

# BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON -THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2022 AT 7.30 PM

### Present

Cllr M Munday - Chairman      Mrs J Scott – Clerk      Cllr N Moxey      Cllr B Feltwell  
Cllr D Schumacher      Cllr J Wheals      Cllr K Spicer      Cllr C Perry

Also, in attendance -, District Councillor D Busby, Tree Warden, Footpath Warden, Speedwatch Co-ordinator and 1 member of the public.

Cllr Munday welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record this meeting. A risk assessment had been carried out for 9 Councillors and up to 24-28 members of the public with seating 1 metre plus apart.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** Cllr M Bamford, Cllr P Cross – Covid & County Councillor Georgia Hall
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 3 February 2022 -**  
The minutes were approved as a true record and were duly signed.

Proposed Cllr C Perry      Seconded Cllr N Moxey      All in favour      CU

5. **Matters arising from the Minutes - Page 1101 item 8 - Play** Area inspection is booked for mid April - they do inspect Gym equipment to the Standard EN 16630. It is advisable to have a post installation inspection though (Recommended by EN16630), before the installer has been paid). **Page 1102 item 10.** Changes to the Internal Control document have been done – once signed it will be put on the website **item 13 - Invitations to APM** will be sent out to Clubs this week. Rest covered by agenda items.

## Public Session

**County Councillor G Hall -** had sent her November written report which had been circulated to Councillors – **APPENDIX 1** in the minute book and on the website.

**District Councillor D Busby –** Told the meeting that in order to simplify access to his Monthly Briefings, Councillors could use the link to Babergh Website [www.babergh.gov.uk/news](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/news) which is updated and is the best place to find information. He spoke of the County deal – Suffolk is one of nine counties invited to negotiate a devolution deal – giving local leaders more powers to make decisions for their communities. Digital skills for business owners and the dismissed appeal at Hazel Shrub.

### 6. **Planning Applications –**

- a) **To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications –** None
- b) **To give comments on any new applications in hand –**

**DC/22/00899**      West Dene, Capel Road      Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, appearance, Landscaping, Layout & Scale to be reserved) Town & Country Planning Act 1990 – Severance of garden & erection of 1No dwelling with access off Capel Road shared with West Dene

Councillors **RECOMMENDED REFUSAL** as it is outside the built-up area and there are concerns about highway safety in view of the position of the drive with limited visibility to the right due to the bend in the road & the high fence that has been erected at Leslie View to the west. This road is monitored by the local Community Speedwatch & a Speed Indicator Device is positioned on this stretch of road. Both frequently record vehicles travelling above the 30 mph speed limit when approaching this site and an instance of a vehicle travelling in excess of 70 mph as shown in our recently downloaded data (attached). Allowing another multi vehicle access with substandard visibility would be detrimental to highway safety & set an unwanted precedent in the area.

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

7. **Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden/Capel Library/ Bentley Long Barn /Footpath Warden & Speedwatch - Tree Warden**– read to a written report **Appendix 2** in the minute book and on the website. He told the meeting that the Woodland Trust tree saplings & hedging that remains has been transferred to and Ipswich Rotary Club member’s garden in Capel St Mary where they are protected from frosts in a poly-tunnel – a recent request for hedging has been received from a Bentley resident. Many dead branches from trees around the Playing field have been placed in a heap at the narrow far end as requested by the Footpath Warden with a second heap being stacked at the southern end of the field. Two large trees fell onto roads in Bentley during storm Eunice – these have been removed & damaged overhead wires replaced. Community Orchard – two extra dug holes will now be occupied by fruit trees that are being purchased by a Bentley resident. - **Friends of Capel Library** – 2023 will see tenders submitted for the new contract to run Suffolk Library (SL) Services for the next 10 years. A significant focus for SL during 2022 will be fund raising. Capel Library is now well equipped and no major fund raising is required in 2022. A Cake & Craft event is being held on 12 March and an Easter Chocolate raffle will be drawn on 13 April. The ivy on the tree at the War Memorial was also mentioned – quotes are awaited. **Bentley Barn** – No further news. - **Footpath Warden** – Reported 2 trees down - Holly Wood & Capel Road – footpath by Earlwood these have been dealt with. He was told of a fallen fingerpost at Link Lane – he will investigate. **Speedwatch** - Since the last meeting 2 sessions were cancelled due to bad weather. 5 were held. There was one nil return. 29 vehicles were reported. None at the War Memorial 3 at the Village Hall. 26 on Capel Road. The highest speed recorded was 42 mph by 3 vehicles. **Community Fibre Broadband** – No report available.

8. **Quiet Lane Signage** – Cllr Munday declared a non pecuniary interest - she told the meeting that villages are now being asked to pay a voluntary contribution towards signage costs as Quiet Lane fund is being taken up due to large numbers of Quiet Lanes being designated across Suffolk. It was proposed that Bentley Parish Council contribute £300 towards posts and signage..

Proposed Cllr K Spicer      Seconded Cllr C Perry      All in favour      CU

9. **To agree Yearly Subscription for Software Package to produce Bentley Bugle (£200 ex VAT pa)** – Cllr Munday declared a non pecuniary interest. This software was needed for Cllr Munday to be able to produce the Bugle until someone could be found to take it over on a permanent basis. It was therefore proposed to take out a yearly subscription which will cover 6 editions.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr C Perry      6 in favour      1 abstention

10. **To discuss how the Parish Council can support Bentley Outdoor Bowls - The** Bowls Club had contacted Bowls England but as they play in Federation bowls leagues and are not affiliated to Bowls England they do not qualify for any financial help. To qualify they would have to affiliate which would incur costs and would not qualify for 3 years. The cost of a new mower was £1,200 . After some discussion the Clerk was asked to contact the Bowls Club to see how much they are looking for and their time scale. Is £1,200 the whole amount or just a contribution? Leave on the agenda

<b>Action</b> Clerk to contact Bowls Club
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11. **To ratify payment to Nelson Potter for Oak Bench (£427.50) – It** was proposed that the payment of £427.50 be ratified.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell      Seconded Cllr N Moxey      All in favour      CU

12. **Renewal of Play Area Lease – Update** – The Clerk informed the meeting that she had written to SCC with a copy to County Councillor Georgia Hall who has agreed to keep her eye on it. No reply yet received from SCC.

13. **Standing Order – Changes to Procurement Thresholds** - A change to Procurement Thresholds changed from January 2022 to over £213,477 (previously £189,330) for goods or services or over £5,336,937 (previously £4,733,252) for public works (construction). It was proposed that the changes be accepted. Councillors had been sent a copy of the updated page (21).

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr C Perry      All in favour      CU

14. **To discuss Torch Relay** – This is on the Festival of Suffolk website - it's a 550 mile torch relay visiting 250 towns and villages in Suffolk as part of a major event celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. One nomination to carry the torch had already been received. Clerk will contact Copdock Clerk to see if she has more details. It will be publicised on Facebook page.

Action: Clerk to contact Copdock Clerk

15. **To discuss Improvements to War Memorial** – Clerk told the meeting that Blake Tree Services are going to have a look and supply a quote. She had not heard from M & D Tree Services - Dedham Vale Tree Services will also be approached for a quote.

Action: Contact M & D Tree Services & Dedham Vale Tree Services

16. **Reprinting Six Country Walks from the Case is Altered - Update** - Cllr Spicer thought it would be a good idea to re-print this booklet. Cllr Feltwell has it on CD which he is going to pass on to the Footpath Warden who is putting it together. Following a discussion it was agreed to e-mail the CD to Canon printers to get an idea of the cost of printing before a decision is made.

17. **Purchase of Projector - Update** - Deferred

18. **Traffic Calming – SID/ANPR/Road Markings – Update - Cllr** Schumacher reported that the SID has been moved to Bergholt Road in order to facilitate the ANPR which has been put in Capel Road albeit the wrong way round. – this project is in the early stages and we are grateful for being included in the project. Data has now been downloaded from SID which proves 73mph going through Capel Road between 7.30 and 8pm. Cllr Munday proposed that we decide whether to buy a new SID pole which will take a solar panel as Capel Road needs a fixed solution – it was therefore proposed that a new pole sturdy enough to take a solar panel be purchased. Cllr Schumacher will investigate the case for a solar panel and report to the next meeting.

Proposed Cllr M Munday      Seconded Cllr K Spicer      All in favour      CU

The Clerk was asked to contact County Councillor Georgia Hall to see when the road markings will be done which were due to have been put in before Christmas.

Action: Clerk to contact County Councillor Georgia Hall re road markings

19. **Playing Field Society – Gym Equipment –Update** - Cllr Munday told the meeting that the form has been sent in to Babergh for S106 money. She estimated that the cost to the Council would be £3,122. – The Council had agreed to fund £3K and it was proposed that they pay the extra £122.41 – the rest of the cost is covered by CIL and S106 monies.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell      Seconded Cllr J Wheals      All in favour      CU

**Tudor Re-enactment** – Cllr Moxey wants this event re-named Horrible Histories. It is happening the first weekend in September for two days. Volunteers will be needed.

20. **Neighbourhood Plan –Update** - No update.

21. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following - e-mails from Maritime – litter bin being used as dog bin!’!! 2 x Babergh NSIP & large scale energy development updated March 2022 - Groundwork UK – Remittance advice NHP £998 2 x Bentley Outdoor bowls – 3 x Tree Warden FoCL new Secretary, Bentley Community Orchard & Flailing Bergholt Road, 4 x residents Mounted Police Support Volunteer – application successful, undergoing training, - static home on Highfields - & Torch Relay. 3 x e-mails Footpath Warden – 3 quotes including surface re gym equipment - e-mail NWA Planning P1946 Proposed Quarry Brockley Wood, Belstead – would like to come to April Meeting to talk about this – Village Hall, End of Test & Trace – SALC 2021-22 Salary Scales – Speedwatch Co-ordinator Report & letter and accounts from Tuesday Club re grant.

Action: Agenda items Proposed Quarry Brockley Wood Belstead – Grants – Clerks salary increase.

22. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings**  
**Cllr Perry** – A large wooden building has appeared which looks to be attached to the caravan in Highfields – Clerk will contact Babergh planning. **Cllr Feltwell** – explained to Councillors re the Domain name bentleypc.org.uk – Agenda item to ratify the payment. Cllr **Wheals** – Bus shelter could be a magazine exchange – needs to be looked into it being feasible with magazines being replaced every month. It was thought that a children’s book exchange would be a good idea.

**Action:** Agenda item – Ratify payment for domain name.

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

101570	Places4People	Examination Support NHP	£1,117.00
101571	Cllr B Feltwell	Defibrillator Pads	£57.00
101569	Mrs J Scott	Clerks Salary February	£520.00
		Minus tax	00.00
			£520.00
		Plus, Expenses	£51.12
			£571.12

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals                      Seconded: Cllr C Perry                      All in favour                      CU

- 24.. **To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** –. Parish Council Meeting Thursday 7 April 2022 at 7.30 pm. Preceded by a Playing Field Society Meeting at 7.00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**

**DATE:**