BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Neal Day - Chairman, Nikki White – Vice Chairman, Veronica Parker, Scott Neville and Tony Costigan

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 4th July 2023

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Neal Day - Chair Veronica Parker Scott Neville Nikki White	Louisa Thomson		Members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
There will be work carried out to the trees at the school entrance to make access easier. The Ash tree is diseased and needs felling, the Willow tree by the gas tank is also dying, the Oak tree needs branches removing. The works will take place on 28th July with, hopefully, no obstruction to the road.

23.075 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.
Apologies were received and accepted from Tony Costigan.

23.076 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
Signed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2023. **Proposed by Nikki White Seconded by Veronica Parker. UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED Signed by Chairman Neal Day.**

23.077 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Neighbours of Medstead Grange have no objections to the planning application.

Councillor Co-option
Council currently has three vacancies. **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Neal Day, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** that Simon Lane of 7 Glebe Fields, Bentworth is co-opted to join the council. Councillor Lane signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

23.078 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
District Councillor Tony Costigan's report was read by Neal Day.

In relation to tonight's agenda, I have received multiple comments from residents in relation to the £1k grant that the church has requested for maintenance. The observations that I have received from some residents are that the church grounds should be allowed to re-wild. The fact that the cutting and maintenance seems to be sporadic, through lack of volunteers, has given an opportunity for some wildflowers to grow and prosper. It was generally felt that, rather than spend the money on the maintenance, that the re-wilding be given an opportunity to mature.

As regards the Star Inn, I have had a meeting with the new owners (mother and daughter). It seems to me that there is absolutely no possibility of the Star continuing as a pub. Local consultants have been engaged; the PC should expect a planning application in the not-too-distant future for a change of use as the owners want to make it their home. It is obvious to all that the re-furbishing work has started. It is a huge task so let's see what the planning application brings.

23.079 COUNCIL REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES
Disciplinary and Grievance Policy, to be dealt with at a future meeting.

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23.080 PLANNING

Councillors considered one planning application, their comments to be forwarded East Hampshire District Council.

33564/011 Medstead Grange Farm, Trinity Hill, Medstead **NO OBJECTION**
Alterations to the indoor equestrian arena to include timber cladding added to the South elevation, insertion of windows on West elevation, and extension added on East elevation.

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Council have on objection to this application.

23.081 GRANT APPLICATION

Request from St Mary's Church for grant funding towards the churchyard maintenance of an initial £1,000 and £500 per annum thereafter.
This item is deferred to a future meeting due to the large sum requested to allow council time to review it's current budget.

23.082 VILLAGE GREEN GRASS CUTTING

Update from Simon Lane, generally received a good response to a good job being done.

23.083 BANK MANDATE

Update – the clerk has all the councillor information but is having difficulty adding to the mandate online.

23.084 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Update – Scott Neville and Nikki White are booked to carry out The Knowledge and Core Skills training and Veronica Parker and Nikki White are booked to carry out the Finance for Councillors training.

23.085 ANNUAL RETURN 2022/2023

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Councillors have no conflict of interest with BDO LLP.

23.086 ACCOUNTS 2022/2023

I) Summary of Receipts and Payments for the 1st Quarter Ended 30th June 2023 were Presented to Council as follows:

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD on 01/04/23	£17,712.17
ADD Total Receipts	£ 6,846.37
LESS Total payments	£ 3,564.76
Balance Carried forward 30/06/23	£20,993.78
These cumulative funds are represented by:	
Current Account Balance	£ 9,934.94
BB Inst Account Balance (Neighbourhood CIL)	£11,058.84
	£20,993.78

II) **Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** To approve the following payment:

a)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk Salary June 2023	£476.73
b)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses June 2023	£ 6.21
c)	HM Revenue & Customes – PAYE April, May & June	£149.80
d)	St Mary's School – Coronation celebration hire	£ 48.00
e)	Toolbox Digital Services – website changes	£222.00
f)	Neal Day – Chairman's allowance	£ 40.00
g)	DCK Payroll Solutions – Payroll set up fee and monthly processing	£ 57.36
h)	SJ Lane – village green grass cutting	£ 80.00
i)	SJ Lane – village green grass cutting (paid as approved at May meeting)	£120.00

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23.087 **Community Updates**
Community Care – 8 trips were made last month. One member is stepping down so they will need a new helper next year. EHDC Community Grant for Christmas lunch. Summer tea party on 29th July funded and hosted by the care group.

23.088 **Speed Indicator Device (SID) / SpeedWatch**

Report from David Maltby.
SID Report for 18 June to 2 July at Denyers

Vehicles Recorded 14,644

31-35mph	5,897
36-40mph	1,777
41-45mph	391
46-50mph	73
51-60mph	18
61-70mph	1
71-80mph	0

So,
Exceeding 30mph 8,157 or 55.70% of recorded vehicles
Exceeding 35mph 2,260 or 15.43% of recorded vehicles

I have also attached a couple of charts of those exceeding 40mph in each direction for the period 18 June to 2nd July(all those below 40mph have been filtered out).
This shows 177 vehicles exceeding 40mph towards Medstead over the two week period, and 256 vehicles towards Wellers over the same period.
regards
David

23.089 **Next Meeting** - confirm the date of the next scheduled Council meeting, Tuesday 5th September 2023.

23.090 **Close of meeting –** The chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting.

Signed……
Chair Bentworth Parish Council

1st August 2023