BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Neal Day - Chairman, Nikki White – Vice Chairman, Veronica Parker, Scott Neville and Simon Lane

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 7th November 2023

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

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

ST MARY'S SCHOOL
The head teacher and chair of governors of St Marys School informed the council that they had successfully applied for Community Infrastructure Levy funding and as a result are looking at 'Landscape Strategy', pupils are very aware of the environment and the world around them. The school have circulated a community questionnaire and have received nineteen responses, they would like to thank everyone for taking the time to complete the questionnaire.
The school have also applied for other grant funding. Some of the projects the school are considering are; improved access to the community areas when the school isn't in use; improved parking; to mend the leaking pond; more allotments for the children who love growing things.

The school are also seeking advice from East Hampshire District Council regarding the two Yew trees in front of the small playground, the trees have a lot of berries and the possibility of the children eating them is a concern. This area of the school is in the conservation area and should the trees need to be removed the school would ensure they are replaced.

The school are keen to make sure the whole community works together.

A strategy booklet will hopefully be available in January.

23.121 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
Signed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2023. **Proposed by Scott Neville, Seconded by Veronica Parker. UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED Signed by Chairman Neal Day.**

23.122 DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Nikki White declared an interest in the planning application for The Park Lodge.

23.123 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PLANNING APPLICATION 34940/009 – THE PARK LODGE, HOLD END LANE
The Company Secretary of Bentworth Hall Residents Association Ltd (BHRA) read a statement detailing the Associations objections to the application. The BHRA's objections have been lodged with East Hampshire District Council and the details can be viewed on the EHDC website.

COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION
Council currently has three vacancies. Mr David Eyre-Brook and Mr Christian Browning introduced themselves to the meeting.

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Simon Lane, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that David Eyre-Brook of 1 Well Cottage, Well Lane, Bentworth is co-opted to join the council.

Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Christian Browning of Paddock Bend, Holt End Lane, Bentworth is co-opted to join the council.

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Nikki White took no part in the discussion or decision of the next item.

23.124 PLANNING

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

34940/009 The Park Lodge, Holt End Lane, Bentworth **OBJECT**
Extension to existing equine barn to provide a two bed holiday flat with new driveway and construction of an outdoor arena.

Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Simon Lane, RESOLVED BY MAJORITY:
Bentworth Parish Council object to this application in its present form, as a separate entity not annexed to the house, outside the Settlement Policy Boundary.
Council also find the planning layout strange, having to walk past the commercial stables to access the holiday let with no visible signs of lighting.
Council also feel the parking area is excessive for a two bedroom holiday let.

23.125 GRANT APPLICATION

Grant application from St Mary's Church towards the churchyard maintenance of an initial £1000 and £500 per annum thereafter.
Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to grant up to £500 from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) towards the current maintenance. A new grant application will need to be submitted each year for any ongoing maintenance.

23.126 CLIMATE AND ECOLOGY BILL

Zero Hour are seeking Bentworth Parish Council support for the Climate and Ecology Bill which is due for it's second reading on 24th November.

Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders so members of the public can address council.

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

Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Simon Lane, RESOLVED by majority vote: not to support the bill.

23.127 LITTER PICK

Nikki White report that the litter pick took place on 21st October, there were 11 helpers and 11 bags of rubbish collected which were disposed of by the villagers in their wheelie bins. The volunteers litter picked the churchyard, school playing field and verges. Council thanked everyone for their help.

23.128 SPEED CAMERA APPLICATION

Update from Scott Neville
Hampshire County Council have completed the guidance for the Section 176 license application, further information about the proposed sites has been sent to HCC. The license will cost approximately £180.
Proposed Scott Neville, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to approve expenditure up to £200 for the license.

23.129 PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council Newsletter will be distributed at the beginning of December.
Proposed Nikki White, Seconded Veronica Parker, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: approve printing expenditure up to £50.

23.130 BUDGET / PRECEPT 2024-2025

Council reviewed the proposed budget for year commencing 1st April 2024 totalling £14,414.
Proposed Veronica Parker, Seconded Scott Neville, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to set the Precept at £14,000.

23.131 ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

Proposed Scott Nevillie, Seconded Nikki White, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: To approve the following payment:

a)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk Salary October 2023	£476.73
b)	Louisa Thomson – Clerk's expenses October 2023	£ 50.18
c)	DCK Payroll Solutions – Payroll monthly processing	£ 36.36
d)	SJ Lane – village green grass cutting	£ 80.00
e)	Hampshire Association of Local Councils – Councillor Finance training	£108.00

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23.132 **Councillor Updates**

i) Planning Compliance
The parish council has raised several planning compliance issues with East Hampshire District Council but hasn't received a response, Clerk to chase up with EHDC.

ii) Glebe Fields
The area of grass at Glebe Fields which is owned by East Hampshire District Council wasn't cut when all the other grass around the village was cut recently, Scott Neville is chasing this with EHDC to ensure it's on their cutting list for next year.

iii) Asset Review
Simon Lane updated that only one quotation has been received so far for the noticeboard repairs.

Community Updates
Community Care – Undertook 16 trips last month and have two new members.
They are part of the Annual Good Neighbours Network and in 2022 – 2023 the community care group carried out the following trips; 97 medical; 6 shopping; 5 prescription; 1 hairdresser and 2 vets.

Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing to report.

23.133 **Speed Indicator Device (SID) / SpeedWatch**
Report from David Maltby.
SID Report for 22 October to 5 November at Denyers

Vehicles Recorded 21,804

31-35mph	7,515
36-40mph	2,314
41-45mph	518
46-50mph	111
51-60mph	27
61-70mph	1
71-80mph	0

So,
Exceeding 30mph 10,486 or 48.09% of recorded vehicles
Exceeding 35mph 2,971 or 13.63% of recorded vehicles

We had 3 vehicles exceeding 60mph in this period:
1 travelling towards Medstead on Thursday 26th October at 21:36 at 60mph. And 2 travelling towards A339 on Thursday 2nd November at 22:01 at 64mph and Friday 3rd November at 21:10 at 60mph.

Year to date:
Exceeding 35mph 43,555

regards
David

The Parish Council thanked David for all his work.

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

23.135 **Close of meeting –** The chairman thanked all present and closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Signed……

Chair Bentworth Parish Council
5th December 2023