

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 PM

Present

Cllr M Bamford - Chairman Mrs J Scott – Clerk Cllr A Graffham Cllr N Moxey
Cllr K Hutchings Cllr P Cross

Also in attendance County Councillor Gordon Jones, District Councillor John Hinton, Tree Warden, and Footpath Warden - 4 members of the public

Cllr Bamford welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** Cllr B Feltwell, Cllr K Spicer and Cllr J Wheals
2. **To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** None received
3. **Dispensations – to consider written requests for dispensation of disclosable pecuniary interest in matters relating to Agenda items –** None received
4. **To approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6 September 2018 –**
The minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.

Proposed Cllr P Cross Seconded Cllr A Graffham All in favour CU

5. **Matters Arising from the minutes:** – Still haven't found our who fixed the seat at West Mill Green. **Page 924** – objections re planning application were sent to Babergh Planning **Page 925 item 10** cheque for £100 for the chaplet will be passed for payment this evening rest covered by agenda items.

Public Session

County Councillor Gordon Jones – had sent his written report **Appendix 1** in the minute book and on the Parish Council website before the meeting which had been forwarded to Councillors. He gave an update on the gully & drains issue he had been asked to investigate – and had met the Cabinet Member for Highways. Flowline is not quite back on track as they are taking longer to carry out routine work – having to dump dirty water and put in clean water due to new requirements by Department of the Environment. Councillor Jones suggested that the Council consider doing a survey of all the ditches etc and submitting a comprehensive report of all the issues to SCC.

District Councillor John Hinton – Read to a written report **Appendix 2** in the minute book and on the Parish Council website. He commented on the Question and Answer session with John Ward Leader of Babergh DC and his Deputy Jan Osborn which was held at East Bergholt High School on 29 September - attended by 200 people. Planning featured high on the list. Cllr Hinton also commented on the Councils current spending – Hadleigh is to get a new pool to replace the about to fail original tank (£3m) - £1½m is to be spent on improvements to Sudbury Kingfisher pool. Councillor Hinton ended his report by reminding residents of the Babergh East Police & Parish Forum meeting on Wednesday 10 October at the Sports Pavilion, East Bergholt.

6. **Planning Applications**
 - a) **To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications -**

DC/18/03454 2 Dodnash Cottages, Hazel Shrub **Permission has been granted**

DC/18/03449 The Cottage, Grove Road **Permission has been granted**

b) To give comments on any new applications in hand –

DC/18/04196 Woodview Nurseries, Hazel Shrub Erection of 1 No dwelling

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

DC/18/04198 Woodview Nurseries, Hazel Shrub Erection of 3 No dwellings

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr K Hutchings All in favour CU

DC/18/04207 Bentley Old Hall, Old Hall Lane Erection of 3 bay garage with storeroom in attic space

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr A Graffham 4 in favour 1 abstention

7. **Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden – Tree Warden** – The two large severely pruned oak trees at Rowan Acres (referred to in 6 September report) have been felled. The trees were at least 250+ years old. The birch tree on the verge outside 33 Highfields has had its lower branches removed – work was carried out by Ray Bloomfield. Contractors who cut the grass verges on Tuesday 2 October severely damaged the base of the rowan tree opposite the Village Hall. The Clerk was asked to report this to Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils. The East Anglian Tree Warden Forum takes place on 14 October. The Tree Warden will be unable to attend – if anyone would like to take his place contact the Clerk for details. The Forestry Commission has produced a document Managing Ash Dieback in Woodlands (Operations Note 046). There is a new threat to elm trees – an elm leaf eating sawfly whose larvae feed on the leaves causing a zigzag pattern of damaged leaf. This pest has travelled across Europe from Japan and has arrived in the UK. It rarely kills trees but can completely defoliate them causing a reduction in white letter Hairstreak butterflies whose larvae depend on elm leaves. If you spot tell tale signs contact treealert.forestry.gov.uk. **Capel Library:** Committee meeting held on 2 October. Spinners have been ordered. Replacements for a sofa and two chairs are being researched. Sale of books etc at Bentley Family Fun day raised just over £50. Children's Summer holiday reading game was completed by 72 children who have been invited to a free show by Olly the Magician on 14 October at 11 am. September's film was well received – the Leisure Seeker will be shown on 16 October – the Cinema Risk Assessment document is being reviewed and updated by October 3. A quiz is being organised for 24 November – tickets £6.50 which includes an excellent buffet supper. The AGM is at 4pm on 26 January. Membership stands at 272. 100 Club is 109.

The Tree Warden was asked about an oak tree – part of Wayside – he wants to undertake a review of the trees in the village and contact Babergh Arboriculturalist to try and get them covered by TPO's. **Bentley Long Barn** –No further news. Apart from the fact that Trustees were chased by a debt collector for £300. This has been dealt with by a solicitor. **Footpath Warden** – Stated that there was nothing particular to report on footpaths but there was a Footpath Society walk on Sunday from the Hall at 2.30. The AGM was on 17 October at 7.30. He stated he had received no comments or complaints about the condition of the footpaths but

outlying ones will not be at their best at the moment. He has not been in the best of health to do what he used to do but urged residents to contact him re signs.

Action: Clerk to contact Babergh re damage to Rowan tree

8. **To receive and acknowledge resignation – Cllr C Goodwin -** No specific reasons were given for Councillor Goodwin's resignation - it was proposed that it be accepted and that the Clerk write and thank her on behalf of the Council for her service. Babergh have been informed and posters advertising a Casual Vacancy on the Council will be put on the notice boards on Monday 8 October. The Clerk will obtain mandate forms for change of signatory and Cllr Cross will continue as Finance Working Party – Agenda item at the next meeting

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

Action: Mandate forms for change of signatory – agenda item

9. **To discuss cost of frame for slide for the Play Area** - Action Play & Leisure quote - £4,688 plus VAT Safegrass mat surfacing is an addition £997 (Total £5,685 ex VAT to supply and install - Including VAT would be £7,254. – Awaiting quote from P Willis for a metal frame for the existing slide. A meeting is to be arranged with Sovereign Playgrounds.

Action: Clerk to arrange meeting with Sovereign Playgrounds

10. **Insurance Polity – To ratify decision re 5 year Undertaking -** CAS had come back with a cheaper quote - £427.74 for a five year undertaking and it was proposed that this be ratified.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr K Hutchings All in favour CU

11. **To Review Risk Assessment -** Councillors had been issued with a copy of the October 2018 Risk Assessment. The Clerk reported that assets had been increased by RPI and it was proposed that the document be accepted.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

12. **To discuss overgrown Holly Tree on Playing Field -** The Tree Warden told the meeting that he had met with residents and it was proposed that the tree be taken down by 13 feet. Ray Bloomfield is to be contacted to see if he can do it – if not a tree surgeon will be contacted.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr M Bamford All in favour CU

13. **To approve 2017/18 Audited Accounts -** This item was deferred as accounts have not yet been received from Littlejohn.

14. **To agree costs for provision of dog bin -** The Clerk had contacted Babergh and as long as the bin is no more than approx 50 metres from a road it should be fine as long as the contractor has somewhere to stop safely to empty it. Also there was no problem with moving the bin at South View Green - Chris Mortimer has Fido bin in stock - to supply and install bin and post would be £170 +VAT provided it is grass – it would be £60 plus vat to install a bin extra £10 if it is in concrete. It was proposed that a new bin be purchased. Clerk to contact Chris Mortimer to arrange new bin and moving the South View Green bin. A site visit be arranged (Cllrs Bamford, Cross & Wheals) re siting the new bin.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr K Hutchings All in favour CU

Action: Contact Chris Mortimer

15. **Bentley Commemoration of end of WW1 on November 11th – Update** - It was confirmed by Cllr Cross that there will be two maroons – one at the beginning of the service and one at the end. Cllr Bamford has had no response to the request for a road closure and will chase.

Action: Cllr Bamford to chase SCC Highways

16. **Neighbourhood Plan -Update – To ratify cheque from printing costs (£97) – Cllr Moxey** - Cllr Moxey reported that there is a Village Surgery for the Neighbourhood Plan for the next gathering stage. The questionnaires are coming in at 19% and the response is pleasing. The children's questionnaires are now with the children and Cllr Moxey asked if the Parish Council would donate the £10 prize for the winning child. (Agenda item) We should get a £17K grant and are doing a lot of the survey work ourselves – there are 18 people on the team. The cheque for Canon was cancelled and re-issued to Cllr Moxey.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr K Hutchings All in favour CU

17. **Tree Warden Course – Landscape Training For Consultees – 16 October 2018 (£15) – Cllr Moxey** - It was proposed that this be paid.

Proposed Cllr P Cross Seconded Cllr A Graffham All in favour CU

18. **To discuss the need for increased signage to the Village Hall –** This had been raised by residents at the September meeting – it was felt that the signage to the Village Hall was not very good – not everyone is familiar with the location. After some discussion it was proposed that a letter be sent to the Village Hall Trustees asking for any suggestions and whether they would find it acceptable if the Parish Council were to fund it.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr N Moxey All in favour CU

Action: Letter to Village Hall Trustees

19. **To discuss quote for Notice Board Refurbishment -** The Clerk reported that she had been unable to contact Mr Cooper so the quote has not yet received – Clerk will chase.

Action: Chase quote for Notice Board

20. **Response to Joint Local Plan Consultation Document - Update** Nothing to report.

21. **Traffic Calming – Update** – The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Speedwatch Co-ordinator who had provided her with receipts for postage – as well as electricity, he also uses a small amount of petrol and would be happy with £25 year to help with these costs. This will be an agenda item at the November meeting.

Action: Speedwatch Co-ordinator expenses – Agenda item

22. **Babergh Alliance of Town & Parish Councils -** Nothing to report

23. **Affordable Housing – Report on progress – Update** – Nothing has been heard from Hastoe since they reported they are making progress at the last meeting.

24. **Playing Fields Society – Update on Family Fun Day -** Congratulations to J Willis and Dave Telling and all involved on another successful Bentley Family Fun Day on Sunday 9 September. Cllr Cross will finalise the accounts but thought it had raised around £725. Provisional date for next year's Family Fun Day 8 September 2019.

25. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to the following - Tree Warden – Ash Dieback found on three new species of trees – e-mail SALC Announcement of death of SALC Chairman – Philip Hayes and e-mail re Babergh Area Meeting 24 September - E-mail from a resident re Hedges – e-mail from Tree Warden re Fireworks Night – Barn Owl

nesting -Letter from CAB Sudbury re grant request – Letter from Royal Mail re Scam mail – e-mail Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils – Parish Liaison Meetings 9 & 11 October and Designation of Copdock & Washbrook N/Hood plan area **Late Correspondence:** E-mail from Headway – Suffolk Autumn Newsletter – e-mail Trot Ward - agenda Babergh East Polish & Parish Forum 10 October – e-mail from resident re parking on green at Highfields. It was queried whether this was a Parish Council problem – we will certainly inform Babergh of his concerns.

Action: E-mail Babergh – parking on green at Highfields
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26. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings – Cllr Bamford;** A resident is going to raise money on behalf of Bentley for the Indonesian Tsunami appeal. Collection boxes will be in the pub and the shop.

27. **To Authorise Payments** - The following payments were authorised

101323	Cllr N Moxey	A5 Leaflets/Questionnaire - cheque 101322 cancelled	£97.00
1013124	Community Action Suffolk	Insurance Policy Renewal	£427.74
101325	Karzees	Hire of event toilet – Fun Day	£132.00
101326	Bentley Village Hall	Hall Hire	£40.00
101327	Community Action Suffolk	One Suffolk Website hosting	£60.00
101328	Suffolk Preservation Soc	Landscape Training Event – Cllr Moxey	£15.00
101329	Royal British Legion	Donation - Chaplet	£100.00
101330	Mr P Baldwin	5th cut grass Closed Churchyard	£110.00
101331	Vertas	Grounds Maintenance	£180.31
101332	Mrs J Scott	Salary September	£488.58
		Minus tax	5.
		Plus Expenses	<u>£0.40</u>
			£488.18
			£
			<u>46.83</u>
			<u>£535.01</u>
			<u>1</u>
101333	HMRC	Clerk's Tax	£ 0.40p

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed: Cllr P Cross Seconded: Cllr A Graffham All in favour CU

28. **To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** - Parish Council Meeting Thursday 1 November 2018.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

DRAFT