

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, BENTLEY ON
THURSDAY 5 JUNE 2008 AT 7.30 PM

Present Cllr C Cripps - Chairman Mrs J Scott – Clerk Cllr K Wheals
Cllr R Feltwell Cllr C Hawes Cllr P Rayment Cllr R Perkin

Also in attendance:- District Councillor J Hinton and County Councillor David Yorke-Edwards - 14 Members of the public were present

In Councillor Goodwin's absence Cllr Cripps signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took on the role of Chairman.

- To Record Apologies for Absence**: Cllr R Goodwin, Cllr B Poulding, District Councillor M Miller, Ilona Turley (Community Officer), Jim Smith (Footpath Warden) and D Ingham (Neighbourhood Watch).
- To Receive Declaration of Interest Relating to Agenda Items**: - None declared.
- To Approve Minutes of The Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 1 May 2008** - The minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr C Hawes Seconded Cllr R Perkin All in favour CU

- Matters Arising from the Minutes** - **Page 414 – Item 7** – Cheques to be passed for payment this evening for Outdoor Bowls - £250, WI - £200 and Tuesday Club - £200. **Page 415 – Item 7.5** – The Clerk had contacted SALC and found out we are unable as a Parish Council to make any contribution to the Church through the precept. Cllr Cripps proposed that this be an agenda item at the next meetings.

Proposed: Cllr C Cripps Seconded Cllr K Wheals All in favour CU

Page 416 – Item 12 - The letter had been drafted to the Boundary Committee – Agenda item 8. **Page 417 – Item 14** Information had been received from Suffolk Acre and all Councillors had been give a copy - Agenda item 10 **Page 418 – Item 22** – School Travel Plan. – Letter sent to Mr Baker re Oak tree – Agenda Item 11.

- Police Report** – In the absence of the Community Officer the Chairman informed the meeting there were no crimes committed in Bentley in April. There were two incidents in May which will be reported on in the Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Public Session – Meeting adjourned and reconvened

6. Planning Applications

- To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications

B/08/0043/FUL/GD	7 Link Lane, Bentley	Permission Granted
B/07/01022/OUT/GD	Bentley Plants, Bergholt Road	Permission Granted
B/07/00227/AGD/MB	Holly wood & Great Martins Hill Wood, Bergholt Road	Application withdrawn
B/08/00679/FHA	9 Highfields, Bentley	Permission Granted

- To give comments on any new applications in hand –

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B/08/00638/FHA 2 Potash Cottages, Potash Lane, Bentley Erection of single storey rear extension and first floor dormer windows to rear

B/08/00679/FHA 9 Highfields, Bentley Erection of mono-pitch roof over existing single storey side extension

These two applications were received shortly after the last meeting and the Clerk's request for an extension was declined by Babergh. All Councillors had seen the applications and recommended approval.

B/08/00690/FHA Aston Chase, Bergholt Road, Bentley Erection of side conservatory

Recommend Approval

Proposed: Cllr K Wheals Seconded: Cllr C Hawes All in favour CU

B/08/00745/FHA Cedar Cottage, Bergholt Road, Bentley Erection of two storey side extension and front porch

Recommend Approval

Proposed: Cllr C Hawes Seconded Cllr P Rayment All in favour CU

B/08/00582/FHA Southland, 7 East Mill Green, Bentley Erection of 1.8m high fence (existing fence to be demolished)

Recommend Approval

Proposed: Cllr R Perkin Seconded Cllr K Wheals All in favour CU

7. **Flooding – The Link & Link House** The Clerk and Chairman are in contact with Suffolk Highways regarding the flooding of Bergholt Road and this is in hand. Correspondence Items 14, 17 and 38 refer.

8. **To approve proposed draft letter to Boundary Committee for England** – Cllr Perkin read out the letter which brings our concerns to their attention and it was proposed that this letter be sent off without delay.

Proposed: Cllr P Rayment Seconded Cllr B Feltwell All in favour CU

Action: Clerk to send off letter to Boundary Committee

9. **Notice Board**- This solid well-made French Oak board is now in situ. The bill has not yet been received but will be in the region of £800-£1,000. The Chairman asked the Clerk to find prices on the web to compare – anodised dual door with posts - £717 and wooden 3 door in the region of £1,239. It was agreed that Cllrs Rayment and Perkin would hold keys for parishioners to put up notices and a notice to this effect will be displayed on both boards.

Action: Clerk to issue Cllr Perkin with key and put notice on both boards re key holders

It was agreed that a map of the village should be displayed on the notice board

10. **Local Homes for Local People** – The Clerk read out an e-mail from Suffolk Acre and after some discussion Councillors agreed that a public meeting should be held in July inviting Suffolk Acre and Babergh District Council. The date will be fixed on the Chairman's return and leaflets will be distributed to every household in Bentley informing parishioners. It was suggested that the Action Implementation Plan could be discussed after the Local Homes for

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Local People but this wasn't thought to be a good idea. It was proposed that a report on the Plan could be made available at that meeting.

Proposed: Cllr R Feltwell Seconded Cllr C Hawes All in favour CU

Action: Clerk to arrange meeting and type up leaflets and notices for distribution

11. **School Travel Plan** - As previously stated the Clerk had written to Mr D Baker asking for the Oak tree in Church Road to be trimmed. The Footpath (Tree) Warden is monitoring the tree weekly. The Clerk read out an e-mail from SCC which stated that the 2008/09 construction programme fully commits the allocated budget and this scheme, even if approved by safety audit, would have to wait until 2009/10 at the earliest. The Clerk was asked to find out the scope and cost of this work. County Councillor Yorke-Edwards stated in the public session that he might be able to help with the cost from his Locality Budget.

Action: Clerk to contact SCC for the scope of work and proposed costs

12. **Action Plan Implementation Group – Latest Information** – As previously stated it was proposed that a report would be prepared and made available at the open village meeting. This could then be discussed by the public at the next Parish Council meeting.

Proposed: Cllr K Wheals Seconded Cllr R Perkin All in favour CU

13. **Fly Tipping – Latest Situation** - Nothing reported.

14. **Highway Issues** - The Chairman read out a letter from Mr Foskew at Capel Rig thanking the everyone who helped clear the hedge and verge at the corner of Bentley Road (Cllrs K Wheals & C Hawes, J Wheals and Bob Mawkes). Cllr Wheals also thanked everyone.

In the public session concern was expressed about the traffic being diverted through Bentley when accidents occur on the A12 – e-mail received from a parishioner - Late Correspondence item 7. It was suggested that zebra crossings be put at each end of the village or maybe a mini roundabout installed at the Bergholt Road junction to help slow speeding traffic. The Clerk is to investigate.

In the public session County Councillor Yorke-Edwards mentioned using some of his Locality Budget for the School Travel Plan ie to maybe to do a small section of pavement (up to £5K. The piece of pavement between No 1 Highfields was mentioned. This is to be investigated.

Action: Clerk to contact Suffolk Highways re zebra crossings – Pavement between 1 Highfields to be investigated

15. **To Receive Report from Footpath Warden** – No report available.

16. **To Receive Report from Bentley CEVCP School** – Cllr Rayment stated that the school had received a satisfactory OFSTED report with Key Stage One being regarded as outstanding. During the last week of term there was a rounders tournament at Holbrook School with Bentley winning three games out of five - they finished joint second. Thursday 22 May saw the grand opening of the new building by the Right Reverend Clive Young, Bishop of Dunwich who unveiled a commemorative plaque. 50 guests were shown round by Year 6 pupils and later were entertained with a musical event. Pupils played violins and recorders with the younger children singing and playing percussion instruments. In the evening the parents and children celebrated the opening with a barbeque and party.

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17. **Tree Warden's Report** - Cllr Hawes reported that all 18 young standard trees along Capel Road, Silver Leys and Highfields in recent years were visited in early May this year to check the supports and loosen the tree ties. All the trees except one field Maple in Highfields which was vandalised over a year ago are growing well. Councillor Hawes is unable to attend the next Tree Warden Meeting - 21 June as he is helping the Co-ordinator of the Layham Hedgerow Survey with a training session so he has sent his apologies to Peter Berry.

18. **Playing Fields Committee Update** – The bill has not yet been received.

The meeting adjourned on a nodded agreement

The meeting was told that the field is now clear of moles

The meeting reconvened.

19. **Neighbourhood Watch** - In Mr Ingham's absence the Chairman read out his report which stated there had been two incidents, both on the night of Friday 30 May, when gardens were entered in Church Road, pots stolen and then broken in the road and Link Lane solar powered garden lights stolen. Both these incidents were reported to the Police.

20. **To Receive Correspondence** - If any parishioner would like to see any item of correspondence they should telephone the Clerk for an appointment to view.

20.1 **Items on list with Agenda** – A list of 42 items was published with the Agenda with 11 items from the Clerk (as attached).

A further 10 items of late Correspondence were included in the circulation folder.

The Chairman stated that most items had been dealt with in the meeting but commented on the following:

Correspondence Item 23 - Local Government Meetings 14 & 17 July – Clerk has booked Councillors to attend both meetings.

Correspondence Item 32 – Suffolk Coasts & Heaths – Invitation to Management Plan launch - 30 June - Cllr Goodwin will probably attend.

Correspondence Item 29 – Letter - price increase in dog & litter bin emptying.

Correspondence Items 15 & Late Correspondence item 9 – Letters from parishioner - the points will be answered in the proposed Parish Plan Report and later discussion about the village plan.

21. **Exchange of Information By Councillors & Matters for Consideration at Future Meetings**

21.1 The Clerk was asked about the progress on the vacancy following Cllr Blackmore's resignation. She informed the meeting that the notices had been displayed for 14 clear days and Babergh will inform her on Friday 2 May whether an election is to take place or whether co-option notices need to be displayed.

21.2 The funding received from the paper and bottle banks had for a number of years gone towards the village hall which is now completed. The Clerk was asked to make the funding from the paper and bottle bank an agenda item at the next meeting.

Action: Agenda item

22. **To Authorise Payments** - The following payments were authorised.

*100745	Tuesday Club - Donation	£200.00
100746	Bowls Club - Donation	£250.00

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100747	Womens' Institute	£200.00
100748	Mr Munday – First cut of grass to graveyard	£125.00
100749	Babergh District Council – Dog & litter bin emptying	£ 40.33
100750	Clerk's wages, expenses - May	£224.30

*NB – two cheques unused 43 & 44– with the Internal Auditor– will be used next time

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed: Cllr R Perkin Seconded: Cllr P Rayment All in favour CU

23. **To Confirm Date of Next Scheduled Meeting** – Thursday 3 July 2008. The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

Apologies for next meeting: County Councillor D Yorke-Edwards and District Councillor J Hinton