

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE BENTLEY 2018 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 19 APRIL 2018 AT 7.30 PM

Present

Cllr M Bamford - Chairman

21 members of the public and the Clerk to the Parish Council. In attendance was Cllr B Feltwell, Cllr N Moxey, Cllr P Cross, Tree Warden – C Hawes and County Councillor G Jones, – **Apologies** received District Councillor J Hinton, Cllr A Graffham, Cllr K Spicer Cllr C Goodwin and Cllr J Wheals.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Copies of the minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated and the Accounts and Minute Books were on display for inspection by parishioners. There had been no requests to record the meeting.

1. To Approve Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 20 April 2017

The Minutes of the 2017 Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

Proposed: J Blackmore Seconded: A Cribb All in favour

2. Matters Arising - Signage for the play area has been prioritised and it is hoped will be installed very soon.

3. Parish Council – Chairman’s Report – The Chairman, Councillor Michael Bamford read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 1** in the minute book. The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and reported that this had been a very active year for the village with many people contributing and taking part in so many different activities. The village and its residents should be very proud so many give up their time and energy in the support of others. He spoke of the precept, signage for the Play Area & refurbishment of the 30 mph repeaters funded by County Councillor Jones’ Locality Budget, Boundary Commission Review, the extensive list of continuing issues and the new look Parish Council website..

4. Village Organisation Reports – The Chairman welcomed Deputy Head (Rachel Rudge) and two members of the School Council to the Annual Parish Meeting.

4.1 Bentley CEVCP School – School Council – Mrs Rudge explained that she was Deputy Head at Bentley CEVCP School which now has 58 pupils. She told the meeting that a conservatory had been built on the side of the school. She introduced the Head Girl and Boy who represent the School. It was explained that the Head Pupil’s job is to represent the school & help make it a better learning place. They work with the Head Mistress and take part in governors meetings. Being a Head Pupil comes with its challenges but it is also a great learning point. The School often take part in raising money for charity and support Children in Need, Red Nose Day and many more. They have worked towards getting gold in the school games and have finally reached their goal. The great thing about the School is how everyone encourages each other to do something out of their comfort zone. Four large posters with photographs of the whole School. Hedgehogs, Adders and Wolves depicting their numerous activities were left with the Minute books for Parishioners to see.

4.2 Parent Teachers Association – No report available

4.3 Table Tennis – Mr Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 2** in the minute book.

4.4 Carpet Bowls – Mr C Rose read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 3** in the minute book.

4.5 Footpath Society – Footpath Warden – Mr A Cribb – Reported on the period 18 March to 17 April 2017 – the Society needs new members otherwise it will fold as membership is

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- declining. Reports are made to the Parish Council and the Bugle from time to time. The Chairman thank Mr Cribb for his work as Footpath Warden.
- 4.6 Horticultural Society – Mr Blackmore read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 4** in the minute book.
- 4.7 Aerobics - In Jill Sharp's absence Mrs Blackmore reported that aerobics are held on a Tuesday morning for an hour and an hour long Pilates class during term time both classes are full and are still very popular.
- 4.8 Outdoor Bowls – Mrs Calvert read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 5** in the minute book.
- 4.9 Parochial Church Council/Coffee & Company – Mrs Mehen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 6** in the minute book.
- 4.10 Toddler Group - Mrs Rayment read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 7** in the minute book.
- 4.11 Tree Warden – Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 8** in the minute book.
- 4.12 Tuesday Club Mrs Blackmore read to a written report attached to the minutes **Appendix 9** in the minute book
- 4.13 Bentley Bugle – Mr Owen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 10** in the minute book.
- 4.14 Village Hall Trustees – Mr Blackmore read to a written report **Appendix 4** in the minute book.
- 4.15 Women's Institute – WI representative read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 11** in the minute book.
- 4.16 Whist Club – Mrs Veronica Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 12** in the minute book.
- 4.17 School Governors – Mr Don Mehen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 13** in the minute book.
- 4.18 The Link Lunch Club – Mr Howe read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 14** in the minute book.
- 4.19 Scrabble Club – Mr Owen read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 15** in the minute book.
- 4.20 Bentley Comrades – No report available.
- 4.21 First Responders – No report available
- 4.22 Speedwatch – In Mr Mawkes' absence Mrs Calvert reported that the speed camera is shared with Tattingstone every fortnight and they are positioned opposite Trevlac to catch cars speeding through the village. The camera has just been calibrated and new batteries purchased. (batteries are always running out). The Chairman said that the statistics were very impressive.
- 4.23 The Case is Altered – Mr P Cross read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 16** in the minute book.

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- 4.24 Friends of Capel Library – Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 8** in the minute book. Mr Hawes was asked who purchases and chooses the books – SCC provide and choose the books.
- 4.25 Bentley Long Barn -. Mr Hawes read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 8** in the minute book. A discussion followed on the barn – Copdock Barn has been restored and used as a venue for weddings etc couldn't the same thing be done here.
- 4.26 Playing Field Society – The Chairman stated there was no formal report – very pleased at the success of the Fun Day, Fireworks and increased usage- Capel FC use it regularly for a small fee. Picnic tables have been purchased and we are considering some other forms of activity ie BMX. Meetings are held prior to P/C meeting every two months. An owl box has been put in an oak tree and bird boxes have been ordered. Pallets have been put down ready to build bug houses. Resident asked if the grass on the school playing field could be cut at the same time as the village field - CH and AC said the Blackthorn between the two fields needs cutting back vigorously.
- 4.27 Bentley Community Shop –Bob Feltwell read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 17** in the minute book

The Chairman thanked everyone for their reports

5. **County Councillor's Report** - County Councillor Gordon Jones read to a written report attached to the minutes as **Appendix 17** in the minute book. County Councillor Jones reported on Council Tax, Children's Services Dept continues to be rated "Good" by Ofsted, Education attainment in Suffolk, Highways, Broadband, Adult Care Minerals & Waste Local Plan Consultation and Fire and Rescue Service. A discussion followed on gravel extraction plans relating to Bentley and AONB – residents were told to look up Coast and Heaths website – resident was concerned re speeding gravel lorry- ANPR was discussed as speeding is a major concern for everybody. Following the situation in Northampton, SCC thought they should revisit the possibility of a Unitary Council. Finally County Councillor Jones said it had been a pleasure working with and supporting the Parish Council and was pleased to have supported the Primary School with a contribution from his Locality budget by financing some replacement windows.
6. **District Councillors' Reports** – Apologies received from **District Councillor Hinton** - The Clerk read to a written report **Appendix 18** in the minute book. District Councillor Hinton report another controversial & conflicting year in Local Government and remarked on Planning, Localism Bill, the proposed merger of Babergh & Mid Suffolk, the move to Endeavour House, redevelopment of Corks Lane, the Boundary Commission review and building Council houses,. He ended his report by saying that value for money should be the key and that is what he will continue to fight for within the Council.
7. **Commemoration of end of World War 1 Centenary** – The Chairman said they had wanted thoughts from Bentley Comrades or any other groups. The Parish Council don't want to lead but would help with support and contribute. A special service at the War Memorial was suggested with a gathering at the Village Hall afterwards. It was agreed that this was an excellent idea - Church and Village Hall to liaise.
8. **To discuss 30mph stockers for wheelie bins** - Residents were told that the Parish Council were proposing – if there was an interest – to provide 30mph stickers for wheelie bins as an extra reminder to motorists of the speed limit. The Footpath Warden proposed that the Parish Council provide the stickers which will be distributed via the Community Shop and possibly the Village Hall.
9. **Question and Answer Session – Resident** – was concerned about an oak tree in their drive in Capel Road – the lorries have taken the bank away –the same thing is happening in Church Road – left hand side going to the school. The state of the signs was discussed and it was

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suggested that we might offer to clean and clear road signage. **Resident:** County Council used to clear the ditches but the ditch by his house has not been cleared for about 30 years. Residents can either inform the Clerk or report direct on SCC website. **Resident:** Asked about the removal of the telephone box – we have not heard anything from BT since being informed that it would be removed.

- 10. Date of Next Meeting** -The Annual Parish Council Meeting 10 May 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The Annual Parish Meeting April 2019. The Chairman thanked everyone for their succinct reports and felt the Village was very well served. - There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE:

NB: The various reports as attached as Appendices to the minutes may be viewed by parishioners by arrangement with the Clerk – Telephone: 01206 298174