See Bank Reconciliation)		<u>28,040.93</u>
Less Payments (See agenda item 10)		
JUL_26_1 Summia Khan (Salary and expenses)	436.49	
JUL_26_2 Warks LGPS (pension)	88.93	
JUL_26_3 HMRC (NI)	3.16	
JUL_26_4_DD Valda Energy (streetlights)	110.31	
JUL_26_5_DD eon (pavilion electric)	14.00	
JUL_26_6 FMF Contractors Ltd (cut through to sports field)	336.00	
JUL_26_7 Frank Mann Farmers (sports field)	221.40	
JUL_26_8 FMF Contractors Ltd (grass cutting)	1,105.20	
JUL_26_9_DD WaterPlus (sports pavilion water)	13.75	
JUL_26_10 Rutland Garden Classics (planters)	723.00	
JUL_26_11 WALC (WALC and NALC subs)	485.00	
JUL_26_12 Trevor Gill (internal audit)	570.00	
Current Account		4,107.24
Total Balances carried forward		<u>32,148.17</u>

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Appendix B

June Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balances	£
Current Account	4,434.59
Deposit Account 1	1,627.96
Deposit Account 2	1,382.41
12 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,005.00
1 Month Partial Withdrawal	10,590.97
Total Bank	<u>28,040.93</u>
 Cash Book Balance b/f	 28,029.16
Add receipts since last meeting:	
Refund from Net World Sports	795.00
Bank Interest	18.40
 Subtract payments between meetings	
Alun Pritchard (cricket nets)	- 795.00
Water Plus (agreed at May meeting)	- 27.10
Bank Fees	- 4.25
 Add payments agreed in June but paid in July	
WaterPlus	24.72
 Total Cash Book	 <u>28,040.93</u>

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