



BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Benwick Parish Council on Monday 1st June 2015 in the side room of the Village Hall in High Street Benwick PE15 0XA.

- 031/15-16 Motion to exclude Press and Public Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED** **Agreed**
 Discussion took place regarding the four candidates and their activities and suitability.
 Voting took place for each vacancy and the candidate with the least number of votes was eliminated in each round. The result of the voting was that Val Gobie, Julie Chandler, and Jill Hindle are co-opted onto Benwick Parish Council. The Clerk to inform the candidates. **Clerk**
 Meeting adjourned at 7.10p.m.
 Meeting restarted at 7.30p.m.
- Present:** Cllrs M Chapman(Chair); L Keppel-Spoor; R Emmitt; R Few; J Clark(CCC); R Butcher(FDC), J Richardson(Clerk), Tracey Liano (PCSO) and 5 members of the public
- 032/15-16 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Miscandlon (FDC)
- 033/15-16 Declarations of Interest**
 None declared
- 7:35p.m. Public Time**
- 034/15-16** **Clerk**
 Cricketers Way road damage on entrance. The Clerk will report this to Highways.
 Carl Gobie will be 1st responder for July Cycle Race.
 Dog Warden has been seen in the village for 2 mornings, they have caught someone. There is still dog excrement on river bank and Whittlesey Road.
 One of the signs, indicating litter bins, has been removed. The Clerk will check this. **Clerk**
 Verge cutting contract has been checked and the end of Doddington Road is not on the contract.
 Email complaint from a parishioner regarding the Tour Of Cambridgeshire was read out and the response from Tom Caldwell was also read out.
 Complaint from parishioner was raised regarding the tree in Baptist Cemetery blocking TV signal.
 Parishioner asked if the Parish Council have had any say in the road closures regarding the Cycle Race. The Parish Council have asked for information but nothing has been forthcoming. District Councillors were also unaware of the road closures, but if this event happens again they will insist on more input.
 Public Time Closed at 7.49.p.m
- 035/15-16 Confirmation of Minutes** **Agreed**
 Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED to sign and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th May 2015
- 036/15-16 Matters Arising (for information only)**
 Information rec'd that FDC are awaiting info from Balfour Beatty regarding taking over of street lights (emailed 19/05/15)
 Email sent to School re decision on defibrillator (emailed 26/05/15)
 Thank you letter from Benwick In Bloom re donation given (emailed 27/06/15)
- 037/15-16 Police Matters:** Over the last six weeks although seventeen incidents were reported only five of these had an impact on the community of Benwick:
 • 7th May 2015 – Theft of a mobile phone, which was returned.
 • 11th May 2015 – Damage reported to fencing where ponies are kept at Fields View. The fencing posts have been removed and then thrown at the ponies. A member of the public retrieved some of the posts from a small group of children in the area. Information has been put forward, enquiries and any action that is to be taken is on-going and will be dealt with accordingly.
 • 15th May 2015 – Road Traffic Accident which although rang in to the Police was dealt with by both parties involved, no further action from the Police needed at this time.
 • 22nd May 2015 – Reports of a Petrol can and other items, along with some

damage to the fence at the back of the Five Alls was reported, this was logged as suspicious as it occurred during a short spell when the pub was closed. No further problems to report at the location.

- 24th May 2015 - An assault occurred at Heron Way with the offenders being arrested and they are now awaiting a Court Appearance within the next few weeks. Four reports were called in.

- A further nine incidents were reported but they produced nothing of note.

038/15-16 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Butcher reported that, FDC has to save £1.8M over next four years.

There will be a comprehensive review of spending and there may be an opportunity for public input through a consultation process. Cllr Clark gave examples of a number of possible areas in which savings may be made.

Cllr Clark reported that the County is now being run on a Committee system.

Cllr Clark sits on Environment and Economy Committee, there are 5

Committee's altogether.

039/15-16 Cycle Race/s July 2015: Meeting held, issues regarding car parking, themed scarecrow competition, and a decorate a bike competition were discussed. Meeting was not well attended by village groups. Lots of paperwork re traffic management etc was received, from the Council, and this has now been handed over to Colin Coe, as it was felt that it is not something that Benwick should be completing. Children's painting competition and hog roast will be held at 5 Alls Public House. First race will commence at 9 a.m at 5 Alls Public House, which is a Tour of Benwick, and will finish there at around 11.30a.m. This will be a good opportunity for village groups to be involved in fund raising activities.

040/15-16 Donations:

Request received from East Anglia's Children's Hospices for a donation. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that no donation be given

Agreed

041/15-16 Income & Expenditure

a) Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to approve the following accounts for payment.

Agreed

C Owen	Cemetery & Pound Maintenance	£288.75
CGM Landscapes	Verge Cutting	£70.08
Anglian Water (dd)	Water Rates	£7.00
E-on (dd)	Street Light Electricity	£91.19
J Richardson	Admin – 24/05/15	£172.63
J Richardson	Expenses- reimbursement	£11.35
b) Members to note the following accounts previously approved for payment		
Broker Network	Parish Council Insurance	£627.02
	TOTAL	£1268.02

c) Clerks report on the May Bank Balances and reconciliation statement (see Appendix 1)

042/15-16 Planning/Development

Planning Applications

a) F/YR15/0376/F Construction of a 30 kW ground mounted solar array Land North Of White Fen Farm Whittlesey Road Benwick. Cllr Clark will enquire if a 106 payment can be made from this planning application. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED that the following observations be sent to FDC Planning.

Cllr Clark

Agreed

1. It is not felt that this construction of a solar array will be of any positive benefit to the village, and will not bring employment to this rural area, and as such in the Fenland Local Plan Policy LP1 it will not "improve the economic, social and environmental conditions in Fenland".

2. In Policy LP14 it states that "high quality agricultural land" should be taken account of in these types of development, and the Parish Council consider the land in question to be high quality agricultural land.

3. Policy LP16 states that "high quality environments will be delivered and protected throughout the district and proposals for all new developments must demonstrate that they meet the relevant criteria". In this case the development would not meet the criteria for retaining field patterns, nor does it make a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness and character of the area, it also has a negative impact on the street scene, settlement pattern and the landscape character of the surrounding area.

4. The Parish Council would also like to know if there will be any 106monies

for community benefit, from this scheme.

Development

- a) Copalder Corner, no update
b) Fields View, no update

043/15-16

Cemetery/Mooring

Cemetery

- a) Cemetery Extension Planning Application, is now a valid planning application

044/15-16

Allotments: Letters sent and arrangements for a meeting on 06/07/15 confirmed, there are still 2 replies still to come in from allotment holders.

045/15-16

WW2 US Air Crash: Current findings discussed along with the placement of a memorial on the outskirts of the village. The Clerk to invite Darren Bond to attend July/August, Parish Council Meeting, to discuss further.

Clerk

046/15-16

Correspondence

- a) Rural Services Network Bulletins (emailed 25/05/15, 27/05/15)
b) Email from Police re Ponies Fields View (emailed 19/05/15)
c) Request from Police re publication of Doorstep Crime advice (emailed 26/05/15)
d) Cambs Acre – details of Myth Buster Tour (emailed 26/05/15)
e) FDC – newly elected Chairman and Vice Chairman (emailed 26/05/15)
f) Information on tour of Cambridgeshire Cycle Race 6th/7th June 2015 (emailed 26/05/15)
g) Adult Social Care (emailed 26/05/15)

047/15-16

Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire: Benwick would be part of a very large area under the recommendations. It was felt that there will be no major impact to Benwick. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that no comments be made.

Agreed

048/15-16

Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 6th July 2015. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 29th June 2015

Meeting Closed at 8.50p.m

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2016	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Jacquie Richardson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	28/05/2015		
Approved by		Chair	
Date			
Balance per bank statements as at	28/05/2015	£	£
Current Account		27652.16	
NS&I		20595.57	
			48247.73
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number			
	2346	17.00	
	2347	337.50	
	2348	70.00	
			424.50
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			
Net bank balances as at			47823.23
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance		45,781.90	
Add: Receipts to date		6,541.25	
Less: Payments to date		4,499.92	
Closing Balance		47,823.23	
Earmarked Reserves:			
Parish Plan	£532.89		
Verge Planting	£46.34		
Cemetery Extension	£7,470.00		
Street Lighting	£8,000.00		
The Pound	£2,000.00		
War Memorial	£2,000.00		
Mooring	£1,000.00		
		TOTAL	£21,049.23
General Reserve	£26,774.00		