

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON ZOOM - THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.00 PM

Present

Cllr M Bamford - Chairman Mrs J Scott – Clerk Cllr B Feltwell Cllr M Munday
Cllr P Cross Cllr K Spicer Cllr J Wheals Cllr D Schumacher

Also in attendance, County Councillor Gordon Jones, District Councillor D Busby, Tree Warden, and Footpath Warden.

Cllr Bamford welcomed everyone to the meeting - the agenda stated that the meeting is open to the press and public via Zoom by prior request to the Clerk - the Clerk received no notifications.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** - Cllr N Moxey Holiday
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 Remote Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3 September 2020 -** The minutes were approved as a true record and will be duly signed.

Proposed Cllr M Munday Seconded Cllr D Schumacher All in favour CU

5. **Matters Arising from the minutes: Page 1024** Oak tree Link Lane? Village Hall Trustees contacted re Fund for Electric Car charging points – who have contacted County Councillor G Jones. **Page 1025 item 9** - CAS (Insurance) have been informed of the small aerial firework display on 5 November with no attendees – **Page 1026 item 15** – Letter of thanks sent to Mr Tombs & PC thanks added to Bentley Bugle notice -Rest covered by Agenda items

Public Session

County Councillor G Jones – had sent his written report for October which had been circulated to Councillors – **APPENDIX 1** in the minute book and on the website. He reported that there was a lot of SCC business in the report influencing both county and wider afield. The HMCLG is very much the same – the biggest issue is the uncertainty – talked about “intelligent lighting” – he was asked about the progress of the ANPR project – its been a long process, the Police have been the stumbling block but now see the advantages of the system – there is another meeting with Police & Crime Commissioner re a two year trial – provided we get signed off by the Police in November villages in Samford will be included in the list of people for the 2 year trial.

District Councillor D Busby – had sent October Councillors Briefing notes for Town & Parish Councils which had been circulated to Councillors – **APPENDIX 2** in the minute book and on the website, which contains basic information on what is going on. He spoke about Leisure Centres - subsidising up to £50K a month this will be a big drag on the finances but it will hopefully get people back into the centres. The Commercial Property Company (CIFCO) set up by Babergh & Mid Suffolk is doing pretty well – they collected 81% of second quarter rent. Hopefully it will provide funding for the Council – they have another four properties to invest in by spring next year. County Councillor Jones thought income should come from rates – business rates will be affected.

County Councillor Jones and District Councillor Busby were reminded that Bentley Neighbourhood Plan has been put out to consultation today. County Councillor Jones commented that it looked very professional.

6. **Planning Applications –**

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

APPEAL REFERENCE Holly Oak, Hazel Shrub **The appeal is allowed**
App/D35905/W/20/3249004 DC/19/05429

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

DC/20/03950 Bentley Service Station, Services Raising of existing canopy from
Area A12 outbound, London Road 3.5m to 5m Clearance

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

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

7. **Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden/Capel Library/ Bentley Long Barn**

Tree Warden – Suffolk Tree Warden Network AGM 1 October – not able to attend because of this meeting. Apologies have been sent & will be reported on at the next Parish Council Meeting. BPTW gave a presentation at Suffolk Coasts & Heaths Zoom meeting on 16 September at which the AONB iconic species were discussed After a vote the “flagship species” chosen for this AONB is the Redshank (*Tringa totanus*). BPTW also gave a presentation at the Dedham Vale AONB Zoom meeting again on the area’s iconic species the “flagship species” chosen is the Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*). Reference work to be carried out on the Walnut tree on the Playing Field and Horse Chestnut at the entrance to Grove Road – BPTW met with two tree surgeons to obtain quotes for the work. High winds brought down trees across Church Road and Station Road which were swiftly dealt with. **Friends of Capel Library** – Committee Meeting arranged for 1 October has been rearranged for 6 October. **Bentley Barn** – No further news. Cllr Bamford concerned that the barn was deteriorating badly it need inspecting urgently within the next two months. **Footpath Warden** – Nothing to report. The stake has been banged in on the Playing Field.

8. **Provision of dog bin at Potash Lane - Residents** had been contacted but did not want a bin near their cottage. The landowner was also contacted but has not yet got in touch.

9. **Trees & Hedgerows** - The Clerk read out an e-mail received from Babergh District Council who are mapping to identify where wildlife corridors need to be established or improved to link up sites. In addition, they are seeking to plant more trees and hedgerows in order to encourage more wildlife and if you own any land on which you would like the District Council to plant trees or hedgerows. Tree Warden reported that Dodnash Fruit Farm wanted to plant more hedgerows – Clerk to forward e-mail to S Bond. It was proposed that the Clerk reply that Bentley Parish Council are definitely in favour of this project.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr J Wheals All in favour CU

Action: Clerk to contact reply to Babergh & forward e-mail to S Bond

10. **Purchase of Chaplet for Remembrance Sunday** - It was proposed that the contribution for the chaplet be increased from £75 to £100 as there won’t be any door to door collections this year – poppies will be on sale in the shop.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

11. **To nominate Councillor to lay wreath on Remembrance Sunday** - Places will be restricted at this year’s service – (road will be closed from 10.50 to 11.30). It was proposed that Cllr Wheals lay the chaplet on the Parish Council’s behalf.

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

12. **Walnut Tree (Playing Field) & Tree Grove Road** – Three tree surgeons were invited to quote for the work – only one quote received. This will be deferred until November meeting. Residents to be informed when work is agreed.

13. **To Review Risk Assessment** - Councillors had been issued with a copy of the Risk Assessment – assets had been uplifted by 3%. The container, grit bins, slide and mats have been added to the list and it was proposed that the document be approved.

Proposed Cllr D Schumacher Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

14. **To adopt Revised Social Media Policy** - Councillors had been issued with a revised copy of the Social Media Policy – a discussion on the monitoring of posts and replies on the Bentley Community Website was discussed and it was agreed that we should be monitoring any posts on behalf of Bentley Parish Council. Three changes to the document were agreed – “and Post” and with these changes it was proposed that the document be accepted.

Proposed Cllr K Spicer Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

15. **To ratify cheque paid in September-- Cllr Moxey £14.95 Zoom** - It was proposed that this payment be ratified.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

16. **Speedwatch – To discuss purchase of new camera** - The Clerk informed the meeting that Stutton didn't get a new speed gun they were still using the old one. Norfolk had purchased these speed guns at a cost of £250. Cllr Bamford will re-circulate information to Councillors, find out what the current reporting procedures are and liaise with the Speedwatch Team so that the information can be discussed at the November PC Meeting.

Action: Literature to be re-circulated & find out current reporting procedures

17 i). **Traffic Calming – SID Poles – To discuss purchase of Poles** - The Clerk reported that three out of the four poles applied for had been approved. SCC only supply two poles free of charge and the Parish Council will be asked to pay £190 each for additional poles. It was proposed that the Parish Council agree to pay for additional poles.

Proposed Cllr D Schumacher Seconded Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

ii) Several places along Capel Road had been suggested and the only place would be on the opposite side of the road to Rowan Acres. It was proposed that an application for this site be sent to SCC for approval.

Proposed Cllr M Munday Seconded Cllr D Schumacher All in favour CU

Additional signage was discussed and it was proposed that this be an agenda item in the future.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford Seconded Cllr D Schumacher All in favour CU

The Chairman thanked Cllr Munday for her work re Bergholt Road.

18. **Quiet Lanes –Update** Cllr Munday reported that SCC have given substantial funding for this county-wide Quiet Lanes project from their Suffolk 2020 Fund. This means we can go ahead with a public consultation with Bentley residents. A public meeting which has to be part of the Parish Council Meeting has to be held. It was therefore proposed that an Extra Ordinary Meeting be held on 12 November via Zoom. If after public consultation, the PC feel that designation would be beneficial, SCC will issue a formal notice when comments can be made up to 21 days after the notice. All comments received by the Parish Council including any outstanding objections will be passed on to Suffolk County Council who will make the decision on designation.

Proposed Cllr M Munday Seconded Cllr D Schumacher All in favour CU

Action: Extra Ordinary Zoom Meeting 12 November
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19. **Neighbourhood Plan** – The Neighbourhood Plan is now open for Regulation 14 consultation.
20. **Affordable Housing** - Nothing to report.
21. **Playing Field Society** – Footpath Warden has purchased rockets at a cost £530 to be let off on the Playing Field on 5 November. He has also purchased paint for the container at a cost of £209.00 – Total £739.95. It was proposed that the Footpath Warden be reimbursed and that the quote from Saxon Pest Solutions be accepted.

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

The Working Party recommendations to purchase a basket ball hoop and outdoor table tennis table were accepted. The Community Shop Management Group have expressed a wish to provide the table tennis table and their offer was accepted. The Clerk is to obtain three quotes for the basketball hoop.

22. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following – E-mails from SCC re SID poles – BDC re Designation of Wherstead Neighbourhood Plan – 2 emails re Remembrance Service – BDC Trees & Hedgerows - Reminder from Babergh re 6 month rule & Quorum 5 residents re Quiet Lanes e-mail from residents in Potash Lane re dog bin – e-mails x 2 from Royal Mail regarding Missing Post Box.- they are now aware and it will be replaced .e-mail from resident re neglect of hedgerows along roads in Bentley encroaching onto roadside.
23. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings** - Cllr Bamford - Informed the meeting that he wished to stand down as Chairman – he felt now was the time to hand over the reins.
24. **To Authorise Payments** - The following payments were authorised

101477	Cllr N Moxey	Zoom Subscription September	Ratified	£14.39
101478	SALC	Training Cllr Moxey Planning Webinars x 3		£90.00
101479	Canon	Printing Quiet Lane & NHP		£104.00
101480	Peter Baldwin	Grass cut Closed Churchyard		£130.00
101481	T Hamstead	Fireworks & Paint		£739.95
101482	Places4People	Neighbourhood Plan		£5,027.40
014183	HMRC	Clerk’s Tax		£6.80
101484	Mrs J Scott	Salary September		£505.70
		Minus tax		<u>£6.80</u>
				498.90
		Plus Expenses		<u>£ 40.57</u>
				£539.47

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed Cllr K Spicer Seconded: Cllr P Cross All in favour CU

25. **To consider exclusion of the public & Press in the public interest for consideration of item 27** - No public and press were present.
26. **To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** – Parish Council Meeting Thursday 5 November 2020 @ 7.30 – Extra Ordinary Meeting 12 November 2020 7.30 pm.
27. **To discuss Clerk’s Salary – MNLC Pay Scales 2020/21** - It was proposed that the recommended NALC pay scale be applied to the Clerk’s salary.

Proposed Cllr D Schumacher Seconded: Cllr M Munday All in favour CU

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.51 pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: