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 5th November 2024 at Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Neal Day Nikki White Scott Neville Simon Lane Veronica Parker David Eyre-Brook	Louisa Thomson		Members of the public

24.072 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED
The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 1st October 2024, copies previously circulated.
Proposed as a true record by Simon Lane, Seconded Nikki White and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED and signed by chairman Neal Day.

24.073 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- Jubilee Noticeboard was raised – why do the Parish Council want a further independent report when one has been provided. Council responded that the report provided was informal and the Council would ask the provider if they were willing to formalise the report or the Council will need to source a report elsewhere.
- Council expenditure was raised, the amount spent on the Councils administration and what this is for.

24.074 JUBILEE NOTICEBOARD
Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to request an official condition report and fine out if there would be any costs involved.

24.075 AUTOSPEEDWATCH CAMERAS
a) Update from Councillor Scott Neville –
- The camera on Station Road has been knocked by the hedge cutter and needs realigning.
- The camera at Holt End Lane has stopped working and needs investigation.
- 63 vehicles were recorded over 45mph at Holt End Lane.
- 17 vehicles were recorded over 45mph at Station Road up to 16th October.
- EHDC ASW Group recommend higher post and yellow strips on the cameras to make them more visible.

b) There are three possible locations for the third ASW camera, the locations are to be reviewed.

c) **Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to approve the letter to be sent to commercial vehicles speeding through the village.

24.076 ST MARY'S BENTWORTH C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL
Following the letters received from the school children the council will find costs to provide two Hedgehog houses, two bat boxes and two bird boxes. Costs will be on the December agenda.

24.077 CHRISTMAS TREE
a) **Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to approve the purchase of a Christmas tree for the Village Green up to £250.
b) **Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED:** to approve the purchase of tree lights, batteries and charger up to £150.
c) The Christmas Tree will be erected on the 7th December and decorated on Sunday 8th December at 11am, mince pies and mulled wine will be available.

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24.078 EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTICT COUNCIL LICENSING POLICY REVIEW
Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED: Council have no feedback.

24.079 ALTON RAMBLERS FOOTPATH CLEARNANCE TEAM
Simon lane has spoken with the Secretary and gave the following update:

- From the 2nd week in December the ramblers will no longer be doing any repairs or clearance work
- They currently cover twenty parishes with a ranger per parish.
- The team are meeting with parish officials to discuss their footpath requirements.
- Clearing the vegetation has little reward and they will be using the volunteer manpower to look after structures such as styles and kissing gates.
- The Ramblers will work with parishes to submit grant applications for new gates etc and will supply the labour for installation.

24.080 ASSET REVIEW

- Neal Day updated following the recently carried out review.
- Clerk to check with HALC regarding the ownership of styles/kissing gates funded by the Parish Council.
- Clerk to find out who owns the memorial in the churchyard.

24.081 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2025/2026
Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: having reviewed the budget Council resolved to set the precept for 2025/2026 at £14,560.

24.082 PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
The third issue will be hand delivered by Councillors in December.

24.083 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – Report from David Maltby

SID Report for Wellers between 19 Oct and 3 Nov.

	Total (both directions)
Vehicles Recorded	20,405
31-35mph	5,916
36-40mph	1,609
41-45mph	314
46-50mph	55
51-60mph	13
61-70mph	3
>30mph	7,910 (38.77%)
>35mph	1,994 (9.77%)

60mph or higher
First 2 were recorded when SID was at the Glebe 5-19 Oct.
Wednesday 9th Oct 60mph at 19:08 towards Medstead
Sunday 13th Oct **76mph** at 22:33 towards Medstead

Following recorded with SID at Wellers as above.
Sunday 20th Oct **70mph** at 22:18 towards Medstead
Monday 21st Oct 61mph at 17:51 towards A339
Saturday 2nd Nov **69mph** at 19:23 towards Medstead

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24.084 COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) Community Care – last month was busier with flu and Covid vaccination trips.
b) Neighbourhood Watch – there has been an attempted break in on Burkham Lane.

Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED: to suspend Standing Orders so a member of the public can speak.

A member of the public asked the council if they will be providing a wreath for the Remembrance service.

The council confirmed that they would.

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOULSY RESOVLED: to reinstate Standing Orders.

24.085 ACCOUNTS 2024/2025

Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded David Eyre-Brook, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: the following payments are approved and bank authorisation will be carried out by Councillor Neal Day.

a)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk Salary October 2024	£493.80
b)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses October 2024	£ 29.98
c)	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd – Payroll processing October 2024	£ 36.36
d)	Toolbox – Website upgrade	£ 80.00
e)	SJL Contracting – Village Green grass cutting	£160.00
f)	St Mary's Bentworth C.E. Primary School – Council meetings & surgeries	£330.00
g)	N White – Litter pickers, Christmas tree lights, battery and charger	£134.44
h)	N Day – Stain for use on the benches on the green	£ 25.75

24.086 CLERK'S SALARY

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has agreed rates of pay applicable from 1st April 2024. The Clerk's contract states pay scale of SCP 20, this has increased by 62p per hour, this increase will be backdated to 1st April 2024. NOTED.

24.071 NEXT MEETING

a) Council will provide mulled wine and mince pies after the December Parish Council meeting.
b) The next scheduled council meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at 7.30pm, Public Question Time 7.15pm.

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

Signed……
Chair Bentworth Parish Council

3rd December 2024