

# BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON -THURSDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM

### Present

Cllr M Munday - Chairman      Mrs J Scott – Clerk      Cllr M Bamford      Cllr N Moxey  
Cllr J Wheals      Cllr P Cross      Cllr K Spicer

Also, in attendance – County Councillor Georgia Hall, District Councillor D Busby, Tree Warden, Footpath Warden, Speedwatch Co-ordinator, 8 members of the public & Natalie Fowler & Colleague (Tony ?) from County Broadband

Cllr Munday welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record this meeting. A risk assessment had been carried out for 9 Councillors and up to 24-28 members of the public with seating 1 metre plus apart.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** Cllr B Feltwell
2. **To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** - None received
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 Parish Council Meeting held on Friday 6 August 2021** - The minutes were approved as a true record and were duly signed.

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

5. **Matters arising from the Minutes - Page 1076 item 5 Response** from Bentley Parish Council was sent to Babergh Planning – Oak Bench has been purchased from Nelson Potter awaiting two quotes for a cement plinth for it to go on. Rest covered by agenda items
6. **Short Presentation by Natalie Fowler – County Broadband** – Natalie introduced herself as the Project Lead for bringing fibre optic to premises in this area – County Broadband is a limited company – a fully funded company backed by investment of £47 million and it is now being rolled out across East Anglia. At this stage they are engaging with the Community who should have received a letter. Various questions were asked on price (start at £28 per month), - how it would be delivered – either by telegraph pole or underground – in the main it will be like for like. What about outlying areas - if there is enough interest it will be delivered to every house in the village they were also asked about support after installation. Zoom meetings had been held with East Bergholt and Capel PC's and they would be happy to have a meeting with Bentley PC.

## Public Session

**County Councillor G Hall** - had sent her August written report which had been circulated to Councillors – **APPENDIX 1** in the minute book and on the website she was happy to take any questions. She reported on the Capel Underpass – the drains have been cleared and there shouldn't be a repeat of the recent flooding. She had contacted Network Assurance re diversion route and asked if we had had any response – We have not had any response to date. Afghan refugees – Babergh are dealing with – SCC are sorting out unaccompanied children. ANPR update – finally got the equipment which is currently being programmed its being trialled October/November and Bentley is first on her list. County Councillor Hall was asked about Solar Together.

**District Councillor D Busby** – had sent his written report which had been circulated to Councillors **APPENDIX 2** in the minute book and on the website – he reported that Babergh were involved in the new resettlement scheme for Afghan refugees – trying to find them accommodation. He had a meeting with M Scott re potential alternatives for Capel Grove – it was not a very successful meeting. He spoke of car parking charges – one hour free from January and the Mineral Extraction at Belstead - access path comes through Bentley – it will be in operation for 15 years. Also, free compost from Babergh on 11 September and Queen of the Mountains climb in stage six of the Women’s international cycling event. He was asked if he was aware of County Broadband. It was agreed it needs investigating fully and a meeting with them would be a good idea.

**Resident** – Parking in front of garages at Silver Leys – apparently residents are not allowed to park in front of their garages due to a gateway in the fence (No 14) which was not on the original plan. According to Land Registry this is Crown Land and they have no right to stop people parking. This will be an agenda item - may have to take legal advice.

**Resident** – Speaking for the horse riding community about two particular hot-spots for speeding cars – Case Lane & Hazel Shrub junctions – she requested speed limit signs to 30 mph – warning of horses in the road and that the speed limit be extended along the road. Riders are now buying expensive cameras to record near misses. Cllr Munday explained that de-regulated speed limit signs are put in every village outside the built-up area – Quiet Lane signs don’t have any enforcement although there has been a lot of support from other parishes for introducing a speed limit for Quiet Lanes. She was told this could be reported on SCC Reporting Tool and pictures could be uploaded. This will be an agenda item to be discussed more fully. She told the meeting that she had been successful in her application to become a Police Support Volunteer and asked if it could be put in the Bentley Bugle.

**Action:** Agenda items Parking – Garages in Silver Leys & Dangers of Horse Riding in the village.

**7. Planning Applications –**

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

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| <b>DC/21/02823</b>   | Rowan Acres, Capel Road | <b>Permission has been granted</b> |
| <b>DC/21/03705</b>   | 27 Silver Leys          | <b>Permission has been granted</b> |
| Non Material amendment to details approved by reserved matters | Holly Oak, Hazel Shrub  | <b>Amendment details approved</b>  |

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

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| <b>DC/21/04367</b> | 3 Red Cottages, Potash Lane | <b>Erection of single storey rear extension</b> |
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**RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

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

The original decision made no mention about the felling of trees at Holly Oak. The meeting was told that the Tree Warden had investigated and that the 26 trees were large overgrown Leylandii and of no significant value – Cllr Moxey remarked that there was a Buzzards nest in one.

**8. Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden/Capel Library/ Bentley Long Barn /Footpath Warden & Speedwatch - Tree Warden–** Reported that he visited Rusely, Hazel Shrub at the owner’s request, to examine 26 trees due to be cut down on the boundary of Holly Oak as part of the development at this site. Examination showed the trees to be large, overgrown Leylandii – type conifers of little wildlife benefit. Recommend removal and re-planting with a hedgerow of mixed native species, which would increase biodiversity. Will shortly be ordering

hedgerow and tree saplings from the Woodland Trust via the Suffolk Tree Warden Network for planting out in the period from November to February inclusive. Tree Warden was asked to contact Tree Officer for Babergh to request that TPO's to be placed on all the oak trees along the north boundary of Barnfield m, Bergholt Road and on all the oaks along the boundaries of the field immediately north of Barnfield (this field is owned by the daughters of the late Ralph Jonson which has been proposed for a building development of 60 houses). **Friends of Capel Library** – The library is now fully operational (wear masks, please). Events are back and running as normal, including film nights. The next film is 1917 at 7.30 on Thursday 21 September (doors open at 7 pm). **Bentley Barn** – No further news - **Footpath Warden** – Reported a new fence on the footpath off Grove Road difficult now to access. – Letter will be sent to resident asking them to clear the path. **Speedwatch** – Since the last meeting there have been eleven sessions 89 vehicles have been reported – 81% were at the far end of Capel Road – this is the worst area, second is War Memorial and third is the Village Hall. He gave a gentle reminder to be informed when Sid is being moved. Cllr Munday asked him to thank all members of the Speedwatch team for their efforts.

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| Action: Letter to resident re Footpath Grove Road |
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Councillor Wheals joined the meeting.

9. **Insurance Policy – to discuss increasing cover on assets and renewal - The** Clerk informed the meeting that the renewal notice had been received from CAS (forwarded to Councillors) – we are in a Long-Term Agreement – Parish Protect – until 30 September 2022 - Assets have been increased from £50K to -£75K It was proposed that the premium of £439.43 be paid.

Proposed Cllr P Cross                      Seconded Cllr N Moxey                      All in favour      CU

10. **To Approve Quarterly Accounts – April-June 2021 -** Clerk/RFO reported Councillors had been issued with a copy of the Quarterly Receipts and Payments 2021/221 – she told the meeting that the Accounts Working Party – Cllrs Cross & Schumacher had met via Zoom on 16 July to go through the accounts. Receipts for the 3 months for year 2021/22 amount to £14,489.91 this figure includes precept £7,250, VAT repayment £1,816.71, interest (0.33p), £3,500 Locality Budget- Maritime FC - £258.00 Babergh parish grant and £1,664.87 CIL monies. Total payments over the 3 months included general admin £2,423.29 which includes Clerks salary/expenses, Zoom payments etc, grants under the power of S137 £800, S19 £200 – (S142 (citizens Advice) £100, – grass cutting/leaf clearance –closed churchyard £280.00 - unplanned expenditure £120 to repaint Bentley Parish Council sign on notice board otherwise payments are within budget. There were four uncleared cheques amounting to £419. Current Account Balance at 29 June - total £17,630.77 – Family Fun Day Tracker Account £3,747.98 which includes firework accounts and Parish Council Tracker account £9,698.77. It was proposed that the accounts be accepted.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey                      Seconded Cllr K Spicer                      All in favour      CU

11. **CPR Training re Defibrillators –** This item is in response to an e-mail from a resident in June - Councillors thought this was a good idea – It was proposed that an initial assessment should take place – re numbers - with a notice in the Bentley Bugle and on Facebook before organising training.

Proposed Cllr M Bamford                      Seconded Cllr M Munday                      All in favour      CU

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| Action: Notice in Bentley Bugle re training on defibrillators |
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12. **Litter Bins for Playing Field & Play Area -** Cllr Munday informed the meeting that Following receipt of an e-mail from Babergh on 21 July re Welcome Back Funding – we applied for two litter bins under this scheme– one for the playing field and one for the play area – siting to be discussed. Babergh have since written - As we have not yet had responses from the majority of parishes, we have extended the deadline for submitting forms until the end of this month. We are hoping to order in bulk and so as soon as this order has been placed and we have more clarity on delivery times, you will be contacted again

13. **To discuss possible extension to a Bentley Footpath -** This is in response to an e-mail received from a resident – Following a discussion it was proposed that the resident’s suggestion with a map be sent to County Councillor Georgia Hall for consideration with the Parish Council’s support.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr K Spicer      All in favour      CU

**Action:** Suggestion and map to be forwarded to County Councillor Hall

14. **To discuss Tree on Silver Leys - The** Tree Warden had inspected this conifer and in his opinion it should be removed as it is causing damage– it is situated on the grass verge between No’s 27 and 28. It was proposed that the Clerk contact Babergh’s Arboriculturist to get the tree removed. A map will also be sent.

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

**Action:** Contact Babergh Arboriculturist

15. **To ratify payments to Dynamic Fireworks, Nelson Potter, Sampsons Mobile Locksmiths & Eastern Play Services -** These payments were for Purchase of Fireworks for Bentley Firework Night (£657.40) – Nelson Potter (Dodnash) Oak bench for the Play Area (£427.50) – Towns Mobile Locksmiths (£154) Replacement of locks on both notice boards and Eastern Play Services (£120) Repair of basket Swing (this payment was made by BACS by Clerk and is included in her expenses as the company no longer take cheques). It was proposed that these payments be ratified en bloc.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr K Spicer      All in favour      CU

16. **To discuss Purchase of Chaplet for Remembrance Sunday -** After some discussion it was proposed to pay £75 for the chaplet and £25 for the door to door collection.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr P Cross      All in favour      CU

**Action:** Cheques to be passed for payment at October meeting

17. **Tudor Fundraising Event – Update – to agree date for 2022 -** Councillor Moxey told the meeting it had been a very successful couple of days with £4½K raised to keep the guy alive for another four months. They would like to do something similar for 2022 – Formalising date for first weekend in September which will include some fundraising for the Playing Field Society.

18. **Traffic Calming – SID/ANPR/Road Markings – Update -** ANPR has been covered above by County Councillor Hall. SID is working well – will look forward to moving it outside Rowan Acres shortly as it does visibly make a difference.

19. **Playing Field Society –** i) Deep aeration treatment (Terralift) by Terrain Aeration Services Ltd due to start on 11 October for four days – Notice to go in Bugle and Facebook that field will be out of action. Field Access was also discussed. ii) Equipment on Field – A CIL application will be submitted to Babergh in October- a quotation is awaited from Action Play and Leisure to install a surface (similar to East Bergholt’s recently installed play equipment area). iii) To discuss use of the field - A Working Party to draft out draft policy for agreement by Trustees. iv) Litter problem Two bins have been ordered via Babergh’s Welcome Back Funding – Deadline for this has been extended.

**Action:** Notice in Bentley Bugle re Field out of action 11 October (4 days)

20. **Neighbourhood Plan –Update** Cllr Moxey reported that the last Consultation phase of the NHP finishes on Friday – 14 comments received. An Inspector has been allocated who has done a number of Neighbourhood Plans and is only interested in new evidence for this round We have two weeks to comment. All comments will be published on Babergh's Consultation Site in due course.

21. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors’ attention to the following e-mails - **July** – E-mails – Cllr Busby Bentley Barn, Babergh x 3 Caravan Highfields, smoke Complaint, CIL funding (outdoor gym equip) - Terrain Aeration Quotation & Acceptance of quote, Capel Clerk x 3 re Flooding at Capel underpass – Resident x 3 Field use – Maritime – Goal posts moved – Archant SID - Eastern Play Services – repair of basket swing E-mails x 2 County Broadband – Capel & East Bergholt Clerks re Planning application DC/21/03954 – Capel Grove – resident replaced notice that had been torn down – swing has also been damaged – Resident x 2 Urgent Bentley NHP & conduct of Cllr. – SCC Posts at The Link. **August** – E-mails from residents re Neighbourhood Plan, possible extension to a Bentley Footpath, Holly Oak Planning application – 26 mature trees being removed, County Broadband & Horse Riding Safety on Bentley Road - Agenda item at the next meeting. E-mails from Capel & E Bergholt Clerks re Capel Grove Planning application & Hedges East End Bergholt Road, E-mails from Babergh – Notice for Civil Parking Enforcement Order – Advert re changes to off street traffic regulations - e-mail from 2020 Consultancy re Babergh & Mid Suffolk Parking Strategy Consultation – Welcome back funding extended to 30 September 2021. **Late Correspondence:** E-mails Babergh x 3 – Suffolk Energy from Waste Facility virtual tours 10 & 11 September, Update on Parking charges – Council Parking strategy Consultation – Access to questionnaire. E-0mails from residents x 4 3 re Bentley Speed limits - and one re Remembrance Service – Special event Forms have been sent off.

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| <b>Action:</b> Agenda item Horse Riding Safety |
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22. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings**  
**Cllr Moxey** had received a letter from landowner that needs discussion – asking if we had received any response from Babergh re the caravan on Highfields that was parked on part of his land. The meeting was told that this had been reported to the Enforcement Team and the necessary Form had been completed. A further e-mail was sent to the Enforcement Officer regarding this issue. - unlike Environmental Health Planning are not legally required to tell the Parish Council the results of any enquiry This will be chased again. **Cllr Spicer** – The subject of another use for the Millennium Bus Shelter was discussed – seed exchange?

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

|        |   |                             |                |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 101548 | Dynamic Fireworks   | Fireworks - <b>Ratified</b> | £657.40        |
| 101549 | Nelson Potter   | Oak Bench – <b>Ratified</b> | £427.50        |
| 101550 | Townes Mobile Locksmith   | N/B Locks - <b>Ratified</b> | £154.00        |
| 101551 | Peter Baldwin   | Grass cut/strim C/yard      | £140.00        |
| 101552 | Community Action Suffolk  | Insurance Renewal           | £439.43        |
| 101553 | Mrs J Scott   | Clerks Salary August        | £520.00        |
|        |   | Minus tax                   | <u>00.00</u>   |
|        |   |                             | £698.84        |
|        | <b>NB:</b> Expenses include BACS payment to Eastern Play Services (£120) for repair to basket swing | Plus Expenses               | <u>£520.00</u> |
|        |   |                             | <u>£278.84</u> |
|        |   |                             | <u>£698.84</u> |

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey                      Seconded: Cllr P Cross                      All in favour                      CU

19. **To confirm date of next scheduled meeting** –. Parish Council Meeting Thursday 7 October 2021 at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

CHAIRMAN:



DATE: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021