

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.38 PM

Present

Cllr M Bamford- Chairman Mrs J Scott – Clerk Cllr R Feltwell Cllr J Wheals
Cllr A Graffham Cllr C Goodwin Cllr P Cross Cllr N Moxey
K Hutchings

Also in attendance: County Councillor Gordon Jones, District Councillor J Hinton, Tree Warden & Footpath Warden-3 members of the public

Cllr Bamford welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the delay in starting the meeting due to an over run of the Playing Field Society Meeting. ((7.38 pm). The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** — None received.
2. **To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** Cllr Graffham declared a non pecuniary interest in planning application DC/17/03175 - Trevlac.
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 July 2017** – Cllr Hutchings asked that holiday be replaced by physio appointment under **item 1 page 872. Page875 item 22** details of the vote were added. With these changes the minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.

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

5. **Matters Arising from the minutes: Page 872** Notice re Babergh & Mid Suffolk Planning pages sent to Bentley Bugle –J Blackmore informed about the sound system at the Village Hall - **Page 873** Notice put in Bugle re hedges, SCC contacted re hedge between The Chestnuts and The Corral - **item 9** SCC informed of dangerous Ash tree branch - **item10** Letter sent to School **item 12** Letter sent to Boundary Commission. The Tree Warden commented that the ditch separates the two areas and the Ash tree is well inside SCC land and the branch is far too big for the householder to remove,. Clerk will e-mail SCC with the map showing its position.

Action: Clerk will e-mail SCC

Public Session

County Councillor Jones- had not yet submitted a written report he remarked on the Tour of Britain through Suffolk tomorrow – Examination results – A levels continue to be above the national average and GCSE results have increased again with grade 4-9 which are the new A*. East Bergholt High School results have gone up and Holbrook Academy have outstanding GCSE results – 4 years ago they were in Special Measures. Home to School Travel paper is being presented recommending going out to consultation was also discussed. Cllr Moxey asked County Councillor Jones to check regarding Bentley who suggested that people engage in the consultation which if approved will run from beginning of October to 22 December. The automatic number plate recognition scheme will be tested in Halesworth – processing on the date will be carried out on a voluntary basis – trials begin at the end of September to December and then it will be a question of rolling out if successful. – County Councillor Jones concluded his report by telling the Clerk he would investigate her enquiry – re contacts for the Play Area signage,

District Councillor Hinton - Read to a written report – **Appendix 1** in the minute book and on the Council website. He said that established routines to allow Councillors to plan their life outside the Council seems to be out of the window with planning being the main offender. It now seems there is a Committee every two weeks as there are so many applications to clear. The move to Endeavour House is going forward but there is no sign of a business case laying out the financial implications – there is now a problem with staff terms and conditions. There are several potential legal challenges in the offing all awaiting a response from the Secretary of State. A recent item by our MP on tourism left out one of the main focal points for tourism in South Suffolk – Constable’s birthplace and Flatford Mill. Finally District Councillor Hinton commented on houses without jobs which will put further pressure on our overloaded transport network.

CLr Bamford was concerned about the redistribution arrangements regarding Boundaries and of Bentley’s deposition within this and was disappointed that nothing had been heard from the two District Councillors on this subject. District Councillor Hinton said the Boundary Commission are still accepting comments.

6 Planning Applications

a) To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications -

DC/17/02077	Pond Hall Farm, Bentley Hall Road	Prior approval has been granted
B/16/00595	Wayside, Capel Road	DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS APPLICATION
	B/16/00595. Condition 2 (materials)	
DC/17/03569	Marmely House, Highfields,	Permission has been granted

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

DC/17/03569	Marmely House, Highfields, Bentley	Erection of rear conservatory (following demolition of existing)
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Councillors were disappointed that the decision had been received when an extension had been granted until 8th September

DC/17/03175	Trevlac, Capel Road	Erection of single dwelling
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RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr J Wheals	Seconded Cllr P Cross	All in favour	CU
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DC/17/03960	Dingle Dell, Station Road	Full planning application – Installation consists of 1 No 15m Lattice tower, 2 No antennas, 2No 0.6m DIA Dish, 3No equipment cabinets & ancillary development thereto, within a 2.2m high closed board wooden fenced compound
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RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr A Graffham	Seconded Cllr K Hutchings	All in favour	CU
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DC/17/03472	17 Highfields	Erection of single storey front and rear extensions
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RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr N Moxey	Seconded Cllr C Goodwin	All in favour	CU
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RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Proposed Cllr A Graffham Seconded Cllr M Bamford All in favour CU

7. **Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden – Tree Warden** – Ash tree branch - already mentioned under Matters Arising. **Capel Library:** Mr Hawes reminded the meeting that the library would be selling books at £3 at Bentley Family Fun Day. **Bentley Long Barn** – No further news. The subject of Ash Die Back was discussed as quite a lot of trees in Bentley seem to be affected. **Footpath Warden -** Stated he had not received reports of any problems with any of the footpaths. He had not been as active this year and a number of paths are getting overgrown and not being reported- he asked if a notice could be put in the Bugle asking residents to report any overgrown footpaths to him. Cllr Hutchings told him that Footpath no 1 was almost impassable and that the crossing was closed – there was no signage indicating this. Mr Cribb is to investigate. There is a walk this Saturday to Capel St Mary – 2.30 at the Village Hall and the AGM is on 2 October in the Committee Room at the Village Hall. The last walk of the season is on 7 October at 10.30 am.

Action: Clerk to send notice to Bugle re footpaths.

8. **To ratify cheque payments – ICO 9£35), P Baldwin (£110), Vertas (£787.15), Post Office (£2.20, Clerk ~ (£539.09), Suffolk Preservation Society (£30) and Tree Warden (£15) -** It was proposed that these payments be ratified en bloc.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell Seconded Cllr C Goodwin All in favour CU

9. **Purchase of Chaplet for Remembrance Sunday -** A donation of £75 was proposed.

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

10. **Post Box – Update.** The Chairman has again written to the Royal Mail CEO asking if they might wish to make some form of contribution to Village Funds by way of compensation as we - cheque are now approaching the anniversary of the promise of a replacement post box (October 2016).

11. **To approve Quarterly Accounts – April-June 2017 -** Councillors had been issued with a copy of the 3 month Receipts and Payments and the accounts had been seen by the Finance Working Party. The Clerk reported on Receipts of £7,250 - Precept payment – no interest is received on the Parish Council Tracker Account. - Total Payments - £2,906.75 which includes general admin £1948.76 this is Clerk's salary/expenses, Hall hire and SALC subscription. ££330.95. - Grants under the power of S137 £450 and S19 £95.39. – grass cutting of the closed Churchyard £220 – The bank reconciliation still shows the outstanding cheque re Vertas – which has now been taken care of - (cheque £787.15 ratified under item 8). It was proposed that the accounts be accepted.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey Seconded Cllr A Graffham All in favour CU

12. **Insurance – To renew yearly premium - Bentley** Parish Council's Long Term Undertaking Expiry date on this policy is 30 September 2018 - the Clerk queried the difference (£24.48) in the premium from last year and was told that they fix the rates they use but for the last 2/3 years the Government have implemented an increase in Insurance Premium Tax hence the change. It was proposed that this be paid.

Proposed Cllr K Hutchings Seconded Cllr C Goodwin All in favour CU

13. **Standing Orders – Change square brackets – Raised in SALC's Audit Report -** The Clerk reported that SALC recommended that -: *To ensure that the Regulations are fully tailored to the Council and to avoid ambiguity, it might want to consider the removal of Square brackets.*

She had therefore amended the Standing Orders on the following pages.- Page 9 c & d – Page 12 g – Page 13 item 14c iii removed this refers to Wales – Page 15 item 18 v & c – Page 16 item 19 C & E - Page 17 item 22 b. It was proposed these changes be accepted – the Clerk will issue Councillors with the updated version of the Standing Orders.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell Seconded Cllr M Bamford All in favour CU

14. To discuss Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Babergh Warding Arrangements

Following a lengthy discussion on choice of two options it was proposed that the Parish Council formally write to express a preference for a particular disposition (30-31).

Proposed Cllr A Graffham

It was then proposed that we write to other Parish Councils asking for their comments as it was felt there had not been sufficient time to debate it given the points proposed in the current arrangements and asking if they had any comments.(to include Capel). Following this proposal Cllr Graffham withdrew his original proposal.

Proposed Cllr K Hutchings Seconded Cllr C Goodwin All in favour CU

This will be discussed at the next meeting with a view to coming up with an opinion,

Action: Letter to Parish Councils in Options 30 & 31

15. To discuss the Joint Local Plan Consultation Document – The meeting was told there are two drop-in events 9 October – Tattingstone Village Hall and 11 October Hadleigh Town Hall – The Chairman asked if someone could attend one of these events so it could be discussed and a comment formulated at the October meeting. Keep on the agenda.

16. Traffic Calming – Signage – Play Area – Update - The Clerk had been unable to contact anyone at SCC regarding the signage for the Play Area, in desperation she had e-mailed County Councillor Jones who is to investigate.

17. Babergh Alliance of Town & Parish Councils -. It was proposed that the Constitution Document be formally approved. The Clerk to ask if issues relating to the Boundary Commission Document could be an agenda item at their next meeting.

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

Action: Clerk to inform BAPTC and ask for agenda item at next meeting

18. Affordable Housing – Report on progress – Update – No news to date – Clerk to chase.

19. Playing Fields Society –Bentley Family Fun Day – Firework Display – To agree to issue cheque (£500) – Jo Willis reported on final arrangement for Bentley Family Fun day – D Telling attended at the end of the meeting. Everything was on target for the 10 September – insurance for the bouncy castle had been arranged – there were the usual stalls i.e. WI (cakes), The Case (bar), PTA (BBQ) .Capel Library etc and there were several new stalls Pizza, Box House Honey – Starling IT Services and a Fire Engine.. Cllr Cross to organise collection of money - floats etc. Councillors hoped that it would go well and the weather would be kind. **Firework Display** – An event form had been completed and sent to Insurers Tim & Jan have asked if the Parish Council could support up front purchase of the fireworks as they can get a 20% discount. This was discussed at the Playing Field Society Meeting and Jo Willis was asked if she would be happy for the rest of the money to be taken from the Family Fun Day account – this would be put back following the event. This was agreed and it was proposed that a cheque for the purchase of fireworks be issued (£500) from Parish Council (£500) Fun Day account. It was also agreed that prices be obtained for picnic tables. Date of next meeting 5 October 2017.

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

20. To receive Correspondence – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following **July** – 4 e-mails BAPTC re updated Constitution. e-mail from resident re Bentley Village Hall loop

system – e-mail from Royal Mail in response to Chairman. E-mail Babergh re Boundary Commission Part two of two. **August:** 3 e-mails from BAPTC re meeting 5 September – e-mail –Speedwatch Co-ordinator Community Speedwatch update- e-mail Tree Warden – Tree Warden Forum e-mail Babergh & Mid Suffolk – PC briefings re Joint local Plan – e-mail Resident re overgrown hedges & e-mail Trot Ward re Speedwatch figures. **Late Correspondence:** e-mail BAPTC – Draft Constitution – e-mail Newsletter Community Action Suffolk – CAS Awards – Bentley Community Shop won Community Building Award and e-mail from SALC – Website news from Suffolk Cloud.

21. Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings

Councillor Hutchings and her husband were thanked for cutting back nettles etc growing up along the pavement. Clerk had issued Councillors with 2018 Meeting dates – this will be sent to Village Hall asap.

Action: Dates of 2018 meeting to be sent to Village Hall

22. To Authorise Payments - The following payments were authorised

101255	Vertas	Grounds Maintenance		£185.76
101256	P Baldwin	5th cut grass		£110.00
101257	Community Action Suffolk	Insurance Policy Renewal		£520.90
101258	Community Action Suffolk	Insurance Fun Day		£47.04
101259	Mrs J Scott	Salary August	£479.00	£520.90
		Minus tax	<u>Nil</u>	
			£474.24	
		Plus Expense	£ 46.30	
		Minus overpayment	<u>-£4.40</u>	
			£520.90	

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

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

23. To confirm date of next scheduled meeting – Parish Council Meeting Thursday 5 October 2017 at 7.30 pm. Preceded by Playing Field Society Meeting 7.00pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: