BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Louisa Thomson
Email: clerk@bentworthparishcouncil.org

Neal Day - Chairman, Scott Neville, Simon Lane, Christian Browning, David Eyre-Brook and Sheena Robertson

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 7 April 2026 at Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

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

26.034 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Apologies received Councillor Sheena Robertson, County Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee and District Cllr Tony Costigan.

26.035 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED
The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 3rd March 2026 **Proposed as a true record by Simon Lane, Seconded Christian Browning, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED and signed by chairman Neal Day.**

26.036 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Members of the public spoke on agenda items as follows:

- Planning item EHDC-26-0264-LDCE Land to the west of Lindsay Cottage.
  No objection to the land being used for playing games but concerned the application states the land has been used for 12 years and can now apply for change of use to residential garden, dispute the area has been used for that length of time and believe it has only been used for the last couple of years. If owners change it to a garden rather than a play area this will change the neighbour's view. The hedge between the garden and the field has been removed by the previous owners since 2018.
  There is a covenant on part of the land stating the land can't be used for anything other than agriculture purposes.

- Glebe Fields Parking – Concerns that the contractors from the new housing development are parking in Glebe Field car park which is already difficult to park in for residents.

  Councillor Simon Lane updated that he has been in touch with the developers head office and they will inform all contractors and employees to make sure they park on site or on Station Road and make sure there is no obstruction to Glebe Fields.

26.037 COUNCILLOR UPDATES AND ACTION LOG UPDATE

Christian Browning – Starting the pond refurbishment on Sunday 12th April.
Simon Lane – Broken kissing gates and footpath signs and footpath obstructions have been reported to HCC.
David Eyre-Brook – There were signs indicating some road repairs in Bentworth but there was nothing indicating this on the Hampshire County Council website.

26.038 PLANNING – Council to consider two planning applications, their comments to be forwarded to EHDC.

a) EHDC-26-0264-LDCE Land To The West Of Lindsay Cottage Church Street, Bentworth
LDCE for use of agricultural land for residential garden

Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Christian Browning, RESOLVED (Simon Lane objected):
Bentworth Parish Council can not support this application as they believe the information is incorrect. The application states the land has been used for recreational purposes since 2014. Bentworth Parish Council raised the matter of the newly constructed cricket wicket with EHDC Planning Compliance in January 2024 and believe any use of the land prior to this was for storage only and as such this does not meet the requirements of ten years of use. Bentworth Parish Council also believe there is a covenant on part of the land in question restricting it to agricultural use.

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b) EHDC-26-0277-HSE — Ivall's Farm Village Street, Bentworth
Internal and external alterations to existing house. Conversion of existing outbuilding to annexe.

Proposed Neal Day, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: Bentworth Parish Council request the Listed Building Heritage team look at and decide on this application as they do not feel qualified to decide on an application involving a listed building.

26.039 GLEBE FIELD CAR PARKING – Update as per Public Participation

26.040 WEBSITE DOMAIN RENEWAL - **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to approve website domain, bentworthparishcouncil.org, renewal £19.82 plus VAT.

26.41 AUTOSPEEDWATCH - Scott Neville updated - the conspicuously strips have been added to two of the cameras. The applications to DVLA have been returned and asked to use a different form.

26.042 SPEED LIMIT REMINDER SIGN – Report from David Maltby

SID Report for Wellers between 3 to 29 March

	Total (both directions)
Vehicles Recorded	22,453
31-35mph	7,492
36-40mph	1,740
41-45mph	316
46-50mph	50
51-60mph	12
61-70mph	0
>30mph	9,610(42.80%)
>35mph	2,118(9.43%)

26.043 COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) Community Care - Very quiet month, only three trips undertaken. Still short of three volunteers. The annual bingo party took place last Saturday and was very well received.

c) Neighbourhood Watch - There was a burglary in the neighbourhood but no details of where. Nothing further to report.

26.044 PRACTITIONERS GUIDE

a) Website upgrade underway.

b) **Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:** to adopt the IT Policy.

26.045 ACCOUNTS 2025/2026 - **Proposed Simon Lane, Seconded David Eyre-Brook, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve the following payments which will be authorised by Councillor Neal Day.

a)	Mrs L Thomson – Clerk's Salary March 2026	£519.73
b)	Mrs L Thomson – Clerk's Expenses March 2026	£ 30.63
c)	HM Revenue and Customs – January, February & March	£324.65
d)	St Mary's Benworth CE Primary School – Hall Hire	£ 60.00
e)	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd – Monthly & Year End Payroll processing	£ 76.56
f)	Mr C Browning – Village Pond materials	£ 77.00
g)	Mr R Neville – Domain renewal (£19.82 + VAT = £23.96 less £10 DVLA)	£ 13.96

26.046 NEXT MEETING DATE - The next Parish Council meeting will be held Tuesday 5th May 2026, 7.30pm.

CLOSE OF MEETING – The Chair thanked all present and closed the meeting at 7.42pm.

Signed……
Chair Bentworth Parish Council
5th May 2026