

# *BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL*

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## MINUTES OF THE BENTLEY 2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 20 APRIL 2017 AT 7.30 PM

### Present

Cllr M Bamford - Chairman

20 members of the public and the Clerk to the Parish Council. In attendance was Cllr B Feltwell, Cllr N Moxey, Cllr P Cross, Cllr A Graffham, Cllr K Spicer, Tree Warden – C Hawes and County Councillor G Jones, – **Apologies** received District Councillor J Hinton, Cllr C Goodwin and Cllr J Wheals.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Copies of the minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated and the Accounts and Minute Books were on display for inspection by parishioners. There had been no requests to record the meeting.

### **1. To Approve Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 21 April 2016**

The Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

Proposed: P Cross                      Seconded: C Hawes                      All in favour

### **2. Matters Arising** - There were no matters arising.

**3. Parish Council – Chairman’s Report** – The Chairman, Councillor Michael Bamford read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 1** in the minute book. The Chairman was asked if there was any news on the Post Box – The Clerk is actively chasing and it has been reported in the East Anglian Daily Times. The telephone box was mentioned – it is due to be removed – no date has been given. Parishioner wanted to know where Station Road ends and Capel Road starts.

**4. Village Organisation Reports** – The Chairman welcomed Deputy Head (Rachel Rudge) and two members of the School Council to the Annual Parish Meeting.

4.1 Bentley CEVCP School – School Council – Mrs Rudge explained that she was responsible for driving things forward at the School which now has 56 children – current intake in September only four places left – the School is going onto a three class structure which will make class sizes smaller. The School Council members were introduced and explained the partnership with Copdock – interaction of year 6 pupils – opportunity to learn together and prepare for High School. They talked about opportunities such as visiting the Houses of Parliament, tournaments, yearly residential trips, fund raising and close links with the Church. Also the benefits of a small school, the Safeguarding Survey and the Ofsted Inspection - GOOD. Four large posters with photographs of their numerous activities were left with the Minute books for Parishioners to see.

4.2 Parent Teachers Association – In the absence of Mrs Louis, Mrs Rudge read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 2** in the minute book.

4.3 Table Tennis – Mr Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 3** in the minute book.

4.4 Carpet Bowls – Mrs Pam Rayment read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 4** in the minute book.

4.5 Footpath Society – No report available. The Chairman stated that Mr Cribb continues the work of maintaining the paths, regularly attends Parish Council Meetings and the Parish is grateful for his hard work.

4.6 Horticultural Society – Mr Blackmore read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 5** in the minute book.

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- 4.7 Aerobics - In Jill Sharp's absence Mrs Blackmore reported that the class is flourishing. There are four Aerobics and four Pilates classes which are full – details are available in the Bentley Bugle.
- 4.8 Outdoor Bowls – Mrs Calvert read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 6** in the minute book.
- 4.9 Parochial Church Council/Coffee & Company – Mrs Mehen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 7** in the minute book.
- 4.10 Toddler Group - Mrs Rayment read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 8** in the minute book.
- 4.11 Tree Warden – Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 9** in the minute book.
- 4.12 Tuesday Club Mrs Blackmore read to a written report attached to the minutes Appendix 5 in the minute book
- 4.13 Bentley Bugle – Mr Owen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 10** in the minute book.
- 4.14 Village Hall Trustees – Mr Usher stated that the Hall is a registered charity and is very well used and well looked after by Trustees. It continues to offer lowest rates available in the area for residents of Bentley.
- 4.15 Women's Institute – Mrs Sandra Ford read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 11** in the minute book. The Chairman thanked the members of the WI for undertaking a litter pick in the Village on 10 April.
- 4.16 Whist Club – Mrs Veronica Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 12** in the minute book.
- 4.17 School Governors – Mr Don Mehen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 13** in the minute book.
- 4.18 The Link Lunch Club – Mr Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 14** in the minute book.
- 4.19 Scrabble Club – Mr Owen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 15** in the minute book.
- 4.20 Bentley Comrades – No report available.
- 4.21 First Responders – No report available
- 4.22 Speedwatch – In Mr Mawkes' absence Mrs Calvert read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 16** in the minute book.
- 4.23 The Case is Altered – Mr P Cross read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 17** in the minute book.
- 4.24 Friends of Chapel Library – Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 9** in the minute book.
- 4.25 Bentley Long Barn -. Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 9** in the minute book.

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- 4.26 Playing Field Society – The Chairman stated there was no formal report – very pleased at the success of the Fun Day, trying to encourage use of the field by outsiders – grateful to volunteers who help manage, mark the pitch etc. Meetings are held prior to P/C meeting every two months. A firework display is planned for a date very near to bonfire night. Mr Hawes reported that a wild life site is planned on the Playing Field – a barn owl box has been put up and several bird boxes are planned with a nature trail around the field. An application has gone in to the Tesco Bag Scheme for money to fund this and a fenced pond. Pallets have been put down ready to build bug houses.
- 4.27 Bentley Community Shop – Bob Feltwell read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 18** in the minute book

## The Chairman thanked everyone for their reports

5. County Councillor's Report - County Councillor Gordon Jones read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 19** in the minute book. County Councillor Jones remarked that this was his last Annual Report under the current administration with elections on 4 May and said what a privilege it has been to serve Bentley and work with the Parish Council. He was pleased to have financially supported from his Locality Budget both The Case and The Community Shop and was pleased with their successes which had made such a positive difference to the village. He had supported the Village School and the Village Hall and last month allocated the last of the Locality Budget to the Friends of Capel Library as they work to upgrade the Reception area. He ended his report by saying it had been a pleasure work with the village and hoped it will continue after May.
6. District Councillors' Reports – Apologies received from **District Councillor Hinton** who was unable to give an annual report as he hasn't been given any information from Babergh. A glossy magazine and video will be available in May.
7. Signage – Play Area – The Chairman said this has been the subject of residents' concerns and he fully appreciated that speeding coming into the village is a big issue. This is on the agenda seeking opinions regarding the provision of children playing road signage – which has been agreed will be funded by the Parish Council and might help reduce speeding round Case Lane area. This lack of signage was highlighted in the Annual Report of the Play Area Inspector. The cost of two signs will be in the region of £800-£1K.
9. Question and Answer Session – Resident – Wanted to know if there was a weight limit on the road to the Village as more and more lorries are coming through to get onto the A14. There is no weight restriction at present. **Resident** – was concerned about the white lining which is very feint – County Councillor Jones said he had recently raised the subject of white lining -Transport Minister due to visit South Suffolk stretch of A12 soon re Copdock Roundabout- which is due for modification- and Four Sisters,
10. Date of Next Meeting -The Annual Parish Council Meeting 18 May 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The Annual Parish Meeting April 2018. The Chairman thanked everyone for their succinct reports and felt the Village was very well served. - There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

**NB: The various reports as attached as Appendices to the minutes may be viewed by parishioners by arrangement with the Clerk – Telephone: 01206 298174**