



BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Benwick Parish Council on Monday 7th December 2015 in the side room of the Village Hall in High Street, Benwick PE15 0XA.

- Present:** Cllrs; M Chapman (Chair), L Keppel-Spoor, R Few, J Hindle, V Gobie, A Miscandlon (FDC), J Richardson (Clerk), B Ollier (FDC) and 4 members of the public
- 177/15-16 Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs: J Clark (CCC); R Butcher (FDC); R Emmitt; J Chandler and PCSO T Liano
- 178/15-16 Declarations of Interest**
 a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared:-
 Cllr J Hindle Item No. 185/15-16
 Cllr V Gobie Item No's. 185/15-16 and 189/15-16(b)
- 179/15-16 Public Time**
7.35p.m-7.45 Dog Fouling, in particular, on the footbridge and Nene Parade by the Cemetery is getting worse again.
 Willow trees on Nene Parade have still not been cut back, Clerk to report again. **Clerk**
 The fact that there is no Xmas tree in the village this year was raised, the Chairman apologised for not contacting the individual who had offered the tree, and it was stated that the lack of the tree was disappointing.
 Night time parking in the village was raised with regard to the legality of this. **Clerk**
 Observations on this matter will be passed to the PCSO by the Clerk. The Chairman highlighted the fact that individuals can report these instances via the "ecops" website
 Benwick In Bloom is entering the Anglia in Bloom competition next year. It was raised that the shrubbery at end of High Street would let down the entry. The Chairman reported that a resident has been spoken to about this and they have agreed to cut it back.
 Hedges down Doddington Road, at the High Street end, have still not been cut back, the Clerk is to report again **Clerk**
 The drain on the High Street opposite the old shop is overflowing and the one outside the Baptist cemetery is breaking away and the Clerk is to report this. **Clerk**
- 180/15-16 Confirmation of Minutes**
 It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd November 2015 be approved **Agreed**
- 181/15-16 Matters Arising (for information only)**
 Emailed E-On to cease payments for Street Light electricity 03/11/15
 Emailed to book Village Hall side room for 2016 Parish Council Meetings
- 182/15-16 Play Park:** Bob Ollier gave an update on the work being done on the Play Park project. The total project cost is estimated at £170k. A bid has been submitted for a Rural Capital Grant of £51,500, The Wren application will be submitted in January for £50K. Currently around £17K to £18K short for the project and other funding sources will need to be looked at for this amount. It is important to have a letter to say where the other monies are coming from and Bob asked the Parish Council how much they are going to contribute to the scheme and can he have a letter of confirmation of this.
 Discussion took place on the origins of the Play Park and how it was originally funded.
 The Parish Council will discuss this at the meeting in January, the Clerk to place on agenda, to agree the funding and send a letter of confirmation to Bob Ollier. **Clerk**
 The next steps in the project are for Bob to send out a tender to companies.
 The Chairman thanked Bob for his attendance at the meeting and the help and support he is providing
- 183/15-16 Police Matters:**
 Crime up-date there have been 11 reported incidents in Benwick over the last month with only 5 having an impact on the community.
 1. 24/11/2015 1 x theft of a child's scooter, unknown offenders.
 2. 18/11/2015 1 x theft of a boat part, unknown offenders at this time.

3. 2 x Hare Coursing on Ramsey Road and Floods Ferry/Benwick. On-going incidents with dedicated teams.

4. 01/12/2015 1 x report of rubbish on Ibberson's Drove council contacted Patrols in the village have increased due to the seasonal demands caused by hare coursing, there have been 28 reports of Hare Coursing across Fenland. RCATS are a dedicated team who deal mainly with this type of incident alongside Countryside Watch. Countryside Watch was established in Cambridgeshire in 1993 to reduce crime in rural areas, it has a good support system with its members and knowledge of the Fenland area and what problems and issues this causes its communities.

School and general patrols have been conducted in and around Benwick over the last month, with nothing of note to report. We are always happy to assist in any way we can with your concerns or enquiries so, if you see us around please do not hesitate to stop and speak to us, and don't forget we can also be contacted on 101 and a message will be put through to the Whittlesey Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team for us to contact you.

184/15-16 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Miscandlon apologised for not attending for the last few months, due to a clash of meeting dates. Last Thursday the planning training took place at Fenland and this was very well attended. Specialist items, that Cllrs require further information on, have been identified and will be answered. Hoping to hold another meeting in February 2016. A copy of the overheads used will be sent to Clerks for distribution to all Cllrs

Cllrs Hindle and Gobie left the meeting

185/15-16 Benwick In Bloom: The request for placement of a planter on the grass verge at the corner of Lilyholt Road was discussed.

A question regarding the size of the planter was asked and it was confirmed that it would be the same size as the other tubs in the village.

It was Proposed that by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that this request be granted as long as Benwick In Bloom keep the grass cut around the tub. Benwick in Bloom will now contact Highways to seek their permission.

Agreed

Cllrs Hindle and Gobie returned to the meeting

186/15-16 Dog Fouling: The Street Scene Officer is to visit the school tomorrow (08/12/15) to commence a competition to design dog fouling posters which the winning ones will then be put up around the village.

Posters received from FDC are to be put up around the village by the Clerk.

Clerk

It was raised that other Council's are fining on the spot for dog fouling, however the Parish Council do not have the powers to do this.

Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that £10 is donated for the school competition, and the Clerk and Chairman will identify the relevant power and budget.

Agreed

187/15-16 The Pound: A letter has been received asking if a fairground ride could be placed on The Pound for the "Santa Special". It was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor, and AGREED, that nothing is allowed to be placed on The Pound by the "Santa Special". The Clerk will inform Benwick Neighbourhood Watch of this decision.

**Agreed
Clerk**

188/15-16 Bus Shelter: The paint has been purchased and now awaiting a decent weather day to paint.

189/15-16 Income & Expenditure

a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that members consider and 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
Eon (dd)	Electricity Costs	£110.62
J Richardson	Admin – 29/11/15	£319.94
J Richardson	Expenses (reimbursement)	£35.78
Communicorp	Clerks & Councils Direct	£12.00
Office Depot	Stationery Supplies	£38.04

Cllr Gobie left the meeting

b) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that members consider and approve the following accounts for payment.

Agreed

V Gobie	Xmas decorations	£21.93
V Gobie	(reimbursement)	£42.78
	Bus shelter paint	

	(reimbursement)	
	TOTAL	£946.92
	Cllr Gobie returned to the meeting	
	c) Clerks report on the November Bank Balances is attached at Appendix 1	
	d) Budgets and Precept planning for 2016/17 was discussed. Precept application date for 2016/17 is 05/02/2016. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Cllr Emmitt, Cllr Keppel-Spoor and Cllr Chapman, hold a working party meeting to work on a budget proposal which will be put to the Council in January 2016. Clerk to include this as an agenda item	Agreed Clerk
190/15-16	Planning/Development Application F/YR15/0998/F Erection of a single-storey rear extension; enclosing of porch to front and addition of render to existing dwelling. 1 Summerfield Way Benwick, Cambridgeshire PE15 0HT. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED that there are no objections to this planning application. Clerk to inform FDC.	Agreed Clerk
	Development a) An email was sent, regarding Copalder Corner to FDC, by Cllr Chapman and a response has been received. This was discussed and now awaiting further action being taken. Cllr Miscandlon will request further updates. b) Draft Fenland Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (emailed 18/11/15). It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that there are no comments to make. c) The Pre-Application Charging scheme proposal was discussed and it was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that there are no comments to be made	Cllr Miscandlon Agreed Agreed
191/15-16	Cemetery/Mooring Cemetery a) Cllr Few is to take off the plate from the damaged bench and also remove the bench. Cllr Keppel-Spoor is to continue to attempt to find the original owners of the bench. The bench near the mooring end of the Cemetery also needs to be monitored for its condition.	Cllr Few Cllr Keppel-Spoor
192/15-16	Allotments: a) The Notice to Quit in April 2017 has been served on allotment holders. It has been pointed out to tenants that we are not past the point of no return and this has started communications on the subject.	
193/15-16	Highways a) 2016-17 Local Highways Improvement Bid: Cllr Keppel-Spoor has submitted the bid but could not attend the meeting, now awaiting further info.	
194/15-16	Street Lighting a) The power for the street lights has now been transferred to FDC along with the maintenance contract. A letter has now been received from FDC regarding the actions needed for the Cat1 and Cat2 lights in the village. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Cllr Chapman and the Clerk look at the street lights and prepare a proposal for the January meeting. Balfour Beatty is to be contacted to discuss options further	Agreed Cllr Chapman Clerk
195/15-16	Connections Bus Project: The letter received regarding funding of the project for 2016/17, was discussed. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Clerk writes back to say that the Parish Council are not in a position to fund.	Agreed
196/15-16	Village Hall: Letter received from Village Hall Committee was read out by Cllr Chapman, and the Council thought that no response was required.	
197/15-16	Cambridgeshire County Council: It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Cllr Keppel-Spoor completes the survey on behalf of the Parish Council, as a stakeholder, to County Farms Estates.	Agreed Cllr Keppel-Spoor
198/15-16	Donations: It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that no donation be made to Volunteer Centre Fenland. The Clerk is to advise of this	Agreed Clerk
199/15-16	Events Guidance: It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Parish Council have no comments to make on the Events guidance proposal, but individual groups in the village may have comments to make. The Clerk is to advise of this.	Agreed Clerk
200/15-16	Correspondence	

- a) Rural Services Network Bulletins (emailed 03/11/15, 04/11/15,12/11/15, 18/11/15, 23/11/15, 30/11/15, 02/12/15)
- b) SLCC bulletin (emailed 30/10/15)
- c) CCC Parish e-news bulletin (emailed 04/11/15)
- d) Electoral Commission, Electoral review of Cambridgeshire: Further limited Consultation for Cambridge (emailed 04/11/15)
- e) NALC AGM Summary (emailed 04/11/15), bulletin (emailed 12/11/15, 18/11/15, 01/12/15)
- f) CPRE request to support “warm homes” campaign (emailed 09/11/15)
- g) Invite from Chairman of FDC to attend Community Carol Service, Sunday, 13 December 2015 at 3.00 pm at Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Church Terrace, Wisbech, PE13 1HP (emailed 12/11/15)
- h) CAPALC AGM invitation (emailed 12/11/15)
- i) Cambs Acre Bulletin (emailed 18/11/15)
- j) Community Transport in Fenland (emailed and placed on website 18/11/15)
- k) Pre-app consultation regarding two wind turbines at Cornerways Farm (emailed 18/11/15)
- l) Police & Crime Commissioner update on restorative justice (emailed 23/11/15), Youth Funding Opportunity (emailed 01/12/15)
- m) Tour of Cambridgeshire 2016 Routes announced, and presentation slides (emailed 30/11/15)
- n) Messages from the Conduct Committee (emailed 30/11/15)

201/15-16 Motion to exclude Press and Public was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED **Agreed**

War Memorial:

a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the response email be printed and posted as no reply has been received to date. **Agreed**

202/15-16 Cemetery

The quotes received regarding the paths in the Cemetery extension were discussed and the Clerk is now to obtain further information.

Clerk

203/15-16 Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 4th January 2016. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 28th December 2015

Meeting Closed at 9.33 p.m

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation				Financial Year ending 31 March 2016			
Benwick Parish Council							
Prepared by Jacquie Richardson (Clerk & RFO)							
Date		30/11/2015					
Approved by				Chair			
Date							
Balance per bank statements as at				30/11/2015			
				£		£	
Current Account				31460.12			
NS&I				20595.57			
						52055.69	
Less: Unpresented Cheques							
Cheque Number				2360		195.00	
				2387		33.75	
						228.75	
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit							
Net bank balances as at						51,826.94	
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-							
Opening Balance				45,781.90			
Add: Receipts to date				16,442.78			
Less: Payments to date				10,397.74			
Closing Balance				51,826.94			
Earmarked Reserves:							
Parish Plan		£532.89					
Verge Planting		£1.40					
Cemetery Extension		£7,357.50					
Street Lighting		£8,000.00					
The Pound		£2,000.00					
War Memorial		£2,000.00					
Mooring		£1,000.00		TOTAL		£20,891.79	
General Reserve		£30,935.15					