

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 1st May 2018 at 7pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Veronica Parker Chris Hurley Jenny Lewis Paul Mellish Jane Costigan Abbie George	Allison Spyer	Mark Kemp-Gee	18 Members of the public in attendance

ACTION FOR

Election of Chairman for 2017/2018

26.25 In his absence JL proposed DH to continue as Chairman, PM seconded with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council. Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed and witnessed by the clerk on DH's return.

26.26 Election of Vice Chair for 2016/2017

JL proposed VP to continue as Vice Chair, AG seconded with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council. Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and witnessed by the clerk.

26.27 Apologies for absence:

David Hawes

26.28 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

26.29 Meeting open to the public:

There was a lively discussion about how parishioners are allowed to bring up and discuss subject matters at a council meeting. Some found keeping to the agenda restrictive while others found the agenda wide enough to cope with most potential issues. AS advised that regulations are specific and that only items on the agenda could be discussed. However, a non-agenda item could be discussed but not minuted and thereafter be included on the next agenda. Not all present found this an ideal solution but the Parish Council are bound by NALC / HALC regulations on council minutes. Potentially the PC could look at having two sections open to the public, one at the beginning of the meeting as we do currently but then introduce another one at the end, limited to ten minutes only. To be discussed further.

AS

There were several residents that voiced their concerns about the planned reduction in Parish Council Meeting from ten per annum down to six. It was felt less meetings would impact negatively on the community and limit people's ability to attend. As this is an agenda item it was agreed to discuss later in the meeting.

26.30 Minutes of the April Meetings:

The minutes were deemed to be correct. Proposed by AG, seconded by VP with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

26.31 Review of delegation arrangements to committees, advisory groups and employees:

- Planning, PM, VP, AG & DH no alteration
- Finance, VP, DH & JC, no alteration
- Environment, JL no alteration
- Traffic & Highways, CH & with the addition of AG
- SpeedWatch, CH, VP no alteration
- Communications, VP no alteration
- Young people, AG no alteration

26.32 Review of the terms of reference for committees:

- Planning – No alteration
- FAG – No alteration

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26.33 Appointment of any new committees, confirmation of the terms of reference, the number of members (including substitute councillors), and receipt of nomination to them:
Standing Order 15 - No alteration

26.34 Review and adoption of appropriate standing orders and financial regulations:
No alteration

26.35 Review of representation on or work with external bodies and arrangements for reporting back:
No alteration

26.37 Review of inventory of land and assets including buildings and office equipment:
No alteration.

26.38 Review and confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks:
No alteration.

26.39 Review of Councils and /or employees membership of other bodies:
No alteration
Halc
Nalc
CPRE
Data Protection

26.40 Review of Councils complaints procedure:
No alteration

26.41 Review of the Councils procedures for handling requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Data Protection Act 1998:
Standing Order 27 - No alteration

26.42 Review of the Councils policy for dealing with Press / Media:
Standing Order 28 - No alteration

26.43 Setting the dates, times and place of ordinary meetings of the full Council for the year ahead: AS
Due to the feelings of parishioners present the PC agreed to spend more time discussing it and deferred this item to the June meeting.

26.44 Neighbourhood Plan Update:
Attached below as Appendix 1.

26.45 Village Party: Update AS
It was agreed the party would take the form of a big picnic to be held on Saturday 30th June on either the Village Green or the School Playing Field. AS will book Jubilee Hall in case of bad weather.

26.46 Finance:
a Payments for approval

- Allison Spyer, Salary £463.80
- Allison Spyer, Expenses £10.80
- HMRC, PAYE £16.20
- Came & Company, Parish Insurance £442.20
- Stella Strachan, Pond Plants £279.98
- Planet, Planning Consultants £1188.00
- Abbie George, Lawn Mower Petrol £28.38

All payments proposed by JC and seconded by CH unanimous agreement from rest of council

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b Receipts

- First half of precept received £5000.00

c Balance of Current Account

- Available funds in the Treasury Account £19,723.00

d **FAG Meeting**

Deferred

26.47 **Planning Committee Report:**

PM needs a new map of the conservation area. AS to ask EHDC Planning department for a map bigger than A4. AS to also ask for a settlement policy boundary.

AS

PM would like clarification with regards to the application for the Star Inn as the protected period for the village asset ends Jan 2019.

55077/002, 1 Denyer Cottages, Holt End Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5LB

Single storey conservatory to the rear, following demolition of existing lobby.

No Objection

39027/001, The Oaks, Jenny Green Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5NP.

Increase in roof height to provide accommodation at first floor and new entrance porch.

No Objection

34280/021, Ivalls House, Holt End Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5JU.

Single storey extension to side/rear and enlarged dormer.

No Objection

34280/022, Ivalls House, Holt End Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5JU.

Listed building consent - single storey extension to side/rear, enlarged dormer and internal alterations.

No Objection

27099/042, Stable Cottage, Bentworth Hall, Holt End Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5LA

T1 Maple - fell

T2 Ash - fell

T3 Yew - crown lift to 4m. Reduce north, east and west radius by 1-2m to leave a radius of 4-5m

T4 Goat Willow - fell

T5 Oak - fell

No Objection

26.48 **Councillors Report:**

Environment: Thank you to Stella as the pond looks stunning. There are further issues with the footpaths down the side of Jockeys. JL been in touch with Rangers at HCC who will take this up as the current owners are not allowing the footpaths to be opened to the public. Path by Jenny Green Lane has been trashed by 4x4's and at some point will be closed to them. Hoof prints on the village green from horses that got loose, JL to ask owners to fix the holes.

JL

Traffic & Highways: Several potholes have been patched over the past month.

SpeedWatch: Nothing to report

Trees: Nothing to report

Young people and families: Nothing to report

Website: Nothing to report

Broadband: VP reported that we are waiting on costings from BT for the people at the other end of the village to get the infrastructure in privately since BT won't commit to giving us fibre to the home.

Communications: Nothing to report

Village Green: Nothing to report

26.49 **Other Reports:**

Community Care: Nothing to report

Neighbourhood watch: PC advised that the Cascade system is almost complete, once finished a copy will go on the noticeboard and a copy to JS. Note will go in June Villager regarding current popular scams doing the rounds

St Marys School: Friday 18th there will be a special royal wedding generation game from 1.15pm - 3.15pm with afternoon tea. We've been lucky enough to get a grant to celebrate the royal wedding in style.

The after-school club is still looking for some help 3pm - 6pm each day to do painting, cooking etc, anyone interested please pop into school for a chat. Trying to raise enough money to put 3 people through the

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cardiac rehab support program. Years 4 - 6 are off to Calshot on 22nd May.

Last day of term Friday 25th May, returning to school Monday 4th June.
Please pop the family music festival date in your diary, Saturday 16th June. Bands are being selected now and a letter will be sent out to neighbour's shortly. Finally, next time you are having a clear out please do make use of the recycling bank in the car park for all shoes, clothes, handbags and home textiles, the P.T.A will benefit greatly from this as all proceeds go to t Mary's P.T.A.

26.50 Meetings Attended:
None

26.51 Forthcoming Meetings:
Neighbourhood plan at EHDC

26.52 Date of next Meeting:
Tuesday 5th June 7.30pm

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

8.55pm

Signed Date

Appendix 1

BENTWORTH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - PARISH COUNCIL AGM 2 MAY 2018 REMARKS BY BOYD McCLEARY, CO-ORDINATOR OF STEERING COMMITTEE

As parishioners are aware, the Parish Council has embarked on the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. A Steering Committee was established. A Charter was approved. A grant was obtained from the Department of Communities and Local Government. Consultants were appointed to assist and advise. And we have been in regular touch with East Hampshire District Council (EHDC).

So far, three public meetings have been held, to brief parishioners on what is involved. There have been regular updates in "The Villager". Minutes of the Steering Committee's meetings and a good deal of background material are also on the Parish Council website <http://bentworthparishcouncil.org/>.

Once approved, our plan will have some force in setting out what development is acceptable in our parish and for what reasons. Developers and local authority planners will have to take notice of it. Without a Neighbourhood Plan, we will have little control over any development that takes place. Our Neighbourhood Plan must comply with EHDC Local Plan and the government's wider policy of sustainable development. The Local Plan currently envisages that "about 12 dwellings" be constructed on a site at the corner of Church Street and Ashley Road (1.2 hectares). Since the Local Plan was published, five additional sites were approved by EHDC.

In October 2016, the Steering Committee sent out a Questionnaire. We used the results and the views expressed at the second Public Meeting to prepare a draft Vision and Objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan. We have in turn used this draft Vision and Objectives to develop a set of detailed policies, which will be at the core of the Neighbourhood Plan.

We have also drawn on the draft Vision and Objectives to review the six sites. We took advantage of the third public meeting in November 2017 to ask parishioners to express their views on these sites and also whether they were keen to see "affordable housing" as part of the new development. The forms that parishioners completed on the evening and afterwards told us that:

- 86% in favour of one (rather than two or more) site
- 95% in favour of affordable housing
- 92% in favour of sites BTW001 (corner of Church Street and Ashley Road), BTW002 (Top Field, Glebe Fields) or BTW003 (Station Road), with only 8% in favour of the other three sites (Drury Lane, Park Lodge Holt End and Homestead New Copse)

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So far so good! Then in January 2018 we learned that the government had moved the goal-posts. EHDC advised us of changes which were being made at national level through the government's most recent Housing White Paper and subsequent amendments to legislation, National Planning Policy Guidance and National Planning Policy Framework. The key messages were that:

- There would now be a new legal requirement to review Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans every 5 years
- EHDC's current Local Plan (which contains the allocation of "about twelve dwellings" for Bentworth) would become out of date in May 2019
- EHDC were therefore launching a review to create a new Local Plan for the area
- This new Local Plan would be adopted in 2020, would run from 2017-2036, but would be reviewed in 2022
- EHDC were required to identify sites for all land uses – not just housing but also business, infrastructure, etc – and would be putting out a call for sites ASAP; this would lead to a new Land Availability Assessment (LAA), which would replace the current SHLAA
- There was an expectation that the housing requirement for the District would increase, but the actual figure would not be known until summer 2018

The Steering Committee met to consider these developments and concluded that it would not make sense to press ahead with the completion of our Neighbourhood Plan regardless. This was primarily because of the uncertainty about how many houses may now be required of Bentworth and whether additional sites will become available, and the reduced force of the Neighbourhood Plan if it is not aligned with the new Local Plan. We decided that we should continue to work up the narrative of the plan and also the Vision, Objectives and Policies, which are unlikely to be significantly affected by the legal changes. We would, however, put on hold for now any decision on the allocation of a site or sites for development.

It will thus be some time yet before we have a draft Neighbourhood Plan. But, once we do, this will be subject to consultation. After this is complete, the "submission version" of the Neighbourhood Plan will be handed over to EHDC. EHDC will appoint an independent Examiner to check that the Plan fulfils the legal conditions for a Neighbourhood Plan and that "due process" has been followed.

If the Examiner is satisfied that we have followed the correct process, that our plan meets the five "Basic Conditions" and that our evidence is sufficient to support our policies, he/she will allow the Plan to proceed to a referendum. The District Council will then arrange for a local referendum in the parish. Everyone in the parish who is registered on the electoral roll will be entitled to vote **YES** or **NO** to the whole Plan. For the Plan to come into force, a majority (ie over 50%) of **people who vote** need to vote "Yes".

We will keep in touch with EHDC and continue to keep parishioners posted. The Committee would like to thank parishioners for the support and engagement demonstrated so far.