

## **BENTLEY PAUNCEFOOT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bentley Pauncefoot Parish Council Held On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm in Bentley Village Hall**

**Present** : Cllr A Boss – Chair  
Cllr R Bewsher – Vice Chair  
Cllr R Cheape  
Cllr J Harris  
Cllr B Spence  
Cllr G Teague

A Dyson - Clerk

#### **Public Participation**

2 members of the public was in attendance (please refer to signing in book).

<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies &amp; Approval of Absence</b>	
		Cllr P Meads
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>	
	a)	None
	b)	None
	c)	None
	d)	None
<b>3.</b>	<b>To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting which was held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.</b>	
		The Minutes were accepted by all Councillors and signed by Cllr A Boss - Chair.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Progress Reports</b>	
	a)	<b><u>Village Hall update &amp; upcoming events</u></b> – the annual litter pick is taking place on Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2019. The Clerk has contacted BDC and arranged for a skip and litter picking equipment to be collected / delivered on Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2019. On the 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2019 there is a gardener’s question evening with local BBC gardening presenter Reg Moule in attendance. There will be no Christmas lunch this year. A schedule of upcoming events can be found on the village hall notice board and on the VHS Facebook page.
	b)	<b><u>Footpaths</u></b> The path through the Thrift has been reinstated. Footpath officer Mr John Milles has inspected the path and is happy with the work carried out by WCC on the path.
	c)	<b><u>Tree Warden</u></b> The PC is confident that the tree policy in place covers any insurance liability. Cllr Cheape has obtained 200 saplings which he will nurture until they are ready to be planted out. A decision will be made at that time where to plant the trees.
	d)	<b><u>Tardebidge Relief, in Need &amp; Sickness Charity</u></b> Cllr Teague reported that the next meeting is due to take place in February. Redditch FC have applied for funding to support a dementia café at their grounds and an application has been put forward to help people get back to work in the Batchley area. The PC agreed that both applications were of a worthwhile nature.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Lengthsman</b>
	Chris Cooke, Lengthsman was in attendance at the meeting and reported his ongoing frustrations with WCC Highways and North Worcestershire Water Management. Road / gulley issues have been reported but no progress is being made on rectifying them. Lengthsmen are no longer able to clear gulleys due to H&S resulting in long delays. Mr Cooke will continue gritting unsafe areas in the Parish that are not covered by WCC gritting services. He has had a delivery of salt and believes the amount should be sufficient for this Winter.
<b>6.</b>	<b>CALC</b>
	CALC had sent a letter to Clerks asking if they could ascertain why attendance at CALC meetings was so low. The PC agreed that other than time constraints there was no reason. Cllr Bewsher, Vice Chair, had attended some meetings and felt they were of benefit. It was decided that each Councillor and the Clerk should take in turns to attend a meeting and report back at the next PC meeting. Cllr Teague said she was happy to attend each meeting if the dates did not coincide with other meeting obligations she may have.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Bentley Bugle</b>
	The Bugle had now been printed and was available for distribution. Councillors Boss (Chair) and Cheape with support from other Councillors would distribute the Bugle across the Parish. Cllr Spence had purchased at this own cost a number of Hi Viz jackets with Parish Councillor printed on the back, for wearing during the distribution and at any other occasion that warranted. Apart from the safety issue of such jackets, it was agreed the wearing of such items would be reassuring to residents who may be concerned about unknown people venturing on their land. Cllr Spence suggested that next year the Bugle could be published on line rather than printed; the consensus was that people preferred the hard copy.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Village Hall Car Park Resurfacing project</b>
	Cllr Boss (Chair) had received an application from the Village Hall Committee asking if the PC would be prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of resurfacing the car park at the village hall. The VH had received some funding from the National Lottery and WCC were donating a sum, the rest of the funds would come from the VH itself. The PC agreed to donate £1000.00 towards the project.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Superfast Broadband</b>
	Cllr Bewsher (Vice Chair) has received an email from Superfast Worcester advising that Openreach sign off of the financial aspect of the contracts had been completed and the document was now with their Legal department for checking. Once this was completed it will be returned to WCC who should then be asking for contributions from stakeholders. This process should encompass the cabinet due to be placed on Angel Street. Cllr Spence had concerns that due to the lengthy process, residents who had previously agreed to fund the project may not be so inclined some 6 months later.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Minerals Report</b>
	Concerns were raised about a large swathe of land within Upper Bentley that appears to have been earmarked for mineral retrieval. Cllrs Boss (Chair) and Cheape agreed to attend the public meeting on the 21 <sup>st</sup> to learn more about the proposal. Cllr Cheape had previously employed the services of a solicitor to "shut down" a similar request for his land. He will contact the solicitors to see if a similar legal challenge can be applied to the land in Upper Bentley.

<b>11.</b>	<b>Bentley Pauncefoot Road Safety Campaign</b>
	<p>The summary of data from the Vehicle Data Analyser cables that had been placed at two areas within the village had now been received from WCC. The data had shown that vehicles at the upper end of the ranges were driving at speeds which were regarded by the Parish Council as unacceptable. Based on the information, a letter will be sent to Highways requesting a speed limit of 40 miles per hour be enforced on Curr Lane / Copyholt Lane and Banks Green &amp; Manor Road to improve safety for users of these roads.</p> <p>Cllr Boss (Chair) had spoken to WCC Cllr Kit Taylor regarding funding towards “drive safely” signs within the village. WCC Cllr Taylor has agreed funding for 3 signs. After discussions, it was agreed 7 signs were required on various positions within the village; the PC will pay for the extra signs. Cllr Bewsher (Vice Chair) had a map of the village roads and discussions took place as to where the signs should be placed. This was agreed and the map will be sent to Richard Clewer of Highways showing where the signs should be placed.</p> <p>Cllr Harris reported that there was an area on Copyholt Lane where hedging had been removed by the land owner, causing visibility on the particular bend to be reduced. He asked whether at some point in the future the PC would consider putting railings on the bend to improve the situation. The PC will monitor the situation with a view to writing to Highways in the future.</p> <p>Cllr Spence had contacted the administrator for Tesco Bags of Help assuring them that the monies received from them would be put towards an educational campaign for safe driving with when the PC had decided on exactly how this project would be delivered.</p>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Planning</b>
<p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Small(er) scale planning applications in the Parish – new notifications / updates:</p> <p><b>18/01467/FUL</b> – Proposed single storey side extension to form an Orangery, The Haven, Banks Green, Upper Bentley – the PC had no objection to this proposal.</p> <p><b>Foxlydiat FTWP update</b> – Cllr Spence spoke to Simon Jones of BDC on 14.01.19. BDC have taken on board the PC's concerns about the 3 storey properties being placed on the highest part of the land and have raised these with the developers. Simon Jones confirmed that he had not looked at the Mott McDonald report. The FTWP are going to ask for a meeting with Mott McDonald. Simon Jones confirmed that irrespective of Redditch BC saying they no longer required the land, the development would go ahead at some point in time.</p> <p><b>18/01624/FUL</b> – Erection of agricultural building, Thriftwood Farm, Holyoakes Lane, Bentley – the PC had no objection to this proposal.</p>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Finance</b>
	<p>Precept 2019 / 2020. It was agreed that the amount requested should be the same as last year. However, discussions took place regarding the money held in the PC's bank account. This amount has built up over a few years when it was felt money may have been required to employ solicitors / road safety experts to help the campaign against the new housing development. However, as the development has now been approved by BDC, the money will not be required for that use. The Clerk will ask CALC if there is a “fair” amount of contingency funds that a PC should hold in their accounts.</p>
	<p>Parish Council Account Bank Balance as at 27.12.18  Account No. ending 7848    £10,504.84  Footpath Account Bank Balance as at 04.04.18  Account No. ending 8980    £638.70</p>

	To consider payments / receipts as per Clerks correspondence list issued at meeting		
	A Dyson (December / January salary & expenses	£665.39	Cheque no 100501
	C Cooke (Lengthsman)	£140.40	Cheque no 100502
	SLCC Membership	£089.00	Cheque no 100503
	Bentley Village Hall (Meeting room Hire)	£195.00	Cheque no 100504
	Worcestershire CALC (Election training)	£ 20.00	Cheque no 100505
	Worcester CC (Rock Salt)	£560.00	Cheque no 100506
	<b>Received monies</b>		
	Nil		
<b>15.</b>	<b>Councillors Reports &amp; Items for Future Agenda</b>		
	Cllr Teague reported that residents had asked her what the PC was doing about the speeding issue in the village as it wasn't immediately evident. This issue would have been something that was covered in the newsletters but It had been agreed some time ago to stop those. Residents would have seen the data cables and the signs that are due to be ordered will be evidence of some action being taken. The dates and subsequent Minutes of all meetings are on the website. In future meeting agendas will be circulated to residents to enable them to see what is to be discussed and decide whether they wish to attend.		
<b>16.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>		
	This is scheduled for Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm in Bentley Village Hall.		

**Meeting Closed at 21.28**

**Signed:** A R BOSS

**Date:** 19.03.2019

**Cllr A R Boss - Chair**