



## BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Benwick Parish Council on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 in the side room of the Village Hall in High Street Benwick PE15 0XA.

**Present** Cllrs: M Chapman (Chair); R Few; A Richardson; R Emmitt; L Keppel-Spoor; K Sutton; (J Richardson Clerk); and one member of the public

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs: P Tickner (Illness); J Clark (CCC); T R Butcher (FDC); A Miscandlon (FDC);

**Declarations of Interest** Councillors to declare any interests under the Local Code of Conduct in respect of any item to be discussed at this meeting:-

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest) 173/14c & 184/14 Cllr Richardson

b) Non-Pecuniary Interest )

c) Sensitive Pecuniary Interest )

### 7.31-7.35 Public Time

A member of the public reported that the Xmas Tree in the village looked nice.

It was reported that dog fouling in the village is getting worse.

The footbridge painting issue has been raised again

### Public Time Closed at 7.35

### 163/14 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014 were Proposed for approval by Cllr Chapman, AGREED and signed.

**Agreed**

### 164/14 Matters Arising (for information only)

F/YR14/0898/CERTLU reply sent to Planning 08/12/14

### 165/14 Youth Centre

a) The email is still to be sent in an attempt to secure funding for the Youth Bus

**Cllr Chapman**

### 166/14 Play Park

Cllr Richardson has spoken to Bob Ollier (FDC) and has circulated an email re the discussion points and is awaiting confirmation from FDC re their acceptance of the plans and future maintenance.

The issue of earmarking reserves for the use in the process of the Play Park in 2015/16 to be taken into account by budget working party.

### 167/14 Police Matters

#### RIVER CLOSE

Vehicles car wheels stolen from residential property sometime between 19th- 23rd Dec.

#### RAMSEY ROAD

Sometime between 29th- 31st pet tortoise taken from garden building- fencing removed to gain access to garden.

An email has been received from Paul Harris currently the Whittlesey Geographic Sergeant. The purpose of the email is to inform you that as of February 2015 I will be responsible for the local team serving, Doddington, Wimblington and Benwick. This change will commence due to some internal changes within the Fenland Policing Family.

My team will consist of a dedicated police officer and three PCSO's, plus myself. We will still serve Whittlesey, Coates and Eastrea, and



will be based at Whittlesey Police station.

**168/14 County & District Councillors Reports**

No District Councillors present

**169/14 Dog Fouling**

- a) Still awaiting a date from FDC re “action morning”
- b) The issue of Dogs in the Play Park has been raised, with FDC and Bob Ollier is to look into this matter

**170/14 Cycle Race 2015**

No update received

**171/14 WW2 Commemorations**

This item is to be left on the Agenda for February to allow for discussion

**172/14 Highways/Street Lighting**

**Highways**

- a) 2014/15 LHI bid no further update
- b) Other Councils have been contacting the local MP with regard to the issue of muddy roads and it was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor that the council supports other councils in this matter, the motion was not Seconded. Cllr Keppel-Spoor is to investigate this matter further
- c) The pavement damage near to the Village Hall has been reported to Highways and photos of the damage have been taken

**Cllr Keppel-Spoor**

**Street Lights**

- a) The formal request to FDC , asking that ‘Benwick be treated on an equitable basis with other Parishes in the District with regards to Parish owned Street Lights’ was deferred at the last Cabinet Meeting because of other input on the Street Lighting issue in general.

A letter from FDC has been received requesting that Benwick Parish Council sign to authorise FDC to arrange and pay for the replacement of Cat 1 Street Lights. Cllr Sutton Proposed, and it was AGREED, that the letter be signed and returned.

**Agreed Clerk**  
**Agreed Clerk**

It was Proposed by Cllr Richardson, and AGREED, that Balfour Beatty be contacted to identify any CAT 1 lights in the village.

- b) 1 quote has been received for the removal of the street light at the rear of 27b High Street, but no quote has yet been received with regard to just removing the power supply. This light is to be highlighted to Balfour Beatty to be included in the survey.

**173/14 Income & Expenditure**

- a) Received 2<sup>nd</sup> Function Grant £1340.00

- b) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment:

**APPROVED**

C Owen	Cemetery	£236.25
C Owen	Pound	£13.34
CGM Landscapes	Verge Cutting	£66.74
Anglian Water (dd)		£3.00
E-on (dd)		£115.80
Cambs Acre	Annual Renewal	£54.00

Cllr Richardson left the room

- c) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment:

**APPROVED**

J Richardson	Admin – 28/12/14	£351.67
J Richardson	PP&S-reimbursement	£2.00
T Richardson	Xmas-reimbursement	£64.76

Cllr Richardson returned to the room

**TOTAL £907.56**

- d) Clerk reported on the current bank balances at end December



2014:-	
Current Account	£26,504.21
NS&I	£20,442.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>£46,946.46</b>

Earmarked Reserves are:-

Verge Planting	£46.34
Parish Plan	£532.89

The bank reconciliation is complete with a variance of £38.00 due to uncashed cheque.

174/14

**Budgets 2015/16**

a) Spreadsheet of budget v performance had been distributed to the Councillors and the overall outlook is healthy.

b) Cllr Richardson Proposed, and it was AGREED, that the precept be set the same as last year. Cllr Emmitt, to look at the budgets in detail ready for agreement in February 2015 meeting, following a working party meeting.

**Agreed  
Clerk  
Cllr Emmitt**

175/14

**The Pound**

No quotes have been obtained for the concrete sectional garage. The pre-planning meeting is still to be held with Graham Norse to explore all the possibilities of siting a storage container on The Pound.

**Cllr Keppel-  
Spoor  
Cllr Richardson**

176/14

**Standing Orders**

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were reviewed with regard to the value, above which, a sealed bid tender process is required.

Standing Orders affected are Section 18 Paragraph a v, and Paragraph c in which the current amount is £1500.

Financial Regulations affected are Section 11 Contracts Paragraph b, Paragraph f and Paragraph h in which the current amount is £1500

It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the amount be changed to £4000 from the current £1500.

The Clerk is to update Standing Orders accordingly

**Agreed**

**Clerk**

177/14

**Planning/Development****a) Planning refused**

F/YR14/0813/F

Erection of 3 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with double garages including construction of public footway at land West Of 42 Ramsey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire

**b) Certificate of Lawful Use Issued**

F/YR14/0898/CERTLU

Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing): Erection of a single-storey extension to rear of existing dwelling, conversion of existing garage to living accommodation and the formation of a dropped kerb. 32 High Street Benwick March Cambridgeshire PE15 0XA

**c) Development****Copalder Corner**

Councillor Miscandlon is to get an update later this week

**Fields View**

No further update, mentioned to FDC, Bob Ollier

**Infrastructure provision for future developments**

It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the following items be highlighted to FDC as infrastructure requirements in Benwick. Gas to the village (High Priority), Sewerage Updgrade (High Priority), Sustainable Energy (Medium Priority) and Electricity Cables underground (Low Priority)

**Agreed**

**Clerk**



- 178/14 Donations**  
A request from the Volunteer Centre Fenland had been received. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that this request be refused. **Agreed**
- 179/14 Cemetery/Mooring**  
**Cemetery**  
**a)** The drawing up of plans is required for the extension of the Cemetery and it was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Clerk obtains quotes for this work **Agreed Clerk**  
**b)** The plaque is still to be fixed to the bench and the cleaning of the bench is ongoing dependent on weather **Cllr Keppel-Spoor**  
**c)** No further correspondence received on the Baptist Cemetery  
**d)** It was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor, and AGREED, that Howard Langford would contact Geoff Rushbrook re collection of the Hayter Hawk Mower. **Agreed Cllr Keppel-Spoor**
- 180/14 Correspondence**  
**a)** Rural Services Network Bulletins (emailed 08/12/14, 29/12/14)  
**b)** Police & Crime Commissioner update (emailed 29/12/14)  
**c)** SLCC Bulletin (emailed 08/12/14)  
**d)** Winter Health bulletin (emailed 08/12/14)  
**e)** CAPALC Bulletin (emailed 08/12/14)  
**f)** Natural Cambridgeshire information (emailed 15/12/14)  
**g)** CPRE bulletin (emailed 29/12/14)  
**h)** Notification of Post Office reopening Tuesday 20/01/2015 10.30 to 12.30
- 181/14 Parish Plan**  
This item is to be placed on Agenda for next month **Clerk**  
**A motion was passed to exclude the Press and Public**
- 182/14 Grass Verge & Cemetery Maintenance**  
**a)** Two quotes received for the Grass Verge Contract 2015-18 and it was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Quote A be accepted, and the Clerk is to notify **Agreed Clerk**  
**b)** It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the request for the Cemetery Quotes be sent out and to be returned by end February 2015 **Agreed Clerk**
- 183/14 Health & Safety**  
Response Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to be sent to Health & Safety Executive by the Clerk **Agreed Clerk**
- 184/14 Clerk**  
It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Clerks Salary is increased in line with the National Pay Award and the non-consolidated payment of £21.62 be made. **Agreed Clerk**  
It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Clerk be reimbursed for the £250 CiLCA Fee that has been paid. **Agreed Clerk**  
It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Clerk be authorised for up to an extra 50 hours to complete the CiLCA Portfolio **Agreed Clerk**
- 185/14 Agenda Items/Next Meeting**  
The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015. Items to be included on the agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 **ALL COUNCILLORS**

Meeting Closed at 9.20pm