



# BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Benwick Parish Council meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at the village hall

<b>Present</b>	Cllrs M Chapman (Chairman), L Keppel-Spoor, R Smith, R Emmett, R Few, A Miscandlon (FDC), Clerk R Robinson and four members of the public	
<b>098/21-22</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Received and accepted from Cllr A Cade	
<b>099/21-22</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None made	
<b>100/21-22</b>	<b>PUBLIC TIME</b> a) Parking on the grass verge on the left-hand side of Lilyholt Road at the junction with Doddington Road is damaging the verge. Cllr Chapman has spoken to his contact in the police. It is the police's job to enforce parking but they are unwilling to do it. It will be over a year before FDC parking enforcement is active. b) The clerk is hard to understand. Clerk to speak louder. c) I was noted that some trees and weeds that have been highlighted as overhanging the footpaths or verges in recent meetings have been cut, and some have not. d) Road markings at the junction of Lilyholt Road and Doddington Road are faded as are road markings at the junction of High Street and Doddington Road. Clerk to inform Highways at CCC that they need re-marking. Cllr Miscandlon to speak to Cllr Connors to find out if any Highways matters are on the works list. e) Benwick in Bloom would like to put a bench in recycled materials around the oak tree at the end of High Street on Highways' land near the footbridge. It was noted that a windfarm grant might be available. Councillors to discuss (see 104/21-22 (d) below). Past photos of the location were shown.	<b>Clerk</b>  <b>Clerk</b> <b>Cllr</b> <b>Miscandlon</b>
<b>101/21-22</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes</b> It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to sign and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	<b>Agreed</b>
<b>102/21-22</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> None	
<b>103/21-22</b>	<b>County &amp; District Councillors Reports</b> a) The FDC accessibility study is out for consultation. The clerk has circulated this document to all councillors and placed on the agenda below. Council can make a collective response to this as stakeholders. Clerk to place on next months agenda for councillors to agree a response. b) Regarding the white blocks and shrubs on the verge outside a property on Doddington Road Cllr Connors and a Highways officer have visited. Highways agreed to inform the householder that they must move the blocks 50cm back from the highway and keep the grass trimmed, but the shrubs are allowed to remain. Cllr Miscandlon informed the council that the householder would never own the verge.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>104/21-22</b>	<b>Highways and verges matters</b> a) Next steps for implementation of speed signs. Clerk to keep on the agenda for next month. Cllr Chapman to contact Fenland Electrical as per last month's minutes. b) The deadline for LHI applications was extended by CCC – no actions to be taken. c) Obstruction/dangers impacting verges or footpaths – a parishioner has informed us that a tree leans over dangerously at the entrance to the side road by the Old Rectory. Cllr Chapman to inspect it. Highways have written to the householder telling him to remove an unspecified tree. Clerk to keep on the agenda for next month. d) Benwick in Bloom proposes a seat around the oak tree off the High Street. Cllr Chapman reports that this is on Highways' land, who are happy with the idea but that they want the Parish Council's opinion. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that the Parish Council supported the idea on the basis that Benwick in Bloom would ensure that the grass was cut around the bench.	<b>Clerk</b> <b>Cllr Chapman</b>  <b>Cllr Chapman</b> <b>Clerk</b>  <b>Agreed</b>
<b>105/21-22</b>	<b>Village Sign</b> Clerk has sought four quotes for repairs. One has been received from a local carpenter for £1544 for a new sign for the white part of the sign saying "Benwick" and re-painting the other two parts of the sign. Clerk to await further responses. Cllr Chapman offered to summarise the information about new signs. Clerk to place on the agenda for next month.	<b>Clerk</b> <b>Cllr Chapman</b>
<b>106/21-22</b>	<b>Planning Appeals</b> F/YR20/0760/PIP Land North Of The Rectory Whittlesey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire Residential development of up to 3 dwellings (application for Permission in Principle) We objected to this originally. They have removed hazel trees. This could be relevant to an appeal. Individuals and the Parish Council can respond to the appeal. Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED that Cllr Chapman and Cllr Keppel-Spoor look at the appeal in detail and respond, re-iterating the original objections that the Council made and raising any other new points that they note.	<b>Agreed</b> <b>Cllr Chapman</b> <b>Cllr Keppel-Spoor</b>

<b>107/21-22</b>	<b>Income &amp; Expenditure</b> a) Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to approve the following for payment			<b>Agreed</b>
	E.On HHA Grounds Maintenance N Oliver PKF Littlejohn CCC R Robinson R Robinson	Electricity September Cemetery etc Verges July, August & September External Audit LHI MVAS contribution Expenses Reimbursement Salary	£66.49 £365.16 £174.00 £240.00 £289.05 £37.65 £371.48	
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£1543.83</b>	
	b) Clerk's report on the September Bank Balances and reconciliation statement is attached at appendix 1. c) Clerk omitted to put the budget report on the agenda. Clerk to place on the agenda for next month.			<b>Clerk</b>
<b>108/21-22</b>	<b>Utilising road verges for biodiversity &amp; habitat</b> Any actions required as per CCC Road Verge Management Enquiry. Clerk to keep on agenda for next month.			<b>Clerk</b>
<b>109/21-22</b>	<b>Risk Register</b> Cllr Chapman has prepared an addition for the operation and maintenance of the MVAS (speed signs). Clerk to circulate to the councillors and place on the agenda for approval next month.			<b>Clerk</b>
<b>110/21-22</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> no comments a) Rural Services Network, Bulletin (emailed 01/09/2021, 07/09/2021, 14/09/2021, 21/09/2021, 28/09/2021) Funding Digest (emailed 08/09/2021) b) FDC Press releases (emailed 02/09/2021, 20/09/2021, 22/09/2021, 29/09/2021) Community Safety Survey (emailed 02/09/2021) PLANNING (emailed 09/09/2021, 25/09/2021) Pride in Fenland awards (emailed 14/09/2021) Cabinet agenda (emailed 22/09/2021) c) CAPALC Bulletin (emailed 02/09/2021) CAPALC AGM (emailed 24/09/2021) training programme (emailed 20/09/2021) d) NALC Chief Executive Bulletin (emailed 03/09/2021, 10/09/2021, 17/09/2021, 24/09/2021) Newsletter (emailed 01/09/2021, 08/09/2021, 29/09/2021) Online Events (emailed 06/09/2021) Committee elections (emailed 22/09/2021) e) Highways - Highway Events Diary – (emailed 06/09/2021) IHMC Incident Report – August (emailed 08/09/2021) Micro Asphalt/Gripfibre Update (emailed 13/09/2021, 28/09/2021) Re: Highways reports (emailed 20/09/2021x2) LHI extension (emailed 24/09/2021) f) CAPASP Newsletter (emailed 12/09/2021) g) CPRE Campaigns Update (emailed 18/09/2021) h) CCVS annual review (emailed 22/09/2021) i) Cambridgeshire ACRE – Zoom AGM invite (emailed 03/09/2021) Call for trustees (emailed 08/09/2021) Rural affordable housing partnership (emailed 07/09/2021) Queens green canopy (emailed 29/09/2021) j) Galliford Try A47 Guyhirn upgrade roadworks bulletin (emailed 27/09/2021)			
<b>111/21-22</b>	<b>Police Report</b> Meeting attended by Cllr Chapman, no comments.			
<b>112/21-22</b>	<b>Fenland Accessibility Study</b> Clerk to keep on the agenda for next month			<b>Clerk</b>
<b>113/21-22</b>	<b>Project on the Pound</b> Clerk to keep on the agenda for next month			<b>Clerk</b>
<b>114/21-22</b>	<b>Agenda Items/Next Meeting.</b> Next Parish Council Meeting proposed to be Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2021			

Meeting closed at 8.07pm – Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2022	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Richard Robinson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	01/10/2021		
Approved by		Chair	
Date	04/10/2021		
Balance per bank statements as at		30/09/2021	
Current Account		£	£
NS&I		35,900.54	
		21,447.49	
			57,348.03
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number			
	2745	401.60	
	2746	170.00	
		18.00	
			589.60
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			0.00
			56,758.43
Net bank balances as at 30/09/2021			
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance		54,198.55	
Add: Receipts to date		12,483.45	
Less: Payments to date		9,923.57	
Closing Balance		56,758.43	
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	£29,353.61		
		E M TOTAL	£27,404.82