



BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Benwick Parish Council on Monday 2nd August 2021 at the village hall.

Present	Cllrs M Chapman (Chairman), L Keppel-Spoor, R Smith, A Cade, R Few, R Emmett, A Miscandlon (FDC), Clerk R Robinson and one member of the public	
054/21-22	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R Taylor, Cllr Wicks (FDC) and Cllr Connor (FDC and CCC)	
055/21-22	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were made	
056/21-22	PUBLIC TIME The member of the public raised the issue of trees and shrubs needing cutting back around the village. Cllr Chapman to discover which properties the trees and shrubs relate to and to deliver a letter requesting that the trees and shrubs be cut back The bins in the playpark (which is not managed by the Parish) were noted to have been overflowing at one point and dog fouling was reported there. But the problem appears to have been resolved. It was noted that the situation of unregulated development continues at 1 High Street with a 2 bedroom chalet bungalow being completed and a relative of the site owners being reported to be about to move in. Cllr Miscandlon to chase planning at FDC as no response has been received to emails from the Clerk and the Chairman or a complaint in person by Cllr Miscandlon. A response was received by the member of the public but they have not acted as promised in that response. Someone in the village is being harassed to sell his home. Cllr Chapman to raise with his police contact. There is a pot hole on the path in Chapel Gardens. Clerk to report to CCC Highways.	Cllr Chapman Cllr Miscandlon Cllr Chapman Clerk
057/21-22	Confirmation of Minutes It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to sign and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 th July 2021	Agreed
058/21-22	Matters Arising The Baptists want the Parish to take over the running of their cemetery. Councillors feel this would be unwise. The Baptists have said that any volunteers maintaining their cemetery are covered by the Baptists insurance. Volunteers are independent of the Parish.	
059/21-22	Bank Accounts It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that Councillors would sign the forms and letters that seem to be required by NS&I to ensure that signatories on the account are current.	Agreed
060/21-22	County & District Councillors Reports Cllr Miscandlon reports that FDC is gradually returning to normal after the Covid lockdowns. Some officers continue to work from home. 101mph has been recorded by the speed cameras on East Street in Whittlesey and police are to be asked to take further action. Cllr Miscandlon will chase Cllr Connor with respect to action being taken on the garden extension onto the highways verge at 24a Doddington Road.	Cllr Miscandlon
061/21-22	Mooring Step Cllr Chapman reported back after his inspection. The wood has been removed and there is no trip hazard. No actions to be taken.	
062/21-22	Memorial Bench in Cemetery The bench is installed. A parishioner wishes to fund another bench with a plaque as a memorial. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that the bench will be ordered and paid for by the parishioner and it will become the property of the Parish once installed.	Agreed
063/21-22	Clerks purchase of non-contact thermometer It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that council will reimburse the Clerk	Agreed Clerk

	for the cost of the thermometer (£40), to be added to next month's expenses.			
064/21-22	Street Lighting Clerk reported that Cable Test Ltd had agreed to perform maintenance on our street lights on an as and when required basis on the same schedule of rates as is being provided to Doddington and Wimblington. Cable Test are also the contractors for FDC. Clerk to check if tender is legally required. Clerk to research the details of the contract with the installer of LED lightbulbs regarding the safety check 4 years after installation. Clerk to contact the electricity network company to find out the electricity supply mapping information that Cable Test Ltd require. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that we would sign up to the schedule of rates from Cable Test Ltd providing no problems were discovered by the Clerk in investigating the above issues. Clerk to report at next month's Council meeting for Council to authorise signing the contract.			Agreed Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk
065/21-22	Defibrillator Clerk reported an email (circulated) from Cllr Taylor reporting that the school does not wish to hand the maintenance of the defibrillator over to the Parish, but was just looking for additional volunteers to help at certain times e.g. school holidays. Cllr Taylor has helped the school recruit some volunteers and they are being managed by the school. No further action required by the Parish.			
066/21-22	Police Report Nothing to report. Clerk to keep on the agenda for next month			Clerk
067/21-22	Village Sign Cllr Chapman reports that the sign is rotting but is not beyond repair. Clerk to research the prices of composite and carved wooden signs. Repair of the sign was also mentioned. Some councillors expressed a desire to keep the same style of sign.			Clerk
068/21-22	Community Car Scheme Clerk to invite the community car scheme to make an application on the donation request form as councillors are positive about the scheme and the amount involved is less than £100.			Clerk
069/21-22	Income & Expenditure a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that Council approves the following accounts for payment:-			Agreed
	E.On	Electricity	£64.34	
	Glasdon	3 Benches of Recycled Plastic	£2100.85	
	HHA Grounds Maintenance	June Cemetery etc	£365.16	
	N Oliver	Cutting Verges 3 months	£174.00	
	R Robinson	Expenses Reimbursement	£48.45	
	R Robinson	Salary	£321.16	
		TOTALS	£3074.08	
	b) July Bank Balances and reconciliation statement are attached at Appendix 1			
070/21-22	Planning Approved none Applications (all out of time to comment on to FDC and councillors did not request any extra meetings but noted here for record) a) F/YR21/0267/F Change of use of agricultural building to 5 x 2-storey dwellings with detached shed and bin stores comprising of 2 x 3-bed and 3 x 2-bed and formation of a new access road at Farm Building Bank Farm Whittlesey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire:- We have already written to FDC objecting to this development; it was noted that the architects have responded to our objections dismissing all of them. b) F/YR21/0737/RM Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale pursuant to Outline planning permission F/YR20/0422/O, to erect 1 x dwelling (3-storey 5-bed) and detached garage with office/store above, involving the demolition of existing buildings at Land South Of 16A Doddington Road Benwick Cambridgeshire It was proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that the Clerk would write to FDC with a retrospective observation that we object to the proposed development on the grounds that it is out of character for the current street scene. c) F/YR21/0714/F Change of use of land for domestic purposes and erect a 2-storey			Clerk

	<p>extension to side of existing dwelling at 16 High Street Benwick March Cambridgeshire PE15 0XA</p> <p>Cllr Keppel-Spoor noted that the boiler vent for this development vented onto the footpath. Other councillors noted that this would be to do with building regulations. No motion to raise retrospective objections was moved.</p> <p>It was Proposed by Cllr Keppel-Spoor and seconded by Cllr Smith and AGREED that for all planning applications that would be out of time for the Parish Council to make representations to the planning authority before our next meeting the Clerk would apply to the planning authority for an extension of time. And that in cases where a sufficient extension was not available the Clerk would circulate the planning application to all councillors in case any of them wanted to ask for an Extra Meeting of the Parish Council.</p>	Agreed Clerk
071/21-22	<p>Utilising road verges for biodiversity & habitat</p> <p>It was observed that the meter-wide strip in Bury looks nice, but that there are no strips wide enough for that in Benwick.</p>	
072/21-22	<p>Town Grounds Rents</p> <p>a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that the rents for the year ahead would remain the same as this year's.</p>	Agreed
073/21-22	<p>Risk Register and Asset Register</p> <p>Cllr Chapman to complete a Risk Assessment for the operation of the speed signs. Clerk to await the invoice from Highways at CCC to see the correct value of the speed sign for the Asset Register and then to add it.</p> <p>Clerk to update the asset register and insurance with the new cemetery bench and the better replacement benches on the riverbank and (when it arrives) the bench being paid for by a parishioner,</p>	<p>Cllr Chapman</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
074/21-22	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Fenland Bridleways Access Group (emailed 15/07/2021)</p> <p>b) Rural Services Network, Bulletin (emailed 13/07/2021, 20/07/2021, 27/07/2021), Funding Digest (emailed 07/07/2021)</p> <p>c) FDC Press releases (emailed 12/07/2021, 21/07/2021x2, 23/07/2021) Parish Council IRP Report (emailed 14/07/2021) Whittlesey Neighbourhood Plan (emailed 13/07/2021) Traffic Management at Remembrance (emailed 19/07/2021)</p> <p>d) Whittlesey Mayors Charity Dinner (emailed 12/07/2021, 13/07/2021)</p> <p>e) CAPALC Bulletin (emailed 06/07/2021) Training events available timetable (emailed 23/07/2021)</p> <p>f) NALC Chief Executive Bulletin (emailed 02/07/2021, 09/07/2021, 16/07/2021, 23/07/2021) Newsletter (emailed 30/06/2021, 14/07/2021, 27/07/2021) Making Rural Housing Affordable (emailed 08/07/2021) Planning survey (emailed 21/07/2021)</p> <p>g) Highways - IHMC Incident Report – June (emailed 05/07/2021) Remembrance Events (emailed 14/07/2021) LHI (EMAILED 15/07/2021) FAULT REPORT (emailed 16/07/2021)</p> <p>h) Road Safety (emailed 13/07/2021)</p> <p>i) Police and Crime Commissioner Survey (emailed 13/07/2021)</p> <p>j) LEAP (emailed 19/07/2021)</p> <p>k) C&P Combined Authority update (emailed 02/07/2021) bus passes (emailed 21/07/2021)</p> <p>l) CAPASP Scam Warnings (emailed 13/07/2021)</p> <p>m) CPRE Campaigns Update (emailed /05/2021) Hedgerow PETITION (emailed 21/07/2021)</p> <p>n) A47 Guyhirn Closures (emailed 26/07/2021)</p> <p>o) Cambridgeshire ACRE New website (emailed 21/07/2021) Members area information (emailed 20/07/2021x2)</p> <p>It was observed that the B1040 would be closed from 16th – 18th August to repair where it had collapsed by the Dog in the Doublet Bridge across the River Nene.</p>	
075/21-22	<p>Local Highway Improvement Projects.</p> <p>a) Cllr Miscandlon to inform us of the costs of using Fenland Electrical to manage the speed signs.</p> <p>b) Yellow lines outside the shop and another speed sign were mentioned as ideas for the next round of LHI applications; councillors to have proposals ready for discussion at our September meeting as the deadline is thought to be 30th September. Clerk to check the deadline.</p>	<p>Cllr Miscandlon</p> <p>Clerk</p>
076/21-22	<p>Agenda Items/Next Meeting</p> <p>To discuss and agree the format and date of the next Parish Council Meeting proposed to be Monday 6th September 2021. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Tuesday 31st August 2021</p>	

Meeting ended at 20.50
Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2022	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Richard Robinson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	01/08/2021		
Approved by	Chair		
Date	02/08/2021		
Balance per bank statements as at	31/07/2021	£	£
Current Account		38,531.40	
NS&I		21,447.49	
			59,978.89
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number	2726	401.60	
	2727	40.60	
	2733	321.28	
	2734	167.65	
		18.00	
			949.13
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			0.00
Net bank balances as at 28/05/2021			59,029.76
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance		54,198.55	
Add: Receipts to date		10,677.45	
Less: Payments to date		5,846.24	
Closing Balance		59,029.76	
Earmarked Reserves:			
Parish Plan	£532.89		
Verge Planting	£67.13		
Cemetery Extension	£6,604.17		
Street Lighting	£7,875.62		
The Pound	£2,000.00		
War Memorial	£4,000.00		
Mooring	£4,133.66		
Allotments	£2,191.35		
General Reserve	£31,624.94		
E M TOTAL		£27,404.82	