

Minutes of Benwick Parish Council meeting on Monday 7th March 2022 at the village hall

Present	Cllrs M Chapman (Chairman), L Keppel Spoor, A Cade, R Taylor, R Few, R Smith, A Miscandlon (FDC), B Wicks (FDC), Clerk R Robinson and two members of the public.	
202/21-22	Apologies for Absence – Cllr R Emmitt, accepted	
203/21-22	Declarations of Interest None declared	
204/21-22	PUBLIC TIME There is bad dog fouling around the tubs on Doddington Road. The hedge at 1 Doddington Road is overhanging the footpath. Clerk to report to CCC. The unauthorised chalet at 1 High Street is now fully built. On defibrillators – Cllrs Cade and Taylor are willing to have defibrillators on the walls of their properties should the Council wish to provide them. Funding might be available from the Burnt House Fund and via defibrillator suppliers. Clerk to bring details to the next meeting and place on the agenda.	Clerk Clerk
205/21-22	Confirmation of Minutes It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to sign and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 th February 2022	Agreed
206/21-22	Matters Arising none	
207/21-22	District Councillors Reports Cllr Wicks reported that Highways at CCC are monitoring the tree on the corner of Skeifs Row and the High Street for pruning.	
208/21-22	Highways and verges matters a) Speed signs – the MVAS is charged and recording data. Clerk to obtain prices for solar panels and bring to next meeting. b) Obstruction/dangers impacting verges or footpaths including but not restricted the situation at 24b Doddington Road who have removed the stones and provided evidence of their ownership of the verge. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to take no further action regarding 24b Doddington Road unless the situation changes. The Whittlesey Road bridge across the Old Nene has been repaired. It is not perfect but greatly improved. On Puddock Road just after turning onto it at the Benwick end, where the initial two lane Road becomes a single carriageway, there is a dangerous drop to the verge from the road. Clerk to report to CCC.	Clerk Agreed Clerk
209/21-22	Clerks training and expenses a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to pay £49.99 including VAT for the clerk to purchase a pack of 8 reusable FFP3 masks. One councillor objected as the clerk has been using his own cloth masks for the last seven months. The point was made that the cloth masks have caused some people to have difficulty hearing the clerk. b) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to pay £400 + VAT for the clerk to attend the zoom CiLCA training by CAPALC as budgeted for in next years budget (invoice will probably come up for payment next month)	Agreed Agreed
210/21-22	Planning issues a) Application F/YR22/0140/F Erect 1 dwelling (2-storey 2/3-bed) at Land West Of 20 High Street Benwick Cambridgeshire - It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to object to this application on the grounds that the poor visual splay on exiting the proposed access would create a danger to traffic on the highway and to schoolchildren on the footpath. b) Consultation 21/00011/REF F/YR20/0760/PIP APP/D0515/W/21/3270781 Residential development of up to 3 dwellings (application for Permission in Principle) at Land North Of The Rectory Whittlesey Road Benwick Cambridgeshire – noted c) Current Issues To discuss and agree any actions in relation to the unauthorized buildings at 1 High Street – Cllr Miscandlon to speak to Angela Watson at FDC planning on Wednesday.	Agreed Clerk Cllr Miscandlon
211/21-22	Dog fouling – Awaiting FDC to respond with permissions and pricing for the new bins. The planning of a competition for the local schoolchildren to produce anti-fouling posters is ongoing.	
212/21-22	Village Sign Keep on the agenda for next month	Clerk
213/21-22	Flag Cllr Taylor to take the present flag from Cllr Chapman and confirm the size.	Cllr Taylor
214/21-22	Budget overspend It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to increase the current years postage and stationary budget from £150 to £180. This enables the clerk	Agreed

	to be recompensed for printer ink which has been purchased. Clerk believes this ink will last all of next year.			
215/21-22	Income & Expenditure a) It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to approve the following accounts for payment:-			Agreed
	HHA Grounds Maintenance R Robinson CAPALC	February Cemetery etc Salary & Expenses Elections Training	£365.16 £432.41 £30.00	
		TOTAL	£827.57	
	b) Clerk's report on the February Bank Balances and reconciliation statement is at Appendix 1. c) Any actions in relation to the reduction of the interest rate on the NS&I account. £153.31 was paid last year, this has been reduced to £2.15 this year – Clerk to take a quick look at alternatives, but most banks are believed not to be paying interest now.			Clerk
216/21-22	Utilising road verges for biodiversity & habitat keep on the agenda			Clerk
217/21-22	Financial Regulations It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to amend the financial regulations by adding the following to the financial regulations:- "4.10 In the absence of any resolution of virement under item 4.2 moving unspent amounts from one heading of the budget to another or to an earmarked reserve, any unspent amounts will move to the general reserve and any overspend on any heading authorised by the Council will be taken from the general reserve."			Agreed Clerk
218/21-22	Correspondence a) Rural Services Network, Bulletin (emailed 02/02/2022, 08/02/2022, 15/02/2022, 22/02/2022) Funding Digest (emailed 03/02/2022) b) FDC Press releases (emailed 01/02/2022, 02/02/2022, 09/02/2021, 11/02/2022 x 2, 23/02/2022, 24/02/2022, 28/02/2022) Member services (emailed 07/02/2022, 23/02/2022) Agendas (emailed 16/02/2022 x 2) Electoral review briefing (emailed 11/02/2022) c) CAPALC Bulletin (emailed 09/02/2022) Conference videos (emailed 15/02/2022) Policing legal note (emailed 17/02/2021) d) NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin (emailed 04/02/2022, 11/02/2022, 18/02/2022, 25/02/2022) Newsletter (emailed 02/02/2022, 16/02/2022) Events (emailed 08/02/2022) Int'n'l women's day (emailed 10/02/2022) e) Highways - Events (emailed 07/02/2022) IHMC Incident Report Jan (email 02/02/2022) f) CAPASP Newsletter (emailed 03/02/2022) Warning (emailed 07/02/2022, 11/02/2022 x 2, 22/02/2022) g) Thomas Kelly Armed Forces Covenant (emailed 22/02/2022) h) Cambs ACRE Pennywort (emailed 17/02/2022) i) Galliford Try A47 Guyhirn newsletter (emailed 16/02/2022, 28/02/2022) j) CCC – Cambridgeshire matters (emailed 02/02/2022) k) Pinpoint Cambridgeshire – Children's needs (emailed 11/02/2022) l) MOD – AF covenant (emailed 04/02/2022, 15/02/2022) m) Greater Cambridge Partnership – Joint Assembly Meeting (emailed 07/02/2022) n) UKPN – Storms Dudley and Eunice (emailed 15/02/2022) o) Keep Britain Tidy – Spring Clean (emailed 14/02/2022) no observations			
219/21-22	Police Report no observations			
220/21-22	Project on the Pound awaiting meeting between Cllr Chapman and Benwick in Bloom			
221/21-22	Queens platinum jubilee To discuss and agree any actions in relation to the jubilee including a) Road Closure – Clerk reported 1/ that he has started the application process and that Highways have told him that six signs are needed at approximately £30 each; 2/ if the pub is involved Highways will class it as a commercial event which means the road closure would cost £1095.00 and licensing at FDC would need to be consulted; and 3/ Mr Ablewhite has agreed to be the Authorised Traffic Management Operative. It was Proposed by Cllr Chapman and AGREED to establish a Working Group on the Jubilee and the Clerk to take decisions on the road closure etc as advised by the Working Group consisting of Cllr R Smith, Cllr M Chapman, Cllr R Taylor, Cllr Keppel-Spoor which will also include Mr Ablewhite in their discussions. b) Any other matters relating to the jubilee – Cllr Chapman reports that the headteacher of Benwick School is very happy to have a picture competition and research into sources of mugs is ongoing. Clerk to send emails received about mugs to Cllr Chapman. Sponsorship of the mugs might be possible. A member of the public volunteered to research one possibility for this. The Christmas Lights Charity and similar			Agreed Clerk

	groups might want to do a raffle etc at the Jubilee event so we should be informing such groups. Cllr Chapman to put information out on Facebook. Clerk raised the issue of bunting on CCC streetlights	Cllr Chapman
222/21-22	Agenda Items/Next Meeting The next Parish Council Meeting to be Monday 4 th April 2022 in the village hall. Items to be included on Agenda should be with the Clerk by Sunday 27 th March 2022. Defibrillators to be on the agenda	Clerk

Meeting closed at 20.24

Appendix 1

Bank Reconciliation		Financial Year ending 31 March 2022	
Benwick Parish Council			
Prepared by Richard Robinson (Clerk & RFO)			
Date	02/03/2022		
Approved by	Chair		
Date	07/03/2022		
Balance per bank statements as at	28/02/2022	£	£
Current Account		37,575.44	
NS&I		21,449.64	
			59,025.08
Less: Unpresented Cheques			
Cheque Number		18.00	
			18.00
Add: Any unbanked cash in transit			0.00
Net bank balances as at 28/02/2022		59,007.08	
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book, as follows:-			
Opening Balance	54,198.55		
Add: Receipts to date	20,559.79		
Less: Payments to date	15,751.26		
Closing Balance	59,007.08		

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	E M TOTAL
Allotments	£2,191.35	£27,404.82
General Reserve	£31,602.26	