

## **BENTLEY PAUNCEFOOT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes Of The Annual Meeting Held On Tuesday 20 May 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr N Rands (Chair)  
Cllr A Boss  
Cllr W Davies

**Apologies:** Cllr Morgan

**Visitors:** 9 members of the public – names entered in the signing in book

**1. Election Of Chairperson**

Cllr Boss nominated Cllr Rands for the role of Chair for the next 12 months, Cllr Davies seconded the vote, and Cllr Rands accepted the position. The Clerk presented the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to Cllr Rands for signature, duly witnessed.

**2. Election Of Vice Chairperson**

Cllr Rands proposed Cllr Morgan for the position of Vice Chair in his absence, which was seconded by Cllr Boss.

**3. Apologies**

Cllr Morgan sent his apologies.

**4. Financial Regulations**

The Parish Council confirmed the Financial Regulations had been reviewed and were approved.  
**Approved by all Councillors**

**5. Standing Orders**

The Parish Council confirmed the Standing Orders had been reviewed and were approved.  
**Approved by all Councillors**

**6. Council's scheme of delegation**

Chair Rands led a discussion in relation to the various roles performed by each individual Councillor.  
Approved as follows:

<b>Communications:</b>	Cllr Rands and C Wood
<b>Planning Applications:</b>	Cllr Rands and C Wood
<b>Tardebidge Charity:</b>	B Spence
<b>Police / SNT:</b>	Cllr Boss
<b>Lengthsman:</b>	Cllr Rands and C Wood (It was noted that C. Cooke should instigate any issue for support with Cllr Rands)
<b>Road Safety:</b>	Cllr Davies
<b>Footpaths:</b>	Cllr Morgan
<b>Bentley Bugle:</b>	All Councillors
<b>Financial Reporting:</b>	Cllr Rands approver / C Wood submitter (pending new bank for the Parish Council)
<b>Village Hall Committee:</b>	Cllr Morgan
<b>Social Media:</b>	Cllr Morgan
<b>CALC:</b>	C Wood

With regards to the above responsibilities, whilst each role has a Councillor assigned to it, all Councillors are expected to actively take an interest and assist where necessary with any of the areas listed and not exclusively the roles specifically allocated to them.

**7. Annual Chair's Report**

Cllr Rands presented his annual report – copy attached (Appendix 1).

**AGM MEETING CLOSED  
7.15pm**

**Signed**

**Chairperson**

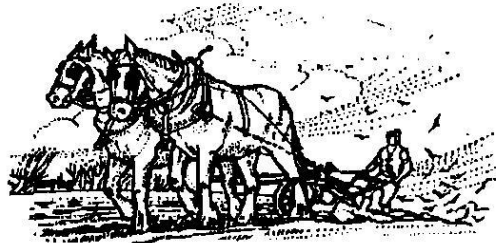
**Dated**

# Chair's Annual Report 2024/2025

## Appendix 1

to the Minutes of the Annual Bentley Pauncefoot Parish Council Meeting  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Bentley Pauncefoot Parish Council



## 2000

This year has been a blend of regular duties and unique challenges, highlighting the dedication of councillors and community members.

**We have seen some council changes;** we welcomed **Benedict Coleman** and **Wendy Davies** to the Parish Council. Benedict contributed to addressing the ongoing road safety concerns on Copyholt Lane, and the Feckenham Battery Storage Plans. We thank him for his efforts and wish him well. Wendy, a long-time village resident, brings valuable insights that will aid the Council in many future issues.

**We have received several community contributions;** thank you to **Chris Cooke**, our Lengthsman, whose quiet yet vital work keeps our lanes safe and well-maintained. His dedication, alongside support from councillors and landowners, is particularly crucial in handling flooding and drainage challenges in the Parish. Some highway issues still need resolving by the County Council and we hope the new County Councillor, Sam Evans, is able to assist in solving these problems.

We also express gratitude to former Chair **Roz Bewsher** and Vice Chair **Barry Spence**, who continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes. Their expertise, particularly, in planning matters remains invaluable to both residents and the Council.

**We continue to comment on Planning Applications within the Parish;** including the Foxlydiate development. As the Foxlydiate estate continues to expand, concerns about its effect on the Parish have grown. According to government definitions, a Parish should reflect a recognisable community with its own identity. A development of nearly **3,000 homes** will inevitably reshape our community.

To address this, the Council explored the **Community Governance Review**, a process allowing residents to vote on whether to adjust Parish boundaries to exclude Foxlydiate. **This year's Bentley Bugle** was dedicated to explaining this initiative, inviting residents to sign a petition requesting Bromsgrove District Council to conduct a survey on the matter. Petition forms are still being received, and residents are encouraged to participate as there is no fixed deadline.

**The other councillors; Matthew Morgan and Andy Boss**, continue to carry out their Council roles very capably, and willingly step up to address new issues as they occur.

**A big thank you goes to Clare Wood**, our Parish Clerk. Clare has helped me immensely over the last year. I couldn't have done this without her, thank you.

And thank you everyone.

Cllr N Rands – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025