BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: 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 4th February 2025 at Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

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

25.001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Veronica Parker and Clerk Louisa Thomson.

25.002 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED
The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 3rd December 2024, copies previously circulated.
Proposed as a true record by Simon Lane, Seconded Nikki White and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED and signed by chairman Neal Day.

25.003 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- Several members of the public raised concerns that the quotations for the repairs to the pond are too high.
- Concerns were raised over the ownership of the pond, 'common land'.
- Concerns were also raised over the speed limit when signs are missing.

25.004 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
County Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee will attend meetings on request and will also respond to any questions or issues raised by email.

25.005 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
Apologies were received from District Councillor Tony Costigan who will address and items raised.

25.006 COUNCILLOR UPDATES AND ACTION LOG
- Planning – Indicative housing targets for Bentworth 2024-2042 are five annually, eighty five in total. This will be added to the agenda for the Planning Meeting being held on the 18th February to agree response to EHDC.
- Highways – Councillor David Eyre-Brook raised concerns about potholes.
- Bentworth Fete – Councillor Scott Neville attended the initial meeting and will act as Parish Council representative. The proposed date for the fete is 5th July 2025.
- Litter Picks – Councillor Nikki White will plan litter pick dates for 2025.
- Grounds Maintenance – Councillor Simon Lane is waiting for Alton Ramblers Paul Nash to identify footpaths in the parish that could be improved along with stiles / kissing gates. Councillor Lane has also contacted Hampshire County Council regarding Ash die back trees in the parish.

25.007 VILLAGE POND
Council will try to get working groups from the village to carry out some minor works, repairs and planting as the quotations are too high. A grant may be requested from District Councillor Tony Costigan to fund some of the costs.

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25.008 SPEED LIMIT
Request Hampshire County Council Highways review of the 40mph speed limit and repositioning of the speed limit signs to the parish boundary.

Proposed, Seconded and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so members of the public can address Council.

- The flooding at Trinity Hill is historically bad.
- The traffic volumes have increased.

Proposed, Seconded and UANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders.

Councillor Neal Day has created a draft document which he read out, a highways meeting will be held in the next couple of weeks to discuss the Parish needs and complete a document to be sent to Hampshire Highways requesting a meeting.

25.009 SPEED LIMIT REMINDER DEVICE

a) **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED:** to approve expenditure of up to £110 for the purchase of two new batteries for the SID.

b) Report from David Maltby

SID Report for Glebe between 29 Dec and 25 Jan (4 weeks).

	Total (both directions)
Vehicles Recorded	21,769
31-35mph	5,951
36-40mph	1,149
41-45mph	211
46-50mph	29
51-60mph	7
61-70mph	1
>30mph	7,348(33.75%)
>35mph	1,397(6.42%)

Over 60mph
Tuesday 31st December 61mph 19:06 towards Medstead

25.010 AUTOSPEEDWATCH CAMERAS

a) Update
- Few incidents captured by ASW due to poor light and charging.
- Police will follow Gloucester model who have taken the lead on ASW. They treat the data from ASW as intelligence reports.

b) **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to approve the proposed site for the third ASW camera and S176 license application to Hampshire Highways costing £176.

c) **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to approve expenditure for sun glare shields costing £7.95 each.

25.011 JUBILEE NOTICEBOARD
Councillor Nikki White confirmed the repairs will take place as soon as the weather improves.

25.012 ST MARY'S BENTWORTH C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL
The hedgehog house, bat boxes and bird boxes have been presented to the school.

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25.013 GRANT APPLICATION
Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to approve the grant application from Citizens Advice East Hampshire for £150.

25.014 COMMUNITY UPDATES
a) Community Care
- Thanked the Parish Council for organising a Christmas lunch for the elderly residents.
- The Care Group has 20 members and completed 16 trips in December and January.

b) Neighbourhood Watch – Neighbourhood Watch vacancy will be posted on the Parish Council website.

25.015 ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED: to approve the following payments.

a)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's Salary December 2024	Paid	£512.32
b)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses December 2024 (including Information Commissioner Subscription Renewal)	Paid	£ 45.00
c)	HM Revenue & Customs	Paid	£243.20
d)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's Salary January 2025		£512.32
e)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses January 2025 (ASW post & clips)		£212.46
f)	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd – Payroll processing December & January		£ 72.72
g)	N Day – Hedgehog and bird houses		£ 57.97
h)	Citizens Advice East Hampshire		£150.00
i)	Speed Indicator Device Batteries – Purchased by L Thomson		£105.98
j)	St Mary's Bentworth CE Primary School – Hall hire November & December		£ 60.00
k)	Hampshire County Council S176 licence		£176.00

25.016 NEXT MEETING
The next scheduled council meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.30pm, Public Question Time 7.15pm.
A Planning Meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th February 2025.

CLOSE OF MEETING – The Chair thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.43pm.

Signed……
Chair Bentworth Parish Council

1st April 2025