

BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr David Hawes

Clerk: Ms Allison Spyer

14 Barley View, North Waltham, Basingstoke RG25 2ST
Tel: 07786 063570 / 01256 396898 Email: clerk@bentworth.org.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 7.30pm, Village School Jubilee Hall, Bentworth

Present:

Parish Councillors	Clerk	District & County Councillors	Others
Veronica Parker Tony Costigan Paul Mellish Abby George	Allison Spyer		5 Members of the public

**ACTION
FOR**

21.31 Apologies for absence:

David Hawes and Chris Hurley.

21.32 Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest

21.33 PC Peter Kelly, update:

There was no update from PC Kelly.

21.34 Meeting open to the public:

JC informed the PC that the ditches by Trinity hill have been dug out today.

21.35 Minutes of the December Meeting:

The minutes of both the February Parish Council Meeting and the Extra-Ordinary Meeting were deemed as correct and both duly signed. The normal PC meeting minutes were proposed by PM and seconded by AG with unanimous agreement from the rest of the council. The EO meeting minutes were proposed by PM seconded by TC with agreement from AG. VP abstained as she was not present at the meeting.

21.36 Matters arising:

- Documentation Review – On-going
- Layby – Has been completed. HCC to pave the area between the kerb and post-box. HCC will also quote on installing Dragons teeth. AS to put on April agenda
- PB Gates – Gates have been received now just need a team of people to put them in. TC to liaise with JL
- GW Plaque – On-going
- Petanque Pitch – On-going
- Unpaid precept – Ongoing
- Replacement of neighbourhood watch signs – FM has confirmed that they are on order.
- Pubs as a Village asset – AS confirmed that both pubs have now been registered as village assets. The PC now have six weeks to register an interest to buy then six months to raise the money. TC has offered to liaise with several individuals who have expressed an interest in buying as a consortium. PC can call an EO meeting if necessary to discuss further.
- Banks – Lloyds have sent statements, we are still waiting for a closing statement from Santander

AS

TC

TC

21.37 Participatory Budgeting:

VP reported that as participatory budgeting did not go ahead last year there is £1000 in the PB budget this year. So that VP is not administering this initiative on her own It was agreed to combine PB with FAG. TC offered to write an article for the Villager outlining the proposal.

TC

21.38 Parish Lawn Mower:

AS requested that a budget be set for a Parish lawn mower as the market was very wide. After discussion it was agreed further options for mowing the Village Green could also be explored. TC will research lawn mowers in the region of £700 and AS will contact the Community Payback Scheme to see if they could be a viable resource. TC will also discuss a rota with residents that have volunteered to help.

TC/AS

21.39 Purchase of Telephone Box for Potential Book Share:

TC put forward the suggestion of buying an old BT Telephone box and using it in the village as a book share. Boxes can be bought for between £300-£700. AS informed the council that North Waltham have just done

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this and advised the PC that once bought it could be expensive to maintain. The PC agreed to see if the idea was supported by residents through participatory budgeting.

21.40 Lengthsman Scheme:

AS advised the PC that the Lengthsman Scheme is overseen by HCC. A group of 9-10 parishes in fairly close proximity undertake to hire a lengthsman for the duration of one year. Each parish involved will receive funding for this up to £1000. One parish must take on the role of lead parish and administer the lengthsman's workload, for this the lead parish will receive an additional 10% in funding. The scheme runs annually from the 1st May to the 30th April the following year, where upon the contracts are renewed. The PC agreed that there was nothing to lose in registering their interest in joining a scheme in May. AS to register with HCC.

AS

21.41 Finance:

21.41a Payments for approval:

- Allison Spyer, Salary £360.00
- Allison Spyer, Expenses £10.80
- HALC, Chairing course VP £35.00

All payments were proposed by TC and seconded by PM.

21.41b Receipts

- No current receipts

21.41c FAG update:

FAG met to discuss various issues such as the dragons teeth, participatory budgeting which have been discussed in the body of the PC meeting.

21.41d Bank Reconciliation:

AS presented the PC with the third quarter bank reconciliation which was deemed as correct.

21.42 Planning Committee Report:

55329/002, Walnut Tree Barn, Well Lane, Bentworth GU34 5JT

Detached dwelling with garage and car port.

No objection

30025/003, Sun Inn, Well Lane, Bentworth GU34 5JT

Change of use of public house to residential dwelling and erection of detached double garage

Objection. The Parish Council objects to the change of use on the following grounds. Loss of valuable village asset. The Parish Council has applied to have the pub registered as a village asset following discussion at Parish Council meetings. In the opinion of the Parish Council the economic case for change of use has not been proven.

55991, Childer Hill Farm Cottage, Childer Hill, Bentworth, Alton, GU34 5JR

2 storey side extension following demolition of previous side extension and erection of 2 storey, 3 bay detached garage/store with ancillary accommodation above

No objections but the committee recommend a restriction be placed on any approval that may be granted by EHDC that the new garage building cannot be used as a separate residential unit.

21.43 Councillors Report:

Environment, pond & footpaths –

Open Spaces: Nothing to report.

Traffic & Highways:

SpeedWatch: Nothing to report.

Trees: Application to fell an oak tree due to fungal oak disease

Young people and families: Nothing to report

Website: Nothing to report

Broadband: VP has organised a meeting with Glen Pacey to discuss the part of the village that is not included on the superfast broadband roll out. Anyone interested in going to the meeting with her is invited. 29th April mid-day in Winchester.

Communications: Nothing to report

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21.44 Other Reports:

St Mary's School: On 2nd March the school built a living willow castle- all the children designed this and the pupil council pulled ideas together. Every child helped construct it and the hail didn't put them off! As the willow secures and blossoms it will be a wonderful area for the children to play. We hope the community love it too! Tins for talents raised a fantastic £130.53 for Alton food bank. Pupil council attended last month's full governing body meeting to discuss their projects and improvements they are working on in school, governors were very impressed by their confidence. World book day 5th March, pupils will be coming to school dressed as book characters and taking part in a live online Q&A with an author. Comic relief theme will be 'make your face funny for money'. Red noses and cakes will be on sale. Years 5 and 6 are taking part in a rugby tournament this Thursday at Eggars school. Elder class are preparing for sats week and have been doing test papers. Lime class have enjoyed a space themed week, writing a report on their chosen planet in their English work and now have move on to 'Swallows and Amazons' theme building dens, sailing across the sea (our field) and barbequing marshmallows. Ash class are continuing with their Roman topic, they had a 'Roman day' coming to school dressed as Romans, digging for artefacts and making their own Roman menu. Oak class celebrated random acts of kindness week, leaving positive comments on notes around the school, writing letters to people who are special to them and drawing picture to make their neighbours smile.

Community Care: Nothing to report

Neighbourhood watch. Nothing to report.

21.45 Correspondence:

Alton Neighbourhood development plan – Alton is producing a Neighbourhood development plan for its area and is now open to public consultation. If you would like to view and comment on the plan you can view it online at the Alton website or VP has a few paper copies.

21.46 Councillors Announcements:

Litter pick 7th March 10am

21.47 Meetings Forthcoming and Attended:

Meeting with Glen Pacey as mentioned above

21.48 Date of next Meeting: TBC

The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.40

Signed Date