

MINUTES OF MEETING



Parish: Fenton
Meeting title: Annual General Meeting
Date and time: Tuesday 28th April 2026 at 7.00pm
Location: All Saints Church, Fenton

Officers
Mr Dave Rawlins Chair
Mr Graham Doney Secretary and Clerk to Parish Meeting
Mrs Ian Taylor Treasurer

In attendance 16 Members were present

AGM/01/26	Welcome and Apologies for absence John and Jean Cooke , Irene Doney, Ian Mason	Action
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AGM/02/26	Declaration of interest None
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AGM/03/26	Minutes of the previous meetings The minutes of the previous AGM have been displayed on the website since May 2025. And a link to those minutes was included in the Agenda posted on our social media and website. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and agreed unanimously
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AGM/04/26	Matters arising • Display AGAR on Website actioned • Display accounts on Website actioned • Speed Restriction stickers ordered and distributed • Investigate the cost of clearing the dyke behind houses in Allen Road? • Mrs Jane Rawlins redistributed the code for the Defibrillator Container
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Item 4 The clearing the dyke behind houses in Allen Road remained unresolved and is currently only cleared, when it becomes a problem, by Mr Streets, a Main Street resident. The owners of the houses in Allen Road that back onto the dyke are responsible under [Riparian rights](#) which are the legal rights and responsibilities of landowners whose property is next to a watercourse, such as a river, stream, or lake:

- Protecting property: Protecting property from flooding and erosion
- Maintaining the watercourse: Maintaining the bed and banks of the watercourse, including clearing litter, debris, and animal carcasses
- Letting water flow: Allowing water to flow through the land without obstruction, pollution, or diversion
- Leaving a development-free edge: Leaving a development-free edge on the banks next to the watercourse

When the ditch was the sewage dyke for the whole village the responsibility for clearing it out was the internal drainage board but that lapsed when Anglian built the sewage works. Now the ditch should only carry surface water and the responsibility for keeping it clear/free flowing reverted to the riparian owners in Allen Road

It was decided that a letter should be sent to the residents in Allen Road whose properties back onto the dyke.

DR/GD

AGM/05/26	Election of the Parish Meeting Chairman In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Chair of a Parish meeting must be elected annually. Mr Dave Rawlins, the current Chair, offered to carry on as Chair and there being no other candidates, Mr Dave Rawlins was re-elected unanimously
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AGM/06/26	Confirmation of the Clerk and Treasurer posts Mr Doney explained that the posts of Clerk and Treasurer did not have to be elected annually. The posts were offered to any member wishing to be considered but there were no takers. Mr Doney was willing to carry on as Clerk and Mr Ian Taylor was willing to continue as Treasurer and both were voted in unanimously.	
AGM/07/26	Brandon Wood Clay Pigeon Shoot update Mr Dave Rawlins explained that he had taken a step back from interacting with SKDC and this had been taken on by Celia Derbyshire. Mr Rawlins asked Celia to address the meeting as she had taken on representing the village in negotiations with SKDC. The notes of Celia's briefing to the meeting are attached as Annex A to these minutes. There was much discussion following this briefing on noise levels, hours of shooting on a Sunday, whether the current application of 106 day would be enforceable; noting the current 50 days is not enforceable. It was explained that SKDC were trying to impose a planning application that was enforceable. Councillor Penny Milnes then addressed the meeting with her concerns having been to a meeting with Mr Crane and that he put forward a business plan for all the hours he felt he needed at the busiest time and he really want 120 or 150 days. The Council pushed back on that and said that the 106 days was what was being considered. Penny was also concerned that these conditions do not have any noise levels attached to them. Penny then went on to say you need time to see if the new shooting stands are a betterment or not. In summary the Chair stated that he did not intend to take a vote at the meeting as the planning application was changing all the time. The planning officers have considerably changed the conditions that are being proposed on the Shoot and on the basis of the current version of the planning application did not want to withdraw our Parish Meeting objections. Apart from anything else we really need to see what the new noise management plan looks like because that is the one that is going to tie Mr Crane down on the stands and the shooting directions which is as far as the Council will go in trying to control the noise. They will not enforce 55dB but will enforce the layout of the Shoot. Some in the meeting asked if the 106 day application was approved could Mr Crane be stopped from then applying for 120 or 150 days in the future. It was explained he could not but that the Council had pushed back on changes Mr Crane wanted and had informed his agents that he would be foolish not to accept the 106 days and its conditions The Chairman then thanked Celia and Penny for briefing the meeting	
AGM/08/26	Communication received and updates Mr Doney confirmed that all communications received, mostly via email, are shared on the village social media sites and the most important ones are kept on the Fenton Village website. Also, when asked, a notice is also placed on the Village Notice Board	
AGM/09/26	Parish Meeting Accounts The 2025/26 income and expenditure accounts for Fenton Parish were presented by the Treasurer Mr Ian Taylor. Handouts were made available at the meeting and having been approved unanimously they will now be made available to read on the Village website. Following the approval of the accounts the AGAR 2025/26 was signed by the Chair. It is no longer necessary to display the AGAR on the village notice board, a copy on the village website is all that is required. The accounts can be viewed at Annex B. A vote of thanks to Libby Mason for auditing the accounts was recorded	GD
AGM/10/26	Setting the level of the Precept It was proposed and seconded that the level of the Precept be kept at £1000 and this was carried unanimously.	
AGM/11/26	Website Renewal Cost Mr Doney confirmed that a three year deal was purchased from WIX for £233.83 at a 50% discount saving £237.14. A vote of thanks to Mr Doney for managing the website and information via the village social media sites was proposed and carried unanimously.	
AGM/12/26	Defibrillator Monthly checks Mr Doney confirmed he would continue to carry out the routine checks on the defibrillator and report them back to The Circuit as well as sharing the reports on our Social media and website.	GD

AGM/13/26

Planning Applications and updates

Mr Doney went through the following Planning Application that he had to deal with over the last year These applications are available to view on the village website as well as SKDC

1. S25_0253 Latte Lodge - withdrawn
2. S25_1468 Brandon Wood Clay Shooting
3. S25_1707 Latte Lodge , Pump Lane
4. S25-0917 and S25-0917a The Willows
5. S25-2377 Old Hall Main Street

AOB

AGM/14/26

- The Church. Daphne Street explained that Libby Mason was standing down as the Church Warden and that if nobody took on that role then help would be needed with opening the church at weekends until October, cleaning prior to use and general maintenance. Daphne will provide a list of requirements
- Rat infestation. Mr Andrew Laws explained to the meeting that he had suffered a rat infestation and asked that the villagers be informed to be vigilant with food waste left in the open. Mr Doney confirmed that this would be published on the village website and social media sites

DS

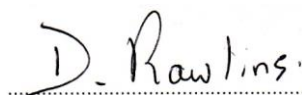
GD

There being no other business the Meeting was closed



Graham Doney
Parish Clerk
Fenton Parish Meeting clerk.fentonvillage@gmail.com

Signed

 (Chair) Date 3rd May 2026

Annex A:

Update Briefing on Brandon Wood Clay Pigeon Shoot by Celia Derbyshire

As you know, Current application 106 days, loosely conditioned and reliant on the same complicated and unworkable noise management plan as was submitted with the last application in 2021.

I know not everybody finds shooting noise disturbing, but a significant number of people in the village do. For those people, this application was unacceptable. Lots of objections from Fenton (as usual.) But feedback from the Council was that they really wanted this application to go through, and that planning officers would recommend approval.

So why is the Council so keen?

I know there are people here who want an ideal solution - for the shoot to just go away, or to go back to the original planning permission (50 days, with various planning controls) - but that isn't going to happen. Lawyers have established that the previous conditions do not hold up legally because they were never included on official Council documentation. Even the 50 day limit is legally contested. The whole situation is a mess. This is why the Council is so keen for a new application to go through - it would effectively wipe away all the historic uncertainties and replace them with some clear conditions going forwards. The problem is that the Council was not listening to what Fenton was saying about the conditions we needed.

So I started several months ago trying to talk to the Council to get better conditions for Fenton. To a certain extent this has worked.

What I have managed to achieve:

First the original NMP has been scrapped. We all knew it was never going to work. The Council and shoot finally agreed to drop it. They will be working on a new NMP between now and the committee meeting. So far, the only thing we have in place of it is a PERMANENT alteration of shooting stand/firing direction away from Fenton. The effect of these changes was given a brief test by the Council on Thursday last week. With wind in the North East (neither directly towards nor directly away from the shoot) their results were that shooting levels were acceptable (55 dB). In the afternoon they tested the effect of shooting directly towards Fenton - this came out at 72 dB. So on a usual day's shooting in future, with NO stands pointing towards Fenton, you can expect the noise levels to be less intrusive than you have experienced for the last 9 years.

Other conditions that the Council intends to impose:

No shooting at all on Area C.

Club days ONLY on Thursdays and Sundays, February-December (Thursdays 10-6, Sundays 10-2)

Corporate days to take the total up to 106 days, publicised well in advance and ONLY ON WEEK DAYS. If they shoot every club day for 11 months, this only leaves about a dozen corporate shoots per year.

So what does this mean for Fenton? Shooting every Thursday - but NO SHOOTING ON SATURDAYS. Only 4 hours shooting on Sundays. Absolute certainty on opening and closing times, and days of shooting. And, crucially, some reduction in noise levels.

The problem is that the Council's test was not done with a positive wind vector. We had one of those on Sunday and several people (particularly on the eastern edge of the village) said the noise was totally unacceptable. The Council's view on this is likely to be that a south-easterly wind is not very common and that the permanent alterations to the shooting ground are the best that can be done to limit the noise. They will want this application to go through and they are convinced that it is the best possible outcome for Fenton given the complicated and murky legal status of previous permissions.

The decision you need to make is this. Do you accept the application as proposed? Do you go for all-out rejection? It's a difficult choice. My suggestion: monitor noise levels for the next month, until just before the planning committee (probably June.) You may not get another positive wind vector... but you need to decide, are the noise levels better? And could you occasionally live with the worst levels, when there IS a positive wind vector?

Annex B

FENTON PARISH MEETING: Financial Year End Summary 31/03/26

(Transactions 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026; excluding inter-account transfers - see Notes)

		£		£
OPENING BALANCE (1st April 2025)				
01/04/2025	Current A/c	452.70		
01/04/2025	Deposit A/c	3174.36		
Total		3627.06	(Add)	3627.06
INCOME				
03/04/2025	Precept received from SKDC	1000.00		
	Interest on D/A (12 months)	54.06		
Total		1054.06	(Add)	1054.06
EXPENDITURE				
01/04/2025	LALC (Lincs. Assoc. of Local Councils)	45.18		
16/04/2025	Defib 'Electric'	37.00		
22/04/2025	Fenton Parish Church 'Donation'	200.00		
08/05/2025	30mph limit bin signs	119.80		
08/05/2025	Defib 'Pads'	86.34		
06/08/2025	WIX 'domain name'	30.00		
14/08/2025	Bank Charges 5 mths at £5 pm then discount.	25.00		
Total		543.32	(Deduct)	543.32
CLOSING BALANCE (31st March 2026)			Total	<u>4137.80</u>
RECONCILIATION:			Actual	31-Mar-26
CLOSING BALANCES				
31/03/2026	Current A/c			543.86
31/03/2026	Deposit A/c (Business Money Manager)			3593.94
			Total	<u>4137.80</u>

Notes:

23/04/25 £565.52 of 'surplus' funds above £600 on the Current A/c were transferred into the Deposit A/c

30/05/25 £200 was transferred from Deposit A/c to Current A/c to restore a preferred range of £400 - £600