



BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Benwick Parish Council on Monday 2nd October 2017 in the Church room of the Village Hall in High Street, Benwick PE15 0XA

- Present:** Cllrs M Chapman (Chair); L Keppel-Spoor; R Emmitt; A Cade; D Connor (FDC); A Miscandlon (FDC); S King (FDC), B Arnold (FDC), J Richardson (Clerk), and six members of the public
- 113/17-18 Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs R Butcher (FDC); R Few
- 114/17-18 Declarations of Interest**
No declarations of interest
- 115/17-18 Public Time**
Footpaths around the village are bad and uneven especially round Lilyholt Road and High Street up to Village Hall. Cllr Connor will liaise with Highways to try and resolve this matter (clerk to email). **Cllr Connor Clerk**
Dog warden was present in the village last week but no dog owners were around.
Cold callers in the village are causing concern, knocking on elderly residents doors. Clerk to email PCSO to inform of this matter, and also the Benwick Bugle. **Clerk**
The bin in the Cemetery has not been emptied and The Pound has not been cut, Clerk to report. **Clerk**
Complaint about the weeds on the path by the kissing gate and ivy overhanging the Baptist Cemetery wall which needs removing. Clerk to report **Clerk**
Public Time Closed 19.40
- 116/17-18 Confirmation of Minutes**
It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, to sign and approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 7th August and 17th August. It was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor, and AGREED, to sign and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2017 **Agreed**
Agreed
- 117/17-18 Matters Arising (for information only)**
Whittlesey Road Bridge reported to Highways 15/09/17. *Reply Rec'd "At this time, we do not feel that any action is necessary, however we will continue to monitor this location as part of routine inspections and works will be carried out if required in the future."*
- 118/17-18 Police Report**
August 2017. There has been no reported burglaries or criminal damage within Benwick. There has been no Anti-social behaviour report's within Benwick. Hare coursing is starting to make an appearance on our radar. There has only 1 incident in the Benwick area but is starting to become a problem across fenland. Please keep an eye out for any signs of hare coursing.
There has been 1 reported burglary from business which we are still investigating and no criminal damage within Benwick.
September 2017. There has been 1 Anti-social behaviour report within Benwick. I have been made aware that there has been reports of a youth under the age of 13 that is causing problems around the Fields view area. This is an ongoing investigation at the moment. I am currently in talks with Benwick Primary School to arrange a day to engage with the younger years. I plan to have several exercises set up for them and share who we are and what we do.
- 119/17-18 FDC Liaison**
Brendan Arnold introduced himself as the liaison with FDC for Benwick Parish Council.
- 120/17-18 Unadopted Right of Way**
The matter of the installation of a gate on an Unadopted Right of Way was discussed. The history of the previous installation of a gate was summarised and discussed.
It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that a reply, to the **Agreed**

	individual who raised this matter, be written to say that as agreed in 2013 she needs to start the process to get the track adopted as a Public Right of Way.	
121/17-18	Village Benches There has been an offer to donate a bench in the Cemetery. The two benches in Chapel Gardens need some remedial work. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that a working group be formed to discuss further details on benches	Agreed
122/17-18	County & District Councillors Reports Cllr Connor reported that he has spoken to Sheila Black about a container on The Pound and it was suggested that this be followed up further. The market stalls, owned by FDC, are in various states of disrepair and that is why they are not being rented out, the benches will be looked at and some may be sold off. Cllr Davis stated that Wimblington PC own one market stall that could be borrowed. Cllr Miscandlon reported that Street Pride have put recycled benches in Whittlesey. He will look into the planning permissions for the storage container on The Pound, with Cllr Connor.	Cllr Connor Cllr Miscandlon
123/17-18	Xmas Tree The use of the Parish Council Xmas Tree lights were discussed. The tree in question is near a street light. The Health and Safety issues surrounding this were discussed. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that if a group of volunteers wish to use the Parish Council Xmas lights this would be looked upon favourably.	Agreed
131/17-18	It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED that this item be moved up the Agenda Street Lighting The current situation was summarised by Cllr Chapman and Cllr King added that they will undertake a survey of the Benwick Parish Council lights at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr King is looking for a declaration of interest from Benwick PC at this point in time so that they have an estimation of the number of lights to be included in their new tender process. A street light meeting was held at Doddington and a number of Parish Council's have opted out of the FDC street light proposal. It was Proposed, without prejudice, and AGREED, that Benwick Parish Council lights be included in the calculation for the FDC tendering process with no cost being paid. It is expected that the new contract will not be in place until April 2018. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that Benwick PC starts a discussion with other PC's and also attends a meeting to be held on 19 th October 2017 at 19.30 The Pavilion on Benwick Road, Doddington. Cllr King left the meeting	Agreed Agreed Cllr Chapman
124/17-18	Planning Applications a) F/YR17/0833/F Erection of 2 x agricultural barns, 2 x sheds, 1.8 metre high security gate and formation of a hardstanding (retrospective) and formation of a sugar beet pad North West Of The Toll Chase Road Benwick Cambridgeshire It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Parish Council has no comments to make b) F/YR17/0894/F Erection of a detached double garage involving the widening of the existing access and removal of existing outbuildings including the demolition of existing conservatory at 40 Ramsey Road at 40 And 42 Ramsey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that they cannot make a decision on this application in isolation until they have reviewed the other two applications referred to in the application letter	Agreed Clerk Agreed
125/17-18	Granted F/YR17/0579/O Erection of a dwelling involving the demolition of existing dwelling (Outline application with all matters reserved) 5 Green Lane Benwick Cambridgeshire PE15 0XG □	
126/17-18	The Pound: Update previously reported by Cllr Connor Income & Expenditure a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that members consider and approve the following accounts for payment	Agreed

CGM Landscapes	Verge Cutting (Lost Cheque)	£70.08
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Anglian Water (dd)	Water Rates	£19.00
J Richardson	Admin – 24/09/17	£294.73
J Richardson	Reimbursement-Expenses	£85.20
	TOTAL	£539.09

b) Clerks report on the September Bank Balances and reconciliation statement is at Appendix 1

127/17-18 Cemetery

a) Bin not been emptied and The Pound has not been cut. Clerk to chase **Clerk**

128/17-18 Allotments

a) Discussion on fencing took place. Weed spraying has been done in July. Next spraying is due in October.

129/17-18 Local Highways Improvement Opportunity 2018

The proposed scheme written for submission was discussed, taking into account the cost the bid is to be reduced to one set of gates. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the LHI bid be reduced to one set of gates on Doddington Road, based on cost estimate. Cllr Keppel-Spoor requested that her vote against this be recorded. Clerk to submit bid **Agreed**

130/17-18 War Memorial

a) Cllr Chapman offered to lay the wreath. Cllr Keppel-Spoor volunteered to wash the Memorial ahead of the Remembrance Service on 12th November at 10.00 and at War Memorial at 10.50 **Cllr Keppel-Spoor**

b) Benwick In Bloom have commissioned a scroll to include details of the soldiers lost during the wars. The scroll was described and they are asking for a site to place this item.

It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman, and AGREED, that the Parish Council support the idea of the scroll in principle, subject to further discussions on siting. Item to be placed on next agenda. **Agreed**

Congratulations to Benwick In Bloom for achieving a Silver Gilt in the Anglia In Bloom competition

132/17-18 Parish Councillors

Notice put in shop window, there have been no candidates to fill the two vacancies for Parish Councillors

133/17-18 Correspondence

a) Rural Services Network Bulletins (emailed 31/08/17, 07/09/17, 15/09/17, 19/09/17, 22/09/17, 25/09/17)

b) CPRE Update (emailed 07/09/17)

c) Cambs Acre Update (emailed 07/09/17, 19/09/17)

d) Events Diary September (emailed 07/09/17)

e) Road Works & Events Bulletin 16th-30th September 2017 (emailed 15/09/17)

f) CPRE Latest news: let's reduce our plastic waste (emailed 15/09/17)

g) Invitation: Fenland Transport Conference 2017. 12th October 2017 (emailed 19/09/17)

h) Anglia in Bloom Annual Competition (emailed 19/09/17)

i) Cambridgeshire Highways Depot Open Days 2017 – Fenland (emailed 19/09/17)

j) Town and Parish Council Conference (emailed 19/09/17)

k) Cambridgeshire Matters Newsletter September 2017 (emailed 19/09/17)

l) Fair Funding for Cambridgeshire (emailed 19/09/17)

m) News From The Police And Crime Commissioner (emailed 22/09/17)

134/17-18 Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 6th November 2017. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Monday 30th October 2017

Meeting Closed: 21.26

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2018	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Jacquie Richardson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	29/09/2017		
Approved by		Chair	
Date	02/10/2017		
Balance per bank statements as at	29/09/2017	£	£
Current Account		26480.33	
NS&I		20874.71	
			47355.04
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number		2469	70.08
			70.08
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			
			0.00
Net bank balances as at			47,284.96
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance		54,994.67	
Add: Receipts to date		19,270.13	
Less: Payments to date		26,979.84	
Closing Balance		47,284.96	
Earmarked Reserves:			
Parish Plan	£532.89		
Verge Planting	£151.40		
Cemetery Extension	£8,157.50		
Street Lighting	£11,500.00		
The Pound	£2,000.00		
War Memorial	£2,000.00		
Mooring	£1,633.66	E M TOTAL	£26,505.45
Allotments	£530.00		
General Reserve	£20,779.51		