BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Louisa Thomson
Email: clerk@bentworthparishcouncil.org

Neal Day - Chairman, Nikki White – Vice Chairman, Veronica Parker, Scott Neville, Simon Lane, Christian Browning and David Eyre-Brook

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 2nd April 2024

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Neal Day – Chair Nikki White – Vice Chair Scott Neville Simon Lane David Eyre-Brook Christian Browning	Louisa Thomson		Members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Members of the public raised the following points:

- New Copse – rainwater running down the road and taking loose stones etc on to the road, the ditches need clearing.
- Village Pond – ownership and responsibility for maintenance needs sorting out.
- Footpath – the footpath from the Church to Sun Hill, the surface is tarmac and needs clearing/cleaning.

23.183 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were received and accepted from Veronica Parker.

23.184 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
Signed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2024. **Proposed by Nikki White, Seconded by Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED Signed by Chairman Neal Day.**

23.185 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Members of the public address Council regarding agenda items as follows:

- Noticeboard quotations seem very high – Councillor Simon Lane explained the amount of work that was needed to repair the noticeboard and the cost of the materials needed.
- Drop in surgery – There was a reference to a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph, supports the cameras but not the speed limit reduction – Councillor Neal Day responded that there are currently no plans in place to reduce the speed limit but that is not to say it won't be considered in the future.
- Communications – can acknowledgments be received from website enquiries – Councillor Scott Neville updated, this is being worked on.
- Star Inn – can the Parish Council enquire of the owner what their plans for the property are.

23.186 PLANNING - Council considered three planning items, their comments forwarded to East Hampshire District Council.

i) 60325 Sunshine Cottage, Holt End Lane, Bentworth **NO OBJECTION**
Single storey rear extension and single storey side extension
Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Council has no objection to this application.

ii) 58766/001 Bentworth Hall West, Holt End Lane, Bentworth **NO OBJECTION**
Installation of a 4,000-litre underground LPG tank to provide (Bio) LPG energy for gas central heating
Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Council have no objection to this application.

iii) **NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT OF PLANNING APPEAL**
Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/M1710/W/23/3332870
Alton Radio Site, rear of 21 Abbey Road, Medstead
Application for permission in principle for residential development of a minimum of 3 dwellings and a maximum of 6 dwellings.

Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Councils previous comments stand.

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23.186 NOTICEBOARD REPAIRS

Proposed Christian Browning, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Martin V Simons for £2,960, 50% to be paid in advance. Councillor Simon Lane to liaise with the contractor.

23.189 SPEED CAMERA APPLICATION

- AutoSpeedWatch Cameras have been ordered, waiting for Hampshire Highways to install the posts for the cameras to be installed on.
- Council to review speeding information and decide what level to set the speed at on cameras.

23.190 LITTER PICK

Councillor Nikki White reported the litter pick had been very successful with a good turn out of fifteen people including some new faces. The litter pick had been communicated via the village WhatsApp group. The volunteers took the litter home for disposal.
Thanks to all who attended.

23.191 COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council to continue to monitor and review its methods of communication making more use of the website.

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so members of the public can address the Council.

- What about members of the public that receive paper copies of agendas
- Can Council report monthly on how many people visit the website
- Items are posted within 2 days on the website
- Need to have a push mechanism to inform villagers not just expect people to look at the website

Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

23.192 INTERNAL AUDIT 2023/2024

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to confirm the appointment of April Skies Accounting to carry out the Internal Audit for 2023/2024 costing £300 plus travel expenses from Farnham.

23.193 ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded David Eyre-Brook, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: To approve the following payments:

a)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's Salary March 2024	£ 504.60
b)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses March 2024	£ 267.64
c)	HMRC – January, February & March	£ 169.60
d)	DCK Payroll Solutions – Payroll monthly processing	£ 36.36
e)	Scott Neville – Domain renewal	£ 23.96
f)	AutoSpeedWatch – Cameras (Grant from EHDC)	£1,767.00

23.194 COUNCILLOR UPDATES

- Surgery – Simon Lane reported that the surgery had taken place on 16th March, three Councillors had attended and several members of the public.
  The next surgery will take place on 13th April, 9.30am – 11am, in the Green Room, Jubilee Hall.
- Highway review – Councillors will carry out a review, including potholes, in early May.
- Footpaths – Simon Lane will check footpath stiles and whether paths are clear of vegetation.
- Village Green – Simon Lane updated the green will be cut when it stops raining.

23.195 COMMUNITY UPDATES

Community Care – Have a full quota of drivers, eighteen and one floater. The Care Group organised Bingo and Tea on the 16th March with donated prizes and catering provided by the members.
Neighbourhood Watch - Nothing to report for Bentworth. Alton have cases of vandalism to cars in the evenings and overnight.

Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so a member of the public can speak.

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A member of the public reported that there had been possible break in's in Bentworth with a cable cut to a security light at one property and access gained to another property.

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

23.196 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID) / SPEEDWATCH - Report from David Maltby.

SID Report for Denyers 9 Mar to 24 Mar

Please note total number of vehicles, this is highest since we've been recording data.

	to Wellers	to Medstead	Total	
Vehicles recorded	12112	12308	24420	
31-35mph	4375	3892	8267	
36-40mph	1506	1120	2626	
41-45mph	294	250	544	
46-50mph	75	60	135	
51-60mph	20	18	38	
61-70mph	0	4	4	
>30mph	6270	5344	11614	(47.56%)
>35mph	1895	1452	3347	(13.71%)

Vehicles travelling at 60mph or higher:

Wed 13 Mar	05:36	60mph	towards Wellers
Thu 14 Mar	21:51	61mph	towards Medstead
Fri 15 Mar	00:36	62mph	towards Medstead
Fri 15 Mar	18:30	60mph	towards Medstead
Tue 19 Mar	13:09	64mph	towards Medstead
Thu 21 Mar	21:51	68mph	towards Medstead
Fri 22 Mar	18:24	60mph	towards Wellers

David

23.197 NEXT MEETING - confirm the date of the next scheduled Council meeting, Tuesday 7th May 2024.

23.198 CLOSE OF MEETING **–** The chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Signed……

Chair Bentworth Parish Council
7th May 2024