

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chairperson: Mr David Hawes

Clerk: Allison Spyer

14 Barley View, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG25 2ST
Tel: 07786 063570 Email: clerk@bentworthparishcouncil.org

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 4th September 2018, 7.30pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
David Hawes (Chair) Paul Mellish Jane Costigan Jenny Lewis Abbie George Chris Hurley	Allison Spyer	Tony Costigan	15 Members of the public

		ACTION FOR
26.64	Apologies for absence: Veronica Parker	
26.65	Police update: PC Nops was in attendance and reported that a car has been broken into recently but otherwise all quiet. All normal advice applies please do not leave valuables visible in the car.	
26.66	Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest.	
26.67	Meeting open to the public: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A member of the public asked regarding the minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting on the 16th August. DH advised they would be dealt with in the next item.Nicky Branch read out a statement of support for Mr Berens re-imburement of legal expenses.	
26.68	Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3 rd July were proposed as accurate by JL and seconded by CH with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council that were present at the meeting. The minutes of the EO meeting on the 16 th August were not present to be signed but will be distributed and signed off at the October meeting.	AS
26.69	Matters Arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none">First Aid Training Update – JL reported that two sessions were run and went down very well. There will be more sessions in the future but currently waiting to hear back from the trainer with dates.	JL

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26.70	District Councillor Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Star Inn - Some residents living next to the property have received notice that the owners are in the process of re-submitting a fresh application. I believe that the application is in keeping with the public consultation presentation whereby it will be three houses, one apartment/flat and finally a French bistro type bar. As said, there are no details as of yet. I will keep the PC updated as and when anything develops.• Railway Bridges in Alton - these works are scheduled to start at the end of January 2019 with a time expectancy of 23 weeks. You will appreciate that all of the traffic diversions will come into effect, meaning that there will be a substantial change in volume of traffic through the village for the duration of the works.	
	The Star Inn DH explained that the PC were applying for a new ACV following the sale of the pub and the application needs the approval of the full committee before EHDC will consider it. After a brief discussion DH proposed that the Parish Council submit an Asset of Community Value (ACV). The motion was seconded by JL and unanimously agreed upon by the rest of the Council.	DH
	Cricket Ground: DH gave a brief overview and timeline of the issue between the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee, the Parish Council and Mr Berens, owner of the Cricket Pitch, and is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• October HB informed by the Neighbourhood Plan Committee (NPC) that the cricket field had been designated a green space in the plan.• 23rd November 2017 HB sent a solicitors letter ref it being private land.• 27th November 2017 NPC informed HB it is not now a green space in the plan.• 29th November 2017 public meeting once again showed cricket pitch as a green space.• 11th December 2017 NPC informed HB it was not a green space in the plan.• January 2018 article in the Villager showed the cricket field as a green space.• 6th January 2018 NPC said there would be a retraction in the Villager Feb edition.• 14th January second solicitors letter from HB.• 29th April 2018 HB requests from PC the amount of £906 to cover his legal costs. AS sought advice from the legal team at HALC and their stance is that we are not liable for Mr Berens legal fee's however it might be prudent to offer a sum of money towards his cost as a token of goodwill (but not pay all of them).	

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	<p>Came and Co our insurers were also contacted and they are happy for the PC to follow the advice from HALCs legal team. However if Mr Berens wants to take us to court for the full amount we are covered by insurance to fight the claim and recover any money spent.</p> <p>After much discussion with arguments both for reimbursing Mr Berens in part and not offering any contribution at all, DH proposed that Mr B be reimbursed 50% of the £906 claim as it was felt the first solicitors letter may have been warranted but the second one wasn't. PM seconded the proposal. Cllrs JL, CH & AG voted in favour of the motion. Cllr JC voted against. As majority vote rules the motion was approved and the council will offer to reimburse Mr Berens to the amount of £450.00. A letter has been drawn up that AS will run past the HALC legal team before sending.</p>	AS
26.71	Finance:	
(a)	<p>Payments for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allison Spyer, Salary. Bank Transfer 2/7/18 £439.80 • HMRC, PAYE. Bank Transfer 2/7/18 £40.20 • Southern Textiles, Bench on Village Green £1054.52 • HCC, Jubilee Hall Hire £217.00 <p>All payments were proposed by JC and seconded by JL with unanimous agreement from the rest of the Council.</p>	
(b)	<p>Receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No current receipts 	
(c)	<p>Current Account Balance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The balance of current account is £14,376.00 	
(d)	<p>FAG Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred until October 	
26.72	<p>Village Appearance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs reported a lot of overgrown hedges that need to be cut back. Members of the PC to provide list of addresses for AS to write to. • DH suggested to commemorate the 100 year armistice the PC buy two 'There But Not There' silhouettes at £42.00 each for one of the village benches. DH proposed AG seconded with unanimous agreement AS to purchase. • The next Litter pick was agreed for the 20th October 10am. 	<p>All</p> <p>AS</p>
26.73	<p>Planning Committee:</p> <p>There have been no recent applications.</p>	

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26.74	Councillors Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment, Pond & Open Spaces – Bench round tree has been fixed. The PC would like to say a big thank you to Ian Hughes. Pond has held its water. Crops just about to go in so JL will keep an eye that all footpaths will be open. BOAT 27 will be closed to 4X4's.• Traffic & Highways – Ben Ward is the new HCC area manager. CH would like to pay someone directly to cut the verge at Jenny Green Lane and to that end has approached Chris Brennan. DH reiterated the need for more SpeedWatch Volunteers. Recent SW stats are as follows: July..... Taken from 1800, 94 vehicles and 10 speeders. Highest speed 41 Taken from 0900, 39 vehicles 1 speeder doing 51 Taken from 1600, 11 vehicles 3 speeders highest speed 38 One done in August between 1800 and 1900 yeilded 100 cars and 11 Speeding.• Young People & Families – Nothing to report.• Website – Nothing to report.• Broadband – Nothing to report• Village Green - Nothing to report• St Marys School – School was back today with 16 new year R children making a total of 106 pupils, we proved to be very popular this year – even more so than in previous years. Mrs Ayres passes on her thanks to our neighbours for their patience and support during the building work. Work was done to make the car park more open and increase disabled spaces. We've had new carpets, new external door, some accessibility issues resolved and a brand new medical room. This is all thanks to the church and a special grant. The hall has been painted thanks to thanks to a grant and staff and parent power, this is very much appreciated. There's also been vinyl put on the walls so it can be wiped down and keeps the walls protected. The new greenhouse was donated by parents of year 6, last year's leavers. Also we have had a mural painted in the library, it was designed by a family with a local artist in memory of mother who passed away earlier on this year. An amazing tribute to an amazing lady. The Parish Council are welcome if we ever want a tour. Looking forward to a packed term, open day is on the 28th October in the morning. Children in year 6 also ran a car wash and raised £422.00.	
26.75	Other Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Care – Jean Cornelius reported that in July the Care Group made 17 trips and 5 trips in August• Neighbourhood Watch – PC just about to finish cascade system and will send a copy to everyone.	
26.76	Correspondence: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All correspondence with Mr Berens as listed above.	
26.77	Cllrs Announcements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no Cllrs announcements.	

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26.78	Meetings Forthcoming and Attended: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DH trying to set up a meeting with EHDC and HCC re traffic calming measures MKG suggest thick white lines on either side of the road creating an illusion of a single road however any accidents will be knock for knock.• Film night Tuesday 11th September - Guernsey Potato Peel Literary Society	
26.79	Date of next Meeting: Next meeting will be held on the 2 nd October 2018. DH thanked all members for attending and closed the meeting at:	8.32

Signed Date