

## **BENTLEY PAUNCEFOOT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes Of The Annual General Meeting Held On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00pm – via Zoom**

**Present** : Chair Cllr R Bewsher A Dyson (Clerk)  
Vice Chairperson – Cllr B Spence  
Cllr A Boss  
Cllr R Cheape  
Cllr P Meads

**Apologies:** No apologies

**Visitors:** 3 visitors (per current Covid 19 advice – the Clerk entered everyone’s names into the signing in book)

**1. Election Of Chairperson**

Prior to Chair R Bewsher resigning her position, she thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised all Councillors present, that they should not be concerned about not supporting the current Chair and Vice Chair if they felt that those roles would be executed better by any other member of the Council when casting their votes to re-elect a new Chair and Vice Chair.

Cllr A Boss proposed Cllr Bewsher for the role of Chair for the next 12 months, Cllr Spence seconded the vote, all other Councillors accepted this proposal and Cllr Bewsher accepted the position. The Clerk will forward the Acceptance of Office to Chair Bewsher for signing and return to the Clerk for witnessing.

**2. Election Of Vice Chairperson**

Vice Chairperson B Spence resigned his position as Vice Chairperson. Chair R Bewsher proposed Cllr B Spence for Vice Chairperson, seconded by Cllr P Meads. Cllr Spence said he would accept the position but before it was approved by all members, he wished to declare that he would not be interested in taking the Chairperson’s role at any forthcoming elections. Councillors acknowledged his comments and were happy to approve his proposal for Vice Chairperson at this time. The Clerk will forward the Acceptance of Office to Vice Chair Spence for signing and return to the Clerk for witnessing.

**3. Apologies**

WCC Councillor Kit Taylor and Bromsgrove District Councillor P Whittaker had not responded to his invitation to attend the meeting, however as District elections are due to take place tomorrow, this was not unexpected.

**4. Declarations Of Interest**

a) Councillors - nothing new to declare.

b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – nothing new to declare

c) Other Disclosable Interests in items and their nature – nothing new declare

d) Written requests for the clerk to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – nothing to declare

**5. Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting Held Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020 were approved at the Ordinary PC meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.

6. **Chairperson's Report on Parish Council Achievements In 2020/2021**

Chair Bewsher highlighted the main topics that the PC had been working on during the year including the successful conclusion of the campaigns for speed limits and fibre broadband together with the ongoing work regarding the Foxlydiat developments. She thanked all Councillors and the Clerk for their work and efforts over the last 12 months.

7. **Parish Council's priorities going forward and Councillor roles**

Chair Bewsher asked Councillors to confirm if they were happy to continue with the roles allocated to specifically along with all other matters arising in the future.

**Foxlydiat Working Party**– Chair Bewsher, Cllr Cheape & Cllr Rands. Vice Chair Spence is available to support as required.

**Communications, Broadband** - Chair Bewsher and the A Dyson (Clerk)

**Road safety project and Broadband** - Cllr Meads

**Road safety specifically issues with cyclists** - Cllr Rands would like to extend this role to include pedestrian and horse riders.

**CALC** – A Dyson (Clerk)

**Tardebigge Relief, in need and Sickness charity** – Vice Chair Spence

**Road safety – with particular emphasis on building relationships with local Police, Councillors and media** - Cllr Boss

**Planning, Climate & Environmental** - Cllr Cheape

**Financial opportunities & support to the Clerk with regard to Budget and Cash flow** – Vice Chair Spence.

**The Bentley Bugle** – Vice Chair Spence and Clerk A Dyson. Cllr Cheape advised that Ms Biddie Briggs has offered any publishing support that might be required. Vice Chair Spence thanked Ms Briggs and will contact her if necessary.

**Lengthsman** – over the past few weeks it had become apparent to Vice Chair Spence that Mr C Cooke is having some issues with WCC and would appreciate support from the PC when dealing with WCC and the new service agreement from WCC had made it clear that the onus of responsibility to ensure works were carried out properly within the Parish, was on the PC. Vice Chair Spence asked if a Councillor would be willing to liaise with Mr Cooke going forward. Cllr Rands said he would be happy to take on this role but did not have a background with the personnel at WCC and asked whether this would be a hindrance to him when dealing with them. There is a new person in charge of the Lengthsman scheme - a Mr Clark Ellison, Vice Chair Spence will send Cllr Rands the contact details for Mr Clark Ellison. WCC are also not very prompt at repaying the monies to the PC which they pay to the Lengthsman which could lead to a cash flow problem, this is also something Cllr Rands might be able to discuss with WCC should the need arise.

With regard to the above delegations, although each role has a Councillor assigned to it, all Councillors are expected to actively take an interest and assist where necessary with all of the roles allocated and not just with roles specifically allocated to them.

**AGM MEETING CLOSED**

**19.28 pm**

**Signed** .....R Bewsher ..... **Chairperson**

**Dated** .....20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.....