



BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Benwick Parish Council on Monday 6th July 2015 in the side room of the Village Hall in High Street Benwick PE15 0XA.

- Present** Cllrs: M Chapman (Chair); R Few; J Hindle; V Gobie; L Keppel-Spoor; R Emmitt; J Chandler; R Butcher (FDC); J Clark (CCC) 6 members of the public, J Richardson (Parish Clerk)
- 053/15-16** **Apologies for Absence:** PCSO T Liano and Cllr A Miscandlon
- 054/15-16** **Declarations of Interest**
a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. Cllr L Keppel-Spoor Item 069/15-16c
- 7:35p.m.** **Public Time**
- 055/15-16** Grass cutting is needed along the river bank footpath on Nene Parade, Clerk to check if on Parish Council grass cutting contract **Clerk**
Willow tree on Nene Parade is overgrown, Clerk to report to Highways **Clerk**
Dog Fouling still an issue on Nene Parade
Question asked if there will be double yellow lines outside the new shop, and advice was no double yellow lines will be put in place.
Community Payback team were down Skeifs Row and have caused issues, some have been reported to Police. Benwick in Bloom had asked for Community Payback to come into the village and this will be reported back to the Community Payback team by Benwick In Bloom.
Janet Fountain introduced Darren Bond to the Parish Council, who is investigating the WW2 Air Crash, and will address the Parish Council on this item in the agenda.
Street Light in Nene Parade, reported as on all the time, the Clerk will report. **Clerk**
Question asked when Scarecrow competition is on, and it was reported that this will be on Facebook and in the Benwick Bugle.
Unkempt land was raised and is on agenda and the state of the Baptist Cemetery to be included as well.
Benwick In Bloom have not entered the In Bloom competition this year. A cyclist has commented on how good the village looks on Cambridge Radio.
A notification of a road closure on Benwick Road, Doddington from 1st September to 3rd September 2015 has been received. Further information will follow.
Public Time Closed 7.44p.m.
- 056/15-16** **Confirmation of Minutes**
Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st June 2015. **Agreed**
Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor, and AGREED, to approve the Minutes of the Extra Meeting held on 10th June 2015. **Agreed**
- 057/15-16** **Matters Arising (for information only)**
Cricketers Way and Neneside, damage to road at entrances was reported to Highways, and now fixed (16/06/15)
- 058/15-16** **Police Matters:**
01/06/2015 – Incident involving a male using threatening behaviour towards a family at Heron Way, family has now been moved. In total a further six calls were received in relation to the on-going issues at the location, as a result the tensions in Heron Way has lifted. Further investigation into the family is still on-going not only from the Police but also from Fenland District Council who are also looking at prosecution. Various meetings have and are still being held.
02/06/2015 – Large branch had fallen into the road causing an obstruction, Highways were called to clear the area of Doddington Road.
08/06/2015 – Stolen property was found in Benwick by member of the public. This has been dealt with.
09/06/2015 – Road Traffic Accident on Doddington Road, Benwick. Head on collision both parties were injured, and Ambulances were called.
22/06/2015 –A rental van has pulled up to a property a male walked up to the front door and then wandered about in the garden before driving off. Male was noticed to have something in his hand which he was trying to cover up.

No other information available.

22/06/2015 – Number plates were stolen from a vehicle in Benwick. Please check your vehicles before you start your journey and report the theft to the Police and other agencies insurance etc. as often these are stolen to use in crime.

17/06/2015 – Concern for tools and equipment at a building location due to a couple of males hanging around the location.

The remainder of the incidents reported were;

Road offences/minor accidents,

A report of a large group of youths gathering together, but the group had dispersed by the time the Police attended.

The remainder were non community related.

PCSO Ian Moll attended Benwick School following the report of a boat theft, he gave a talk to the older youths at the school called 'Following the crowd' which was in relation to walking away from 'peer pressure' and discussing the 'dangers around water'. School patrols have also been on-going with words of advice given to three people as a result.

Further afield In Whittlesey we had a spate of burglaries/thefts from the local Churches in town. This caused a great upset amongst the community of Whittlesey. Money and silverware were amongst some of the items stolen. A male was arrested as a result shortly afterwards, further enquiries are still on-going.

If you have any issues or need to talk to a local officer please do not hesitate to contact 101

059/15-16

WW2 US Air Crash: Darren Bond explained his research of an Air Crash of two American planes, on a training exercise, on 12th May 1944. Two aircraft crashed and Darren would like to ask if a War Memorial could be put up in Benwick. All 14 American Airmen were originally buried in Cambridge Maddingley, Cemetery. Darren has had some ideas of possible memorials and these were passed around. Janet Fountain has only come up with one person in the village who remembers the crash. The first accident site was at Hungry Hall, near Turves, near the Railway Line and the second plane went down at Glassmoor Bank. Information locally is scarce. A wreath was laid for the 5 still buried at Maddingley recently. The Chairman stated that he would like the American Services to be involved in this. Darren has no funding available for this currently. There is a concern that there are not many places in the village for the memorial to be placed. There was a thought of putting the names on the current War Memorial, but not sure if this can be done. Cllr Chapman agreed to write a letter to USAF at Mildenhall and Derek Stebbings, works with US at Alconbury, (Cllr Butcher to provide details) regarding working together on this matter. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED that the Parish Council are willing to move forward on discussions for a War Memorial and Cllr Chapman is to write to Americans regarding possible funding and support.

**Agreed
Cllr Chapman**

060/15-16

Benwick In Bloom: The Group has decided not to enter In Bloom Competition this year. Play Park gates have not been fixed, and this has been reported to Bob Ollier. Baptist Cemetery speaks for itself, St Marys Cemetery is ongoing work. Tubs are in situ, verges decorated with cycle wheels, and could verges be cut prior to the Cycle Race, it was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the grass contractor be contacted, by the Clerk, to ask if a cut can be done prior to cycle race by bringing forward August cut.

**Agreed
Clerk**

061/15-16

County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Butcher and Cllr Miscandlon are now on the Benwick Internal Drainage Board.

062/15-16

Cllr Clark has next CCC Meeting later in the month 21st July

Election of Working Parties & Representatives (Members are reminded that individuals are not allowed to make decisions or take actions on behalf of the Council. Any action or decision must be brought before the Council for prior sanction.)

It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the following Councillors be responsible for reporting on the following areas:-

Cemetery (Previously Agreed Reg Few)

Allotments (September Gardens and Town Ground): All Councillors
Village Hall: Richard Emmitt

Planning: Linda Keppel-Spoor
 Finance: Richard Emmitt
 Street Lighting: All Councillors
 Highways: Julie Chandler
 Land (The Pound): Richard Emmitt
 War Memorial & Flag Pole: Jill Hindle and Val Gobie
 Mooring: Linda Keppel-Spoor
 Village Sign: Val Gobie
 Bus Shelter: Jill Hindle

- 063/15-16** **Cycle Race:** Main Circuit of the Fens Race has been cancelled for various reasons. The Benwick Race will still be taking place, starting and finishing in Benwick at 12.00 to 2.45 p.m. on Sunday 26th July 2015, there is expected to be around 100 amateur cyclists taking part, over 8 laps. People for marshalling in Benwick are being brought in by the organisers. Rolling road closures are in place for the race. Scarecrow competition (Super Heroes theme), Children's Painting competition and Hog Roast are still being held on Sunday 26th July 2015. The Bugle will carry an advert, and flyers will be distributed to promote the day. Everyone needs to promote the fact that a Cycle Race is still taking place. Email will be sent to Benwick School (by Cllr Keppel-Spoor) advising of Scarecrow Competition and judging and prizes will be advised later. **Cllr Keppel-Spoor**
- 064/15-16** **Disabled Parking Bays:** Taking into account that car parking is limited in Chapel Gardens, it was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Parish Council have no comment to make regarding the application for disabled parking bays. The Clerk is to advise CCC. **Agreed**
Clerk
- 065/15-16** **Play Park:** Actions and decisions have been on hold awaiting the appointment of new Parish Councillors. The Parish Council has a proposed scheme for the Play Park, funding available is £50,400 from Heron Way 106 monies, and £6K from Ramsey Road. There is a need to work on matched funding which could be applied for from the Rural Capital Grants (FDC). Cllr Keppel-Spoor, Cllr Gobie and Cllr Chandler agreed to take on this item and it will be kept on agenda for updates. Cllr Keppel-Spoor is to contact Tony Richardson to take over the previous work. **Cllr Keppel-Spoor**
- 066/15-16** **War Memorial:** Budget is set aside and now waiting for the building of shop to be finished. To be placed back on Agenda when shop build completed. **Clerk**
- 067/15-16** **Parish Plan:** March 2012 was the last time the village was consulted on the Parish Plan. A neighbourhood plan and the Parish Plan were discussed. It was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor, and AGREED, that the Earmarked Reserves (£532.89) continue to be saved in case an opportunity for a consultation occurs. **Agreed**
- 068/15-16** **The Pound:** There is still an issue with regard to storage container being placed on there. Cllr Emmitt to look into this matter **Cllr Emmitt**
- 069/15-16** **Income & Expenditure**
- a) Recycling Credit rec'd £27.74, CCC Grant rec'd £703.88
- b) 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 | £127.01 |
| J Richardson | Admin – 28/06/15 | £368.28 |
| Benwick Primary School | Defibrillator Contribution | £195.00 |
- c) Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to approve the following accounts for payment.
- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| L Keppel-Spoor | Planting Expenses | £53.15 |
| | TOTAL | £1109.27 |
- d) Clerks report on the June Bank Balances and reconciliation statement is at Appendix 1
- e) Clerks report on budget performance up to end June 2015 is at Appendix 2. It was agreed that there is no significant deviation from predictions.
- 070/15-16** **Planning/Development**
Planning Applications
- a) F/YR15/0411/F Change of use of allotment gardens to burial ground as an extension to existing cemetery, Land West Of The Old Rectory Whittlesey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire PE15 0XL. Shortage of grave spaces, small

piece of land left. The planning application should keep the Council going for a long while. Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to fully approve

Agreed

Planning Granted

a) F/YR15/0132/F Erection of 3 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with double garages including construction of a new access and a public footway involving the demolition of existing outbuildings - Land West Of 42 Ramsey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire

Development

a) Update on Copalder Corner. Information has been sent to FDC by The Clerk, as requested.

b) Update on public open space in Fields View. Cllr Chapman to discuss with Tony Richardson

Cllr Chapman

Complaint

Letter received regarding two areas of unkempt land, on Heron Way and Doddington Road. The Chairman has spoken to owner of land on Heron Way.

071/15-16

Cemetery/Mooring

Cemetery

a) Cemetery Extension Planning Application has been submitted, an objection from the Environment Authority was read out. Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that £200 be pre authorised for the Tier 1 assessment update and agreement to the 3 month planning extension.

Agreed

b) The No Dog Sign, allotment end, is missing. Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED that no replacement sign be put up

**Agreed
Clerk**

c) Baptist Cemetery, the Clerk is to email the Baptists again regarding the state of the Cemetery.

Mooring

a) Discussion on mooring of boats over 36 hours, and the Clerk is to report to Parish Councillors when the issue is raised again.

072/15-16

Allotments: Working Party Meeting held prior to the Parish Council Meeting. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Cllr Chapman is to draft a letter to allotment holders to the effect that the Parish Council have tried to discuss with them but the meeting was not well attended. Also to include that the plots need to be raised to an acceptable standard by end Sept when another meeting will be held. If no joint decision is made then the Parish Council will take additional action, including serving notice, to bring the allotments up to an acceptable standard.

**Agreed
Cllr Chapman**

073/15-16

Correspondence

a) Rural Services Network Bulletins (emailed 03/06/15, 10/06/15, 16/06/15, 17/06/15, 22/06/15, 29/06/15)

b) Youth Bus Term report (emailed 03/06/15)

c) Notice of civic diary dates (emailed 16/06/15)

d) CPRE update (emailed 22/06/15)

e) Information on adult care and support (emailed 29/06/15)

074/15-16

Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 3rd August 2015. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 27th July 2015.

Lorries through the village

Meeting Closed at:- 9.28p.m

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2016	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Jacquie Richardson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	30/06/2015		
Approved by		Chair	
Date			
Balance per bank statements as at	29/06/2015	£	£
Current Account		27584.71	
NS&I		20595.57	
			48180.28
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number			
			0.00
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			
Net bank balances as at			48180.28
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance		45,781.90	
Add: Receipts to date		7,575.12	
Less: Payments to date		5,176.74	
Closing Balance		48,180.28	
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	£27,131.05		

Appendix 2

BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL								
		BUDGET	CURRENT	CURRENT	CURRENT	FORECAST	VARIANCE	EXPLANATION
		2015-16	End JUNE 2015	End SEPT 2015	End DEC 2015	2015-16		
INCOME:								
Maintenance Grants:	Precept	£10,609.00	£5,304.50			£10,609.00	£0.00	
Council Tax Support Grant	Council Tax Support Grant	£1,288.00	£644.00			£1,288.00	£0.00	
	Concurrent	£2,687.00				£2,687.00	£0.00	
	Grass Cutting	£703.88	£703.88			£703.88	£0.00	
Rents:	Town	£875.00	£437.50			£875.00	£0.00	
	September Gardens	£260.00	£170.00			£170.00	-£90.00	
Recycling Credits		£60.00	£27.74			£27.74	-£32.26	
VAT Refund		£660.00	£0.00			£660.00	£0.00	
Burials		£200.00	£287.50			£287.50	£87.50	
Inland Revenue Refund							£0.00	
Bursary Payment							£0.00	
Railings Contribution							£0.00	
SUB TOTALS:		£17,342.88	£7,575.12	£0.00	£0.00	£17,308.12	-£34.76	
Sundries	Parish Plan	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	Verge Planting	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
TOTALS:		£17,342.88	£7,575.12	£0.00	£0.00	£17,308.12	-£34.76	
							VARIANCE	EXPLANATION
Rates		350.00	51.40			350.00	£0.00	
Room Hire		200.00	30.00			200.00	£0.00	
Subscriptions:	NALC LCR Magazine	18.00	17.00			17.00	-£1.00	
	CAPALC	381.53	297.43			297.43	-£84.10	
	Cambes Acre	54.00	-			54.00	£0.00	
	SLCC	70.00	59.00			59.00	-£11.00	
	Clerks & Councils Magazine	12.00	-			12.00	£0.00	
Maintenance	Verges	700.82	172.42			700.82	£0.00	
	Cemetery	3,150.00	827.09			3,150.00	£0.00	
	Street Lights	1,038.31	863.07			1,038.31	£0.00	
	Allotments	-	-			-	£0.00	
Insurance		596.16	627.02			627.02	£30.86	
Energy		1,222.40	297.55			1,222.40	£0.00	
Professional Charges	Internal Auditor	120.00	120.00			120.00	£0.00	
	External Auditor	150.00	-			150.00	£0.00	
	ICO	40.00	-			40.00	£0.00	
	Computer Security						£0.00	
Sundries		200.00	-			200.00	£0.00	
Telephone/Internet		150.00	29.89			150.00	£0.00	
Post & Stationery		100.00	22.11			100.00	£0.00	
Travel		90.00	-			90.00	£0.00	
Clerk's annual office expenses		150.00	-			150.00	£0.00	
Planting & Maintenance		75.00	-			75.00	£0.00	
Training		450.00	-			450.00	£0.00	
VAT Paid		900.00	227.93			900.00	£0.00	
Wages/PAYE-NI		4,000.00	904.83			4,000.00	£0.00	
SUB TOTALS:		14,218.22	4,546.74	-	-	14,152.98	-£65.24	
Election		1,066.80	-			1,066.80	£0.00	
Development Projects		3,000.00	-			3,000.00	£0.00	
Tourism (Cycle Races)		500.00	-			500.00	£0.00	
Local Highways Improvement		1,000.00	-			1,000.00	£0.00	
Play Park			-				£0.00	
Cemetery Extension			530.00			530.00	£530.00	
WW1 Commemoration							£0.00	
Xmas Decorations		150.00	-			150.00	£0.00	
S137 Payment	British Legion Poppy Wreath	25.00	-			25.00	£0.00	
Donations/Charity		200.00	100.00			200.00	£0.00	
TOTALS:		20,160.02	5,176.74	-	-	20,624.78	£464.76	