

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Mrs Jane Costigan

Clerk: Allison Spyer

Tel: 07786 063570 Email: clerk.bentworth@parish.hants.gov.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 2 Feb via Zoom App

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Jane Costigan (Chair) Veronica Parker (Vice Chair) Tony Costigan Callum Knight Danny Green Kathryn Courtier	Allison Spyer		Seven members of the public

ACTION FOR

29.15 Apologies for absence:

There were no apologies

29.16 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

29.17 Police Update:

There was no Police update.

29.18 Meeting open to the public:

Two points were raised,

- Lorry ban through the village or a weight restriction imposed would be beneficial. CK will take further.
- School playground gate has been closed when it should be open out of hours but the gate for cars is always open. To be discussed later in the meeting.

CK

29.19 Minutes of the Dec Meeting:

Minutes were proposed by VP and seconded by DG with unanimous agreement from the rest of the committee.

29.20 Matters Arising:

- **Compliance Issues** – Ongoing and probably will be for the foreseeable future.
- **Clerk Review** – Taking place on Feb 12 2021.
- **Website** – First draft ready imminently and the whole site up and running by the end of February.
- **Metal Silhouettes** – TC to source Army, Navy and Air Force that will be installed in November. Local resident has offered to store them once obtained. Budget has already been approved.
- **Website Grant Application** – Has been submitted and approved money should be in the account shortly.

TC

29.21 Bentworth Garden Club Sale:

KC requested this go ahead in May this year on the green over a three-day period. Set up on the Friday, main sale on the Saturday and left-over plants left out with honesty box on the Sunday. PC unanimously agreed. AS will keep an eye on the Covid guidelines and will confer with KC closer to the time.

AS/KC

29.22 Hayley Lane Right of Way Update:

KC has received over 30 completed questionnaires and was thanked by TC. After discussion it was agreed that KC and TC will speak further and then take the matter up with Mark Kemp Gee.

KC/TC/MKG

29.23 Access to School Playground:

AS to contact the school and get clarification on which entrances are open out of hours. Once this has been established a notice will go on the noticeboard and FB page with the usage rules and regulations.

AS

29.24 District Councillor Update:

I am pleased to say that I have been accepted as a volunteer with the Alton Food Cupboard. This small but important service has approx 500 clients in the Alton area. The group of volunteers, including me, operate on a rota basis seven days a week. The difference between this group and the Alton food bank is that the ethos

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is to give away the food that they receive from the various supermarkets in the area as well as the surrounding areas, to prevent it from going to landfill.

My day is Tuesdays. I assist when necessary by collecting the food. It is then packed into trays ready for delivery to the families. I have enjoyed meeting the residents on the doorstep. It has given me a good understating of how the organisations work.

The Alton food bank was over-subscribed for volunteers and could not accept the donation that I was offering though my DC grant. The trustees have advised that they will accept no further funding as the food bank has sufficient money to last for 12 months. Any offers that they receive, similar to mine, are re-directed to either the Alton Cupboard or Citizens Advice.

As I have said, it is a fantastic service. I am very pleased to be involved.

The Property Portfolio performance is outstanding, considering the current circumstances. We continue to deliver over 90% collection on rents with ongoing negotiations for any voids that we have. If you would like a more detailed report, please e-mail me direct.

29.25 Finance:

(a) Payments for approval

- Allison Spyer, Salary & costs £513.79
- HMRC, PAYE £16.20
- Jane Costigan, Christmas tree lights £40.00

All payments were proposed by JC and seconded by TC with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

(b) Anonymous doner, Christmas Tree £146.00

(c) Balance of Current Account

- Available funds in the Treasury Account **£8179**

(d) Grant Application

Citizens Advice Bureau for £150. VP proposed and JC seconded with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

(e) FAG Meeting

Deferred however AS to source second card and card reader for VP.

29.26 Village Appearance:

- **Play equipment / Swing on the Green** – It was agreed that the swing on the green is not the responsibility of the PC. AS & CK will look into some equipment for younger children baring in mind there is a play area in the school.
- **Flooding & Ditches** – Jason Giles is going to work on the ditches this week. MKG has advised he will take up the flooding issues with Highways. SIDS still ongoing with Ian Janes. TC will continue to monitor and chase where necessary. **TC/MKG**
- **Replacing Stiles with Gates** – Scheme being run by HCC, CK to forward the email. Won't cost the PC anything but relevant stiles will need to be identified and submitted. **CK**

29.27 Planning Committee Report:

29314/007, Oaklands, Station Road, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5QY

Re: Proposal: Variation of Condition 4 of permission 29314/006 to allow substitution of plan number T745/04A with plan number T745/04C to allow increase in the height of the garage roof.

No objection but concerns were raised due to height and future usage.

25539/014, Wadgetts Farm, Station Road, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5QY

Prior Notification - Agricultural barn for the storage of hay, straw and machinery.

No Objection

29.28 Councillors Report:

Environment: Nothing to report

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Traffic & Highways: Nothing to report

SpeedWatch: Nothing to report

Trees: Nothing to report

Young people and families: Nothing to report

Website: Previously discussed

Broadband: Nothing to report

Communications: Nothing to report

Village Green: Nothing to report

Other Reports:

Community Care: Group possibly getting additional jobs.

Neighbourhood watch: Usual scams to look out for such as banks phoning (they never will), Amazon Prime (don't divulge your safe drop off space), free insulation check (scam), covid vaccine at a cost (scam), BT account renewal (scam) plus new paypal unusual activity. Please stay vigilant.

School report: 103 pupils at school with approx. 25 in each day and all teachers on a rota for Covid testing. For more information please check the website. School would like to thank MKG and TC for a recent grant received. St Marys currently on clearing list due to flooding on Jenny Green Lane. TC will keep an eye on Highways list.

Meetings Attended:

None

29.29 Forthcoming Meetings:

29.30 AOB:

- PC would like to thank all local residents that litter pick while out on walks.
- AS to send dates of the meetings to the Villager
- Bikers at Ashley Farm report not followed up and no police update. AS to take up with Police liaison.
- New resident to the village would like to join the council, however rules stipulate he must be living in the area for one year. Has agreed to join in December 2021

AS

29.31 Date of next Meeting:

Tuesday 6 April 2021

Signed Date