

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr David Hawes

Clerk: Allison Spyer

14 Barley View, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG25 2ST
Tel: 07786 063570 Email: clerk.bentworth@parish.hants.gov.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING

5th June 2013, 7.30pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

**ACTION
FOR**

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
David Hawes Veronica Parker Chris Hurley Jenny Lewis Philip Guest Tony Costigan	Allison Spyer		8 Members of public in attendance

19.08 Apologies for absence:

Jean Cornelius, PC Peter Kelly

19.09 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

19.10 PC Peter Kelly, update:

PC Kelly was unable to attend the meeting but sent in the following report:
Good news, No Major incidents/Crimes reported in village in last month. We have arrested a number of suspects for burglaries on the district from London and Kent. This is an on-going operation and further arrests are expected. We have received the traffic calming equipment speed signs for the district SpeedWatch, however we are showing just two vetted members for Bentworth and a minimum of three persons are required to take part in being at the roadside I will contact Mr Hurley with an update. I have been out myself and "sat up" in the village and stopped a number of drivers for speeding and intend to continue this when I have the opportunity.

19.11 Meeting open to the public:

No members of the public wished to speak

19.12 Minutes of the May Meeting:

Minutes were approved proposed by PG and seconded by TC and signed by DH

19.13 Matters arising. Actions from previous meetings:

- AS to seek permission from HCC for the PC to make improvements to The Lords Waste – On-going
- AS find arboriculturist to offer costing to survey all large trees in the village – On-going, arboriculturist found just waiting for quote
- PG to organise Communications review – On-going
- PG to organise Housing review – On-going
- PC to hold a public meeting in October regarding Blues Festival – On-going
- Insurance, AS to get specific costing for Bentworths assets – Have received a more current asset register from Came and Co.
- AS to ask HALC what the latest standard is for complaints procedure. Have done so and forwarded it on to DH; however I have since been told this is under review by HALC & NALC and the latest version will be available later in the year.
- Unofficial layby, AS to look for grant funding – On-going, unable to apply for funding until written permission from HCC has been obtained.
- AS to put in a notice of intent to raise the crown of the Oak tree on the green – this has been done

19.14 Council Co-option:

Paul Mellish was co-opted onto the Council. TC proposed and JL seconded, there was a unanimous agreement from rest of council. PM signed declaration of acceptance of office.

19.15 Roundabouts Installation:

The installation of mini roundabouts at High street / Drury Lane and Sunhill locations, were discussed at length with arguments for and against. It was finally agreed to put the issue on hold for a while, at least until SpeedWatch has been up and running for three months. If no effect is felt from the SW campaign then

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methods of traffic calming will be reviewed. DH said that the root cause should be looked at with, if possible, the police and the Highways Authority.

19.16 Footpath Installation:

CH reported that in conjunction with new head mistress they have discussed installing a new footpath on the left hand side as you are walking down the hill for the children to walk on safely. While everyone agreed something had to be done to make the area safer it was put forward that other ideas be tried first. The issue of safety arises because of inconsiderate drivers almost exclusively on the school run. Suggestions to tackle this include volunteers in yellow coats helping in the morning, naming and shaming regular offenders and asking PC Peter Kelly to attend in the morning. Cllrs TC and PM will liaise with the school to see what ideas could be implemented. CH to check if new footpath would require street lighting.

TC, PM
& CH

19.17 Parish Laptop:

The PC discussed buying a Parish Laptop for the Clerk to use. All the Parish soft copies are stored on one memory key and this was deemed unsuitable. Cllr PG has been investigating buying one and presented his findings to the Council. His costing includes the laptop, software packages, external storage and security and came to an approximate cost of £709.00 including VAT (which can be reclaimed).

PG

JL suggested she might be able to obtain some of the software packages which would reduce the cost PG put forward buying a laptop in principle with a maximum budget of £750.

TC proposed the motion and JL seconded and there was a unanimous agreement from rest of council.

19.18 Village of the Year Comp:

AS presented the Council with the Village of the Year application. JL and VP agreed to form a subcommittee to put together an application with help from AS.

VP, JL
& AS

19.19 Finance:

19.20 Audit, approval:

Audit was signed by the Chair and Clerk and minuted.

It was advised that Bentworths asset register needed updating CH to speak with Ron Burnett to find out ownership of the War memorial.

CH

19.21 Payments for approval

- Allison Spyer, Salary £432.00
- Allison Spyer, Expenses, mileage £22.40
- St Marys Primary School, Hall Hire £133.50
- Came & Company, additional insurance £25.00

Proposer for payments PM, seconder CH unanimous agreement from rest of the Council.

Payments made since last meeting

- Came and Company, Parish Insurance £404.36

DH proposed and JL seconded unanimous agreement from rest of the Council.

19.22 Receipts

- No current receipts

19.23 FAG update:

FAG met primarily to look at the accounts audited by the Internal Auditor before the Council signs them off at the meeting. AS confirmed the bus stop is now included in asset register. AS also requested monthly bank statements rather than quarterly which the group agreed to.

VP confirmed the participatory budgeting leaflet went into The Villager and will be on the website shortly. VP to follow up with SpeedWatch as there are currently only two vetted volunteers.

VP

FAG confirmed receipt of the amended invoice from school, however are still waiting for the invoice for coming year.

VP stated that she has been investigating the costs of installing a loop system in the hall. The cost for a portable loop is approximately. £2000.00 however she was unsure if the school is going to put one in during phase two of the hall updates. Maria Fordyce, (school governor in attendance at the meeting) stated that a fixed loop will not be installed as it was not in the budget and not feasible in the structure of the building.

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Paul Mellish agreed to go on FAG.

19.24 Planning Committee Report:

No planning applications have been received recently however the Committee reported that previously meetings have been held on a fixed day at the end of the month The new idea suggested is to wait for an application and organise a meeting shortly after. Next planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 25th June.

PG confirmed that with regard to the Joint core strategy, our only time to comment once the report is released is between the end of July and September but there is no PC meeting in August. The Planning Committee agreed to deal with JCS document and report back to the full committee at the September meeting. In the meantime VP and AS to write a letter of complaint regarding the timing of the document release. VP proposed the motion and JL seconded, unanimous agreement from the rest of the Council. AS to write to Patrick Burrige inviting him to attend the July meeting to discuss and advise re JCS.

PLAN/
VP &
AS

19.25 Councillors Report:

BCA: Has decided to dissolve. Money left in pot £800.00 which they suggested donating to the jubilee hall fund. Going to write to PC advising of the dissolution formally and the PC will discuss what to do with the remaining funds at a later date.

Environment & Footpaths: JL reported that some styles are going to be repaired in a week or two. The Jubilee Oak Tree is thriving. Currently no joy with Jenny Green Lane flooding, going to see what happens when it's all dried out.

Health & Safety:

Open Spaces:

Pond: JL advised she was going to attend a meeting about the pond later in the week

Traffic & Highways: CH has met with Derek Rawle and they are winning the war on potholes as many are being done. Next he would like to improve drainage. Confirmed that Well Lane was being repaired today, and the relaying of Well Lane is in the system and will be done at some point. CH & AS met with Richard Peach re unofficial layby (Hampshire Highways Engineer). He has no objections to the works but needs to clarify ownership. They have offered to quote for the job as well. AS has highlighted a specific grant that could cover half the cost if given the go ahead.

Trees: Aboroculturist has been found and we are now waiting for a quote

Young people and families:

Broadband: Not much to report but if you was to google broadband self-help it would take you to the article PG wrote for the website and the Villager. The Council congratulated PG on his efforts.

19.26 Other Reports:

Community Care

Neighbourhood watch.

St Marys School: Jean Cornelius sent her apologies however Maria Fordyce was in attendance and reported that phase two of the build would be running from July to October. The Community and the School will have full access to the hall for the Fete on the 6th July. Two long serving teachers have decided to reduce their hours from the 1st September so the School are currently recruiting two new teachers.

19.27 Any Other Business:

Agenda point for next meeting include, standing orders review, BCA Dissolution, Patrick Burrige Joint Core Strategy, planning terms of reference and a vote on participatory budgeting.

PG to write an article for the villager and the website explaining the Joint Core Strategy.

PG

NG raised the issue of the council's lack of communication, the main complaint revisiting issues that have already been discussed and decided upon. He would like to see controversial issues such as roundabouts to be highlighted clearly in The Villager and on the website. PG informed the council that the Communications review was underway. The Council felt that anyone with strong opinions regarding the running of the village was more than welcome to attend the meetings and voice their feelings.

19.28 Meetings Attended: None

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19.29 Forthcoming Meetings: None

19.30 Date of next Meeting:
Tuesday 2nd July

19.31 The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.29

Signed Date