

# BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 PM

### **Present**

Cllr M Bamford - Chairman      Cllr B Feltwell      Mrs J Scott – Clerk      Cllr M Munday  
Cllr P Cross      Cllr J Wheals      Cllr N Moxey      Cllr C Perry  
Cllr D Schumacher

Also in attendance County Councillor Gordon Jones, District Councillor Dave Busby, Tree Warden and - 16 members of the public

Cllr Bamford welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record this meeting.

- 1. To record apologies for absence:** Cllr K Spicer (Holiday) and Footpath Warden
- 2. To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** Cllr Moxey declared an interest in the planning application for 1 Grove Road and will leave the room when it is being discussed.
- 3. Dispensations – to consider written requests for dispensation of disclosable pecuniary interest in matters relating to Agenda items –** None received
- 4. To approve minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 1 August 2019**  
County Councillor G Jones requested the wording to be changed on Page 979 item 6 from *County Councillor Jones as he has an interest in the car park* - to the County Council has an interest in the car park. With this alteration the minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed.  

Proposed Cllr P Cross      Seconded Cllr N Moxey      All in favour      CU
- 5. Matters Arising from the minutes: Page 978 item 4 -** Cllrs have not yet been sent copies of the altered Financial Regulations because SALC have just advised NALC have issued a new Model – this will be an agenda item. Letter received from Barclays Bank informing us that cheque ((101393 for Alison Farmer) had been declined due to signing issues – another cheque was raised and sent but the original cheque was then passed for payment by the bank so cheque 10141 has been cancelled. and destroyed. **Page 979 item 6** A response was sent to Babergh Planning listing the important points in Alison Farmer’s report also attached was the full report, copy of response letter from Natural England, Tyler Grange Landscape Statement and Landscape and Visual appraisal. - Letter sent to resident re hedge along Capel Road – resident has informed the Clerk that it is in hand and will be done soon. Rest will be covered by agenda items.

## Public Session

**County Councillor Gordon Jones** – had sent his written report **Appendix 1** in the minute book and on the Parish Council website before the meeting which had been forwarded to Councillors. County Councillor Jones was asked to clarify the position on the school – he said it was dependent on the houses being built rather than the other way round and was dependent on car parking issues being sorted out. He was happy to speak about Quiet Lanes and also the 94A bus (subsidy for single one way £12) – he will get data and compare with Cllr Munday who told him that students attending Northgate 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Tattingstone use the bus. He was also informed about the play area the 10 year lease– the Parish Council would like some assurances that the play area which is now an essential part of the community can continue to lease the land, bearing in mind the length of time it took to negotiate the lease – County Councillor Jones promised to get the ball rolling

**District Councillor Dave Busby** – Reported that there was not much going on at the moment. The work on the 1071 has been postponed for 3-4 months. The Joint Local Plan meeting held at Capel last week was lively – he had a hard copy of the plan which is also available online on Babergh’s website. He was told that the infra structure documents have added a school playing field opposite - is Babergh going to buy land? If so how does it allow expansion for the school as its on the same site as the car park. District Councillor Busby told the meeting that Babergh were considering changing its name to South Suffolk and asked the meeting for feedback – the general consensus was that it would be a waste of time and money.

Cllr Moxey left the room.

Cllr Bamford welcomed the residents attending to speak regarding the 1 Grove Road application.

Several residents objected to this application and were concerned about over population of the site, inadequate parking provision, increased traffic and parking in Grove Road which will cause obstructions to traffic and more importantly emergency vehicles. The houses are aimed at young families with children but the school is already full to capacity and so is the Doctor’s surgery. There were also concerns regarding loss of habitat for wildlife. There were address concerns re The Spinney on the site location map which is inaccurate as it shows this property as Moonrakers. It was thought there might be a covenant on the site. It was also pointed out the Notices for this application only appeared on site on 2 September.

Tree Warden was concerned re over development of the site, loss of habitat and biodiversity which are mentioned in the Neighbourhood Plan.

The developer explained that these were two and three bedroom homes at the more affordable end of the market which meets the criteria in Bentley’s Housing Survey. If planning permission is granted there will be little scope for further extensions and the pitch of the buildings would be 30 degrees so no further development could take place in the roof space. Every property has a garden and a parking space. He told the meeting there was no covenant on the site – there was nothing in the deeds and he mentioned that the village would also get CIL tax on the properties which could be claimed for other facilities.

**Resident:** Asked about Footpath Warden and Footpath Society for entries in the Bentley Bugle – he was told Footpath Warden was Tim Hamstead. Clerk will send details. Cllr Wheals explained that the future of the Footpath Society was going to be discussed at the AGM – questioning whether it is still viable.

**6. Planning Applications**

a) To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications –

<b>DC/19/02961</b>	Dodnash Fruit Farm	<b>Formal approval is not required Permission has been granted Dismissed</b>
<b>DC/19/02985</b>	1 Red Cottages, Potash Lane	
<b>Appeal ref</b>	Land to west of Oak Lodge,	
<b>PP/D3505/W/19/32222384</b>	Bergholt Road	
<b>SC/19/03609</b>	12 The Link	<b>Prior approval to the development is not required</b>

b) To give comments on any new applications in hand –

<b>SC/19/03609</b>	12 The Link	Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed larger home extension Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 Schedule 2, Part 1 Class A – Erection of a rear extension (following demolition existing conservatory)
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**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

Proposed Cllr M Bamford      Seconded Cllr C Perry      All in favour      CU

Erection of 9 no two storey dwellings with altered access to Grove Road (following demolition of existing dwelling.

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL** However, Councillors welcomed the potential increase in the number of 2 and 3 bedroom properties in the village as identified in the draft Neighbourhood Plan. They had major concerns regarding parking on Grove Road which is unrestricted and the access and position of this development will increase parking on the road over spilling in front of other properties and could cause problems for emergency vehicles. There is very limited public transport for commuting purposes so a high level of car ownership by residents will be necessary.

They felt the density of the development was too great for the plot but both areas could be addressed by 1 or 2 fewer properties giving increased parking and access on the site.

If planning permission is given for this development, they would recommend a condition be attached for no further development in the roof space. A site visit was recommended by District Councillor Busby.

Proposed Cllr D Schumacher    Seconded Cllr C Perry    All in favour    CU

Cllr Moxey returned to the meeting.

**7. Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden/Capel Library/ Bentley Long**

**Barn—Tree Warden** – Reported he had received no reports from the public and is writing the Neighbourhood Plan Environment Policy evidence including that for trees and hedgerows. **Capel Library:** Capel Fun Day which was held on 20 July raised £71.50 and remaining books were sold to Music Magpie resulting in a further £57.65. There will be a Capel Library stall at Bentley Fun Day 8 September with books for sale at 40p each or 3 for a £1, jigsaw puzzles 75p each and DVDs. The new furniture will be installed on 16 September. Children’s Reading Game Presentations 16 September in the Community Main Hall. Next film to be shown at the Community Cinema is Aftermath on 17 September 7.30 start. Ollie the Magician – children’s event is on 5 October at 1.30 in the Community Main Hall. Book Journey 9 October from Capel to Hadleigh from 9-11. Suffolk Library Day will be held in Capel Library on 12 October and will be set out like a market day with various stalls. The annual quiz will be held on 26 October tickets £7 per person - teams of 6 - doors open at 7pm. **Bentley Long Barn** –No further news. **Footpath Warden:** No report available. **Footpath Society** - Considering their future.

**8. To approve Quarterly Accounts – April-June 2019**

Councillors had been issued with a copy of the 3 month Receipts and Payments 2019/20 and the accounts had been reviewed by the Finance Working Party – Cllr Cross and Cllr Schumacher. The Clerk reported total receipts for 3 months of the year £15,038.73 this figure includes precept £7,250, VAT repayment £606.64, interest (£7.09 and £7,175.00 from Groundworks re Neighbourhood Plan. Total payments over the 3 months included general admin £2327.07 which includes Clerks salary/expenses, hall hire, grants under the power of S137 £600, S142 (citizens Advice) £200 and S19 £200 – grass cutting/leaf clearance –closed churchyard £240 and grounds maintenance £149.19 - unplanned expenditure for Tree s in closed churchyards £1,100 - otherwise payments are within the budget. There was one uncleared cheque £174 for SALC. Current Account total £18,274.76 – Family Fun Day Tracker Account £4,551.21 which includes firework accounts and Parish Council Tracker account £9681.05. It was proposed that the accounts be accepted.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals    Seconded Cllr M Munday    All in favour    CU

**9. To ratify cheques to Alison Farmer Associates – (£660), Purchase of Fireworks (£1,373.40) & Container (£1,620) -** It was proposed that these cheques be ratified.

Proposed Cllr P Cross    Seconded Cllr C Perry    All in favour    CU

**10. Insurance Policy – To discuss change to new Parish Protect Policy or to renew existing yearly premium** – The Clerk informed Councillors that CAS have brought out a new policy called Parish Protect - although we are part way through a Long Term Undertaking with

Zurich if we chose to change there is no penalty for ending the agreement and we could enter into a long term undertaking under the Parish Protect Scheme. The renewal with Zurich would be £432.39 based on our index linked assets. The Parish Protect Policy 3 year LTU would be £364 for the same cover. After some discussion it was proposed that we take out a three Year Long Term Undertaking with Parish Protect.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell      Seconded Cllr C Perry      All in favour      CU

**Action:** Clerk will contact Insurers

11. **To discuss withdrawal of subsidy for 94A bus - Councillor** Munday and District Councillor G Jones to discuss and compare data re the 94A.
12. **To discuss Play Area Lease -** County Councillor Jones has agreed to look into extending the lease.
13. **GDPR – To consider Subject Access Policy-** The documents re Subject Access Policy and Privacy Policy are in the process of being circulated to Councillors so a Data Access Policy can be adopted.
14. **Grit Bins –Update -** The Clerk reported that there was a Revised Grit Bin Guidance - ability now to submit one application for multiple bin locations SCC are restocking grit bins mid September. Letters have been sent out to Residents re grit bin – 3 have returned signed forms. The School are happy in principle to have a grit bin but want to know where it will be sited – there is not much room due to parking problems etc.
15. **Traffic Calming – SID pole locations – Update** Locations for the poles had now been agreed with the Speedwatch Co-ordinator and will be sent to SCC for approval and installation.

**Action:** Clerk to send to SCC

16. **Draft Joint Local Plan -** A response was sent to Babergh Planning listing the important points in Alison Farmer's report - also attached was the full report, copy of response letter from Natural England, Tyler Grange Landscape Statement and Landscape and Visual appraisal
17. **Neighbourhood Plan -Update –** Cllr Moxey reported that there are three grant applications for various reports out at the moment - Design Code one through today. Need to put in a response re housing allocation and Alison Farmer's full grant – Other than that we are in the process of fleshing out policies - Uncertain about finishing date at the moment.
18. **Quiet Lanes – Update -** Cllr Munday reported on some progress – it looks as though the e-mail sent to County Councillor Jones is having an effect. SCC do support Quiet Lanes in principal. The online survey closing dated is 20 September if we want to designate some Quiet Lanes in Bentley. It was proposed that Cllr Munday complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford      Seconded Cllr N Moxey      All in favour      CU

19. **Slide for the Play Area – Update –** Cllr Feltwell reported that he had been looking at what is available and showed Councillors drawings of a wooden structure with a low slide. British Standard Safety Matting would have to be purchased at around £350 but the total bill would be about £1,200. It was proposed that Cllr Feltwell draw up plans and have an informal talk with a playground Inspector for a fee of around £50 and then we get someone local to construct. The Chairman thanked Cllr Feltwell for the work he had put in on this project.

Proposed Cllr D Schumacher      Seconded Cllr K Spicer      All in favour      CU

19. **Affordable Housing – Report on progress – Update –** Nothing to report.
20. **Playing Fields Society – To discuss Bentley Family Fun Day-** The meeting was informed that everything is in places for Bentley Family Fun Day. Fireworks have been purchased for 26 October display The container is now in place and has been put on sleepers so it is stable. A

lock, paint and signs are to be purchased. Playing Field had not been cut – Clerk to investigate – The subject of litter and how to deal with it will be an agenda item at the next meeting to be held before the 3 October Parish Council meeting.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals                      Seconded Cllr K Spicer                      All in favour                      CU

- 21. To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following: **July E-mails** Footpath Warden Invoice for container, 2 x BAPTC re Babergh 5 year land supply. Babergh x2 Joint Local Plan consultation – **August:** E-mails – Chairman – from resident re bus route closure, , SCC Invitation to Stour & Orwell Forum – 6 September Cllr Moxey booked to go – SCC August Report,, BAPT x 3 Website update & meeting reminder, SCC cyclic cleansing in Church Road to commence on 1 September, St Marys Church PCC – Church project – Agenda item, SLCC News Bulletin – Article GDPR Time line Calculation change, Suffolk Preservation Society – Landscape Training Neighbourhood Planning Groups & Parish Councils , SALC The Local Councillor

**Action:** St Marys Church - project

- 22. Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings**  
- None

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

101389	Dynamic Fireworks	Purchase of Fireworks		£1,373.40
101400	A Farmer Associates	CANCELLED		
101401	SALC	Councillor Training – Cllr Munday		£132.00
101402	P Baldwin	Grass cut, strim, etc		£120.00
101403	HMRC	Clerk’s Tax		£3.00
101404	Mrs J Scott	Salary August	£505.70	
		Minus tax	£3.00	£553.74
			£502.70	
		Plus Expenses	£ 51.04	
			£553.74	
101405	Community Action Suffolk	Insurance Renewal		£364.95

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey                      Seconded: Cllr J Wheals                      All in favour                      CU

- 24. To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** Parish Council Meeting Thursday 3 October 2019. Preceded by a Playing Field Society Meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

CHAIRMAN:

DATE: