

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Mrs Jane Costigan

Clerk: Louisa Thomson
Email: clerk@bentworthparishcouncil.org

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 6th September 2022 at St Marys Church

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Neal Day – Vice Chair Kathryn Courtier Tim Lipscombe James Blackmore	Louisa Thomson		Members of the public

22.096 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Jane Costigan, Simon Houston, Danny Green and District Councillor Tony Costigan.

22.097 Confirmation of Minutes – Resolved

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 5th July 2022, copies previously circulated, **Proposed as a true record by Tim Lipscombe, Seconded Kathryn Courtier and RESOLVED.**

22.098 Public Participation

Members of the public said it would be helpful if there was a schedule available detailing when the council made decisions i.e. budget.

Kathryn Courtier read out an email received from David Maltby:

'I would like to comment on the next agenda item 20mph speed zones:

From my research there is no intention to enforce 20mph limits by Hampshire police, and we can't get them to enforce a 30mph limit, so all that will happen is just the numbers we record via the SID will get much bigger!!

Bentworth is approximately 2 miles long between the 30mph speed limit signs at Bellhanger to 30mph signs at Holt End, so in my view it would be unreasonable to expect traffic to obey 20mph for 2 miles, when currently around 50% of the traffic doesn't obey 30mph, it will just lead to overtaking through the village, driver frustration, and road rage.

Many London suburbs have been designated 20mph zones, but these also have traffic calming. Many of these 20mph zone are failing in their objective, and a large proportion of these zones are now being fitted with speed enforcement cameras, because London does enforce 20mph zones.

In order to have any impact on traffic through Bentworth as I see it we only have two choices: a) Police enforcement or b) traffic calming.'

Members of the public present said they wouldn't support the introductions of 20mph speed limit.

22.099 Herriard Environmental Initiatives

- i) **Proposed Tim Lipscombe, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to put the poster advertising the Eco Fair on the 1st October on the website and noticeboard.
- ii) **Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Kathryn Courtier, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Parish Council can't get directly involved but if they are sent a notice they would be happy to put it on the website to see if there is any local interest. Email Herriard Parish Council with The Villager details so they can put something in the next issue.

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22.100 Speed Indicator Sign (SID) Update

Kathryn Courtier reported, report provided by David Maltby.

For the 2 week period 14th August to 28th August 2022 at Oaklands(Grain Dryer)

In total for both directions there were 13,183 vehicles, 6,572 (49.85%) of which were exceeding 30mph, with

1,215 (9.22%) exceeding 35mph and hence ticketable.

36 to 40mph 1,043 vehicles

41 to 45mph 139 vehicles

46 to 50mph 23 vehicles

51 to 60mph 10 vehicles

The SID is currently at Wellers and whilst overall the percentage of those exceeding 30mph is fairly constant to previous instances of the SID at Wellers, it seems to be noticeable that there are more than usual exceeding 40mph, in fact in the 46 to 50mph and 51mph to 60mph speed bands we have recorded in one week, pretty much the same number of vehicles as previously recorded in two weeks. On Monday 29th August at 15:10 we recorded a vehicle travelling towards Medstead at 73mph.

I would like to ask the Parish Council the following questions and have these and the answers minuted:

1. I believe the police have been made aware of our speeding issues. What was their response?
2. If the police have shown a lack of interest, what is being done to escalate this? Has the Police and Crime Commissioner been contacted? Again what was the response?
3. Is there a plan to take this further?

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Kathryn Courtier, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED the Parish Council will write to MP Damien Hinds, County Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee detailing the recent speeding reports and asking what action will be taken.

Kathryn Courtier to compile the reports for the Clerk to send.

22.101 Hampshire County Council is seeking the views of residents about 20 mph limits within Hampshire

The online questionnaire was completed by the Parish Council during the meeting. **Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Tim Lipscombe, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to support the introduction of 20mph limits around schools and busy pedestrian areas.

22.102 East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) – survey that will shape the future Local Plan

Clerk to request a copy of the questions and ask for an extension until after the next meeting on the 4th October 2022 and to feed back that the timescales were difficult because Parish Councils traditionally don't meet in August.

Proposed Kathryn Courtier, Seconded Tim Lipscombe, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so a member of the public can speak.

Member of the public said the Parish Council shouldn't comment on such items on behalf of the residents.

Proposed Tim Lipscombe, Seconded Kathryn Courtier, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

22.103 Community Updates Community Care

There were 11 trips in August. Community Care are still short of two drivers, trips will get busier in September and October with COVID and Flu vaccinations. The Parish Council will put a notice on the website requesting drivers, drivers usually only need to do two months a year on a rota basis.

Neighbourhood Watch

Most incidents are opportunist, make sure everything is locked, windows shut and alarms set when leaving the house.

22.104 External Auditors Appointment

Proposed Tim Lipscombe, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to opt-in to the central procurement regime managed by SAAA.

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22.105 Accounts 2022/2023

Proposed Tim Lipscombe, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the following payment:

a) Louisa Thomson – Clerk’s Salary July 2022	£ 456.86
b) Louisa Thomson – Clerk’s Salary August 2022	£ 457.06
c) Louisa Thomson – Clerk’s Expenses August 2022	£ 10.35
d) St Mary’s Church – Parish Council meetings	£ 90.00

22.106 Meeting Date

Confirm the date of the next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 4th October 2022.

22.107 Close of Meeting

– The Chair thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Signed.....
Chair Bentworth Parish Council

4th October 2022