

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

3rd September 2013, 7.30pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
David Hawes Veronica Parker Chris Hurley Jenny Lewis Philip Guest Tony Costigan Paul Mellish	Allison Spyer		17 Members of the public

**ACTION
FOR**

19.55 Apologies for absence:

PC Peter Kelly

19.56 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

19.57 PC Peter Kelly, update:

PK was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report. 'Not much to report for Bentworth. The Blues festival went off without any problems. The SpeedWatch scheme is going well and appreciated by the Villagers'.

19.58 Meeting open to the public:

Jean Cornelius asked about moving the Bentworth sign back to its original position, CH responded that funding will not currently cover moving signs.
Valarie James requested that something be done about the state of the pond. Cllr Jenny Lewis promised to address the pond later in the meeting.

19.59 Minutes of the July Meeting:

The minutes were approved, proposed by DH and seconded by VP. Unanimously agreed by the rest of the Parish Council.

19.60 Matters arising. Actions from previous meetings:

- AS to find & appoint arboriculturalist to survey all large trees – The survey has been completed and all trees are in good condition.
- PG to organise Communications review – To be discussed under documentation review.
- PG to organise Housing review – To be discussed under documentation review.
- PG to review planning terms of reference – Completed (to be discussed under Planning report)
- PC to hold a public meeting in October regarding Blues Festival – On-going
- Unofficial layby, AS to look for grant funding – On-going. HCC have stated they are receptive to the idea of part funding the work. AS will speak with MKG to discuss further once the PC have agreed which quote to go with. Sketch of proposed layby received from HCC.
- TC & PM to liaise with school re: Speeding. – TC and PM saw headmistress re the parking situation in the morning and afternoon and to discuss the footpath (to which there was no conclusion). Jo Ayres will ask teachers to park out the front creating more parking at the back for parents. She would also like to see part of the field turned into a car park, cost, ownership of the land would need to be looked at. TC and PM asked JA if monitors could be used, this however is not in her budget. TC & PM to pursue the idea of using teachers as marshals.
- PG to buy parish laptop. – Laptop received needs to be configured.
- Speedwatch vetting volunteers. – On-going
- VP & JL to form sub-committee to put together an application for VOY. – Completed
- PG to write an article for the Villager and the website explaining the JCS – Completed
- Parish Council to review website – On-going.
- BCA Dissolution, NB to be asked what they want to do with the remaining money. – Completed (to be discussed under item 19.65)

TC/PM

PG

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19.61 Joint Core Strategy:

PG outlined the JCS and the modifications to it after he and Cllrs TC and VP had reviewed all 300+ pages. He explained that the major concern for BPC would be if Petersfield were allocated housing towards the lower end of their allotted range (400-700). Any shortfall may have to be made up by the 20 or so Villages to the North of the South Downs National Park, potentially pushing Bentworths possible housing allocation of 8 to 24. He requested the opinion of the Parish Council as to whether or not we do nothing or make a pre-emptive objection

PG/AS

It was agreed to solicit the opinion of other the other parish councils regarding the proposed modifications and to submit our objections to the potential increase of above 150 homes collectively with councils that agree or individually if responses have not been received.

VP proposed the motion, TC seconded with unanimous agreement from rest of council. The parish council expressed their thanks to PG for all his work regarding this.

19.62 Oak Tree on Green:

It was agreed to ask Dom Brooking to carry out the works on the Oak Tree on the Green.

AS

Motion was proposed by VP and seconded by JL with a unanimous agreement from rest of council. AS to pass onto DG the tree survey report.

19.63 Village Green: Pillory

It was put to the Parish Council that if it were to stay on the Village Green the Pillory would need planning permission. AS to find out if this is correct and report back at the next meeting when a decision will be taken as to its future.

AS

19.64 Blues Festival:

After discussion the date of 21st Oct was set for the public meeting. It was agreed that AS would submit copy informing locals for the Villager (approved by the PC) and publicise a formal notice (also agreed by PC). PG proposed the motion, second by DH with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council.

AS

19.65 BCA Dissolution:

This topic is currently on hold while further discussions are undertaken. AS to put it on a future agenda.

19.66 Documentation Review:

PG suggested setting up a documentation working party to review PC docs over the coming months. This was deemed a good idea and PG, DH & VP volunteered.

PG/DH/VP

19.67 SpeedWatch Update:

CH reported that SpeedWatch have been out four times now and caught 8 drivers so far. This proportion represent 10-15% of drivers are speeding.

The Parish Council would like to express their thanks official to all the Cllrs involved and the volunteers.

PG proposed the motion TC seconded and rest of council were in unanimous agreement.

19.68 Finance:

Payments for approval

- Allison Spyer, Salary £450.00
- Allison Spyer, Expenses, mileage £33.60
- Allison Spyer, Expenses, phone calls £14.16
- Digital Green Solutions, Tree Survey £540.00
- Medstead Village Hall, Hire of £16.00

Payments previously made for approval

- Allison Spyer, Salary (August) £360.00
- Terry Marsh, Internal Auditor £200.00

PM proposed payments JL seconded and the rest of the Council were in unanimous agreement.

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Receipts

- No current receipts

19.69 FAG update:

VP reported that Participatory budgeting had received 6-7 ideas, they included:

- Reinstate path between lords waste
- Interactive village noticeboard
- Traffic calming
- Fill in pond
- Cleaning path from cricket pitch and tidy up path to Glebe Fields
- Gateposts and flower pots at the entrances to the village.

VP/AS

Not all ideas had been costed so after investigation reinstating the path along the Lords Waste was ruled out as it would cost £2300.00 The Interactive Noticeboard is potentially being done with a Website overhaul. Traffic calming is being addressed with Speedwatch and filling in the pond would also cost more than £500.00. This left Cleaning path from cricket pitch and tidying up the path to Glebe Fields or gateposts and flower pots at the entrances to the village. It was agreed for VP to design a voting slip for the Villager and the results announced at next month's meeting.

JL proposed, CH seconded with unanimous agreement from rest of council.

VP also reported that Tony Brooking mows the green at the pond and would probably like to stop. VP suggested that the PC may like to buy its own mower and potentially hire a lengthsman to mow the PC land. AS reported she is currently asking EHDC for a grant to cover the cost of grass cutting throughout the parish.

19.70 Planning Committee Report:

TC reported that two applications have recently been reviewed:

Stable Cottage, Bentworth Hall, Holt End Lane, Bentworth GU34 5LA

Single storey annexe with indoor swimming pool after removal of existing annexe.

Objection due to size relating to surrounding buildings, and that it is a dwelling rather than an annexe which is outside the settlement policy boundary and does not meet the exception criteria.

Ivy Cottage, Holt End Lane, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5JU

Fell one dead conifer and remove 16 Silver Birches.

No Objection

PG reported that the Planning terms of reference have been agreed. The major changes were for the planning committee to take on tree and licensing applications.

Motion to approve circulated terms of reference proposed by TC, seconded by JL with unanimous agreement from the rest of the Council.

The Planning Committee also agreed a new temporary signage ruling to be applied to PC land. The ruling is as follows.

No posting of temporary signs should be allowed under any circumstances unless written permission has been given by the Parish Council. The Clerk shall have authority to approve temporary signs provided that they are for non-commercial, non-profit organisations (for example the school, the fete or the Mummings) and provided that they will be in place for no more than two weeks. Requests not meeting these guidelines should be made in writing to the Council addressed to the Clerk. Such requests will be considered at the next Planning Committee or Parish Council meeting. Persons displaying unauthorised signs will be asked to remove them by written notice from the Clerk. Unauthorised signs will be removed three clear days after notice has been given from the Clerk, or immediately in the case of repeated unauthorised posting.

19.71 Councillors Report:

Environment & Footpaths: HCC informed JL lots of byways closed recently will be reopening Oct / Nov time with phased openings to determine impact. Access will also be restricted by fitting gates with coded padlocks and permits. This was deemed impractical. JL to write in response to the HCC letter to be approved at the next meeting

Open Spaces:

Pond: JL has been investigating the management of the pond. The best solution if the PC want to keep the pond is to line it with a butyl lining. JL and AS are currently working on an application for funding from the lottery fund to cover the cost of the lining which could cost up to £2500.00. Once funding has been obtained,

JL

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JL suggested setting up a working party to install the lining.

Traffic & Highways: CH reported that he is meeting with Derek Rawle from HCC to discuss Bentworth but in the meantime they are still filling in potholes. CH will now concentrating on getting all the drains in Bentworth cleaned. AS handed out the sketches for the layby. It was agreed that AS should send a copy to each Cllr for a decision at the next meeting.

AS

Broadband: PG stated that HCC have chosen BT to install fibres. Mark Kemp-Gee is onboard to support Bentworth. Waiting now to find out what happens next.

19.72 Other Reports:

Community Care. FM, nothing to report. The care group have 18 drivers with fewer clients

Neighbourhood watch. Nothing to report.

St Marys School: JC School starts on the 4th September and they will be down in numbers so finance will be tight over next year. There are still various things to be done on the hall such as reinstalling the clock and finishing the toilets. Next phase after that will be landscaping outside. Additional donations have been received from Lasham and Herriard Parish Councils. The Sunshine club is a new initiative that will be opening up before school. Sat Oct 19th is the Harvest supper open to anybody to come. JC also expressed her thanks to Matt Williams for leaving school immaculate after Blues Festival.

19.73 Any Other Business:

None

19.74 Meetings Attended:

Speedwatch training
JSC meeting VP and DH

19.75 Forthcoming Meetings:

None

19.76 Date of next Meeting:

Tuesday 1st October

The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.30

Signed Date