

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chairperson: Mr David Hawes

Clerk: Allison Spyer

14 Barley View, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG25 2ST
Tel: 07786 063570 Email: clerk.bentworth@parish.hants.gov.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 2nd September 2014 at 7.30pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

ACTION FOR

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
David Hawes Veronica Parker Chris Hurley Paul Mellish Tony Costigan Jenny Lewis Abby George	Allison Spyer		7 Members of the public

20.12 Apologies for absence:

No apologies

20.13 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

20.14 PC Peter Kelly, update:

Peter Kelly was unable to attend the meeting but sent in the following comments: 'Nothing of note to report for Bentworth. The Blues festival went off without any problems reported to Police and again was well organised'.

20.15 Meeting open to the public:

Jean Cornelius raised the subject of uncut hedges close to her that should be dealt with by HCC. Cllr Chris Hurley said he had some information and would update everyone later in the meeting.

20.16 Minutes of the July Meeting:

These were approved and signed.

VP proposed and TC seconded with agreement from rest of council apart from one abstention from JL who was not at the meeting.

20.17 Matters arising:

- Documentation Review – On-going
- Stile funding – application did not go in on time AS to have all information in place for the 2014 round of funds. Ongoing

20.18 Cllr Update:

Layby – AS reported that HCC have confirmed the works are not scheduled until the later part of the financial year and would now not start until January at the earliest. After discussion it was agreed to get the kerbing project re-quoted by another three contractors who could potentially start the works before Christmas.

AS

Website – PM confirmed all was going well and they are hoping the website will go live in early October. TC asked if there would be a collective email associated with the website for all the councillors to which JL and PM confirmed there would be. DH would like to see a system of information emails being sent out to anyone who anyone interested in receiving one. The old website will be taken down as soon as the new one goes live.

PM/JL

VoY – Bentworth PC are hosting this year's presentation on 9th October. A budget of £150.00 has already been agreed by the Council. AS to liaise with Sue Ramage at HALC regarding numbers expected etc.

AS

Memorial Bench – Has been purchased and is temporarily positioned by the noticeboard while its final position in the church is confirmed. VP will show TC exactly where it is to go once Ben Flenley has returned from holiday and is happy with the chosen spot. The case was also made for the purchase of another bench to go by the noticeboard as there have been plenty of complimentary comments about having one there.

VP/TC

PB – Gates have been sourced and everything is ready to go. Hampshire Highways have asked to delay until the speed limit issues have been dealt with. It was agreed to order the gates in the meantime and find somewhere to store them if needs be.

VP

Broadband – VP reminded everyone that Glen Pacey is coming to talk on Wednesday 10th September in the Jubilee Hall at 7.30pm.

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GW plaque – DH is still sourcing plaques and will have examples for approval by the next meeting.
Pond – JL reported she has had a meeting with Community Trust Probation Payback Programme and feels very comfortable using them for the pond project. The team have been very well received in other villages. They have been tentatively booked for two days in September and will clear the pond area for £75.00 a day if given the go ahead by the PC. Once the pond is cleared the liner can go in at which point JL would like to shut off the ditch draining into the pond. There may be an issue with a blocked sump pump that HCC won't clear but JL was confident that she had one that could be used if needed.
JL proposed a motion to use the Community Trust Probation Payback Programme, VP seconded and there was unanimous agreement from the rest of the Council.

DH

JL

20.19 Petanque Pitch Update:

DH been to see the Basingstoke petanque pitch and spoke with the organisers regarding requirements. A single terrain should be 12 metres long by 2/3metres wide. To be part of a county league three terrains would be needed so the total pitch size would be 12 by 9 metres. It was agreed that would be far too big but a 12 by 6 pitch was possible and perhaps a league set up within the village only. Suggestion was made to mark it out on a publicised date to view the size and ask local residents for their thoughts and comments. Saturday 11th October was the date agreed at 11am. DH to write copy for the villager.

DH

20.20 Bus Stop:

VP reported that the Bus Stop Sign has been removed on Holt End Lane. CH will contact the Bus service to find out why.

CH

20.21 Blues Festival:

Positive comments from everyone, this includes the local police, parish council and the school. All parties very happy, there were no timing issues and it was a perfectly well run event. AS to pass feedback onto the organisers.

AS

20.22 Finance:

20.23 BCA Fund

A request has been made for £125.00 from the BCA fund to part subsidise a local event. The PC are happy for this to go ahead if the BCA are. TC to speak with NB to organise.

TC

20.24 Payments for approval:

- Allison Spyer, Salary £360.00
- Allison Spyer, Expenses £24.19
- Terry Marsh, Internal Auditor £200.00
- BDO, External Auditor £120.00
- Royal British Legion, Wreath £17.00
- Jenny Lewis, Cups for scarecrow comp £40.00

Payments previously made:

- Allison Spyer, July salary £450.00

All payments proposed by JL and seconded by PM with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

20.25 Receipts

- No current receipts

20.26 FAG update:

Bank reconciliations monthly or quarterly - The internal auditor recommended that bank reconciliations are produced monthly however the council discussed this and agreed that as it was a small village, quarterly was more appropriate. Motion to keep reconciliations every three months was proposed by VP seconded by JL with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

New bank accounts – VP and AS confirmed this should be open within the next couple of weeks finally.

Unpaid precept – AS to chase East Hants District Council.

AS

20.27 Internal Auditors Report:

The following recommendations were made:

- Bank reconciliations be produced monthly with statements and signed off at each meeting.
- Reports from the Internal Auditor and External Auditor should be reviewed and minuted.

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- The appointment of the internal auditor should be minuted.
- Fixed assets are shown at insurance values where the original costs cannot be established.
- A review of the Standing Orders and Financial Regs should be carried out each year but no review was done last year.
- Chq books stubs should be initialled by the person signing the chqs but some were missing last year.

PC

Reviewing the points above the council agreed to carry out all the recommendations apart from the monthly reconciliation as it was felt that quarterly was best.

20.28 External Auditors Report:

Has not yet been received. AS to put on October agenda

AS

20.29 Planning Committee Report:

25753/004, Ashley Cottage, Ashley Road, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5RH
Detached timber framed garage incorporating a workshop, domestic storage and wood store.
No objection

25539/009, Ham Farm, Station Road, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5QY
Construction of open sided barn
No objection

20.30 Councillors Report:

Website: Previously discussed

Environment, pond & footpaths: JL cycled by Jenny Green Lane and saw HCC redoing the drainage. It was confirmed that they will open the path to horse riders, walkers and other users in a week but it won't be open to four by fours in the short term and cameras will be in operation to monitor this.

Open Spaces:

Traffic & Highways: CH reported that HCC will come through village with a jet packer which is a quicker way of filling potholes. However no date set as yet. CH has also been talking to Ian Janes at HCC about moving the name sign to the village boundary which should then see the hedgerows this point cut back (as per JC point in the public section). TC would like to see a mirror on the road at the junction where Well Lane meets Village Street but CH does not think HCC will go for that. AS to write Woodland Trust asking them to trim hedges in Burkham Lane. AS to write to Summerly asking to cut their hedge back.

CH/AS

SpeedWatch:

Trees:

Young people and families: Nothing to report

Website

Broadband:

Communications:

20.31 Other Reports:

Community Care: JC reported on behalf of FM that the Calendars are ready. Fred will be holding Macmillan coffee morning 26th September.

Neighbourhood watch. Someone has been going door to door selling tea towels and been quite rude. Police have been informed. DH stated that neighbourhood watch is not really in operation currently due to people moving etc. NHW contacts should be on the website and in the villager. Fred's email address to be point of contact.

St Marys School: Jean Cornelius reported on behalf of the school: We are taking in the full quota of 15 new children in the reception class. We have 2 new teachers joining us, but they will be well supported by Cathy Dumelow who retired in July. She is coming in for 2 days a week, and we also have the 2 teachers who retired in July 2013 still coming in for a day a week each. Cathy had a lovely retirement tea party, with the children, staff, governors, former pupils, former governors, old head teacher and members of the community. We were very pleased to announce that our Chairman of governors Maria Fordyce was nominated for an outstanding governor award, and was awarded this honour, from the Hampshire Governor Services. A very well deserved award.

20.32 Meetings Attended:

VP Chaining meeting with HALC

20.33 Forthcoming Meetings:

Broadband meeting with Glen Pacey as previously mentioned.

20.34 Any Other Business:

None

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20.35 Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 7th October 2014

The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9pm

Signed Date