

BENTLEY PAUNCEFOOT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bentley Pouncefoot Parish Council Held On Tuesday 20th November 2018 at 7.30pm in Bentley Village Hall

Present : Cllr R Bewsher – Vice Chair A Dyson - Clerk
 Cllr J Harris
 Cllr P Meads
 Cllr B Spence

Public Participation

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

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| 1. | Apologies & Approval of Absence |
| | Cllr A Boss - Chair, Cllr R Cheape, Cllr G Teague, District Cllr P Whittaker, C Cooke - Lengthsman |
| 2. | Declaration of Interest |
| | a) None b) None c) None d) None |
| 3. | To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting which was held on Tuesday 19th September 2018. |
| | The Minutes were accepted by all Councillors and signed by Vice Chair R Bewsher. |
| 4. | Progress Reports |
| | a) <u>Village Hall update & upcoming events</u> – the Christmas lunch will be held on Sunday 9 th December. The VH Committee are still in the process of receiving tenders for resurfacing of the car park and seeking funding if possible towards the cost. Cllr Spence suggested that an application for funding from the 2019 NHB Community Grant scheme could be requested if the criteria for car park resurfacing fell within the scope for funding. The Clerk will contact A Scarce. |
| | b) <u>Footpaths</u> As Cllr Cheape was not in attendance for this meeting it was not clear whether he had contacted Mr Milles, Footpath Officer, to see what needs to be done to clear the Thrift. This will be confirmed at the next meeting. Discussions took place regarding dog walkers using the paths and whether unbridled dogs were still causing a problem. Chair A Boss will be asked to speak to all concerned parties. |
| | c) <u>Tree Warden</u> As Cllr Cheape was not in attendance for this meeting, it was not possible to get an update of when planting will take place of the replacement oak tree in Lower Bentley; this will be addressed at the next PC meeting. |
| | d) <u>Tardebigge Relief, In Need & Sickness Charity</u> Cllr Teague was not in attendance for this meeting but had advised the Clerk that the next Charity meeting would take place before the January PC meeting and she would provide an update following that meeting at the January PC meeting. |
| 5. | Telephone Box |
| | The PC supported the change of use for the telephone box to a Book / CD exchange but asked the Clerk to check with the PCs Insurance company with regard to liability should anyone using the facility injure themselves in any way. |

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| 6. | Broadband update |
| | <p>Cllr Spence and Vice Chair Bewsher have now agreed the wording of the Funding Agreement with WCC for bids using that route. A point in the agreement that both Councillors are not fully happy with but were unable to avoid is that in the unlikely event that WCC terminates the agreement, they had originally planned that the Community Contribution would be used to cover the first tranche of any “spent” funds. Cllrs Spence and Bewsher negotiated this amount down-to cover 30% of any “spent” funds but residents do need to be fully informed that there is some risk involved.</p> <p>The fibre cabinet which will be located on Angel Street to cover Angel Street and Manor Road properties is still on plan - no planning permission is required for the siting of the cabinet.</p> <p>Currently Openreach engineers are working in the village checking if the current poles are sufficient to carry the new fibre.</p> <p>The bid that Cllr Harris is leading is still ongoing, Cllr Harris will write to residents included in this bid with an update.</p> |
| 7. | Lengthsman |
| | <p>Mr Cooke was unable to attend the meeting but had advised the Clerk that there were no outstanding issues. The PC discussed the gritting arrangements that had been in place last winter with the Lengthsman and asked the Clerk to advise Mr Cooke that they would like to continue with the same this winter.</p> |
| 8. | Bentley Pauncefoot Road Safety Campaign |
| | <p>Cllrs Harris and Mead have been unable to make any further progress on a road safety campaign. Cllr Spence has concerns that the money received from Tesco Bags for Help, which was obtained on the basis that it would be put towards an educational programme regarding road safety has not been utilised. Discussions took place regarding a campaign and what it should cover. As WCC had placed cables in two sites within the village a decision was made to delay any campaign until data had been received from the cables in order that a more comprehensive campaign could be launched. Cllr Meads will chase Richard Clewer at Highways to progress this information and to remind him that following his visit in September, it had been agreed that Pump House Lane should not be used for diversions and we would like confirmation that it will not be used again</p> <p>Cllr Spence will speak to his contact at Tesco to update them on progress.</p> <p>Concern was also raised that we are still waiting for a response from WCC Highways following the letter we received via Sajid Javid. Cllr Meads agreed to continue to press them for a response. It was also agreed that Cllr Meads would write a letter for the Clerk to send to Sajid Javid on behalf of the PC to update him. Cllr Spence suggested that Kit Taylor and Peter Whitaker should be copied on the letter, this was agreed by the rest of the PC. It is important that we are always copy them on such correspondence so that they are aware of our concerns and actions.</p> <p>The Clerk had written to WCC Cllr Kit Taylor who had said he may be able to provide funding for road signs. As there had been no reply from Mr Taylor, the Clerk will write to him again.</p> |
| 9. | Tesco Bags of Help |
| | <p>This item has been covered under Minute 8 above.</p> |
| 10. | Bentley Bugle update |
| | <p>A decision had been taken to publish the Bugle in January rather than Christmas. All articles are now with the printer who is aware of the date of publication and we are waiting to see a first run.</p> |

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| 11. | Planning | |
| | Small(er) scale planning applications in the Parish – new notifications / updates: | |
| a) | 18/01221/FUL – Single storey building for the storage of equipment for forestry & agricultural purposes at Bartles Wood (Retrospective), Curr Lane, Upper Bentley – the PC had objected to this application but Chair Bewsher had checked on the planning portal prior to this evening’s meeting and BDC have approved the application. | |
| b) | Foxlydiat FTWP update – a review had taken place with Ruth Bamford and Simon Jones of BDC. This site is now within the Bromsgrove area of planning however no date has yet been set for the application to be put before the Planning Committee. BDC has asked for any specific questions regarding traffic issues to be sent to them in order that they can be referred to the Mott McDonald document - Chair Bewsher is putting these together. | |
| c) | BDC – plan review issues & Options consultation A meeting with residents and Bromsgrove planning department was held on the 11 th October 2018 in the village hall. Following this meeting, it was decided that the PC should submit their views on this document. The deadline for submission was 19 th November 2018 and unfortunately this deadline was missed. Cllr Spence contacted BDC planning department and asked for an extension to the timing. Mrs Helen Spence has agreed to complete the document on behalf of the PC and Councillor Spence asked other members of the PC if they were in agreement with this. All Councillors agreed and Chair Bewsher thanked Mrs Spence for her time and input. | |
| d) | Sheltwood Lane – Woods SA report. This application was originally declined but later approved at an appeal hearing. The report stated that a limit of 5 caravans should be on site – the PC will monitor the situation. | |
| 12. | Finance | |
| | Parish Council Account Bank Balance as at 26.10.18 (Account number 70927848) | £10,767.65 |
| | Footpath Account Bank Balance as at 04.04.17 (Account Number 70927848) | £ 638.70 |
| | To consider payments /receipts as per Clerks correspondence list issued at meeting. | |
| | A Dyson (October / November salary & Expenses) | £636.21 |
| | C Cooke (Lengthsman) | £230.40 |
| | | Chq no 100499 Chq no 100450 |
| | Received monies | |
| | Village Hall donation to Bentley Bugle | £125.00 |
| | A decision has been to add another signatory to the Bank account; Cllr Spence confirmed that he is agreement to his name being added to the bank mandate. | |
| 13. | Clerks Update | |
| | The Clerk has attended a training meeting on next year’s elections which are due to take place on 2 nd May 2019 and explained the process with regard to electing new Councillors and potential associated costs. Cllr Harris stated his intention of standing down from the PC in May 2019. | |

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| 4. | Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agenda |
| | Chair Bewsher asked the Clerk to check with CALC for training courses for new and existing Councillors and encouraged Councillors to attend these sessions. Cllr Harris informed the PC that he would be unable to attend the January 2019 meeting. |
| 15. | Date of Next Meeting |
| | This is scheduled for Tuesday 15 th January 2019 at 7.30pm in Bentley Village Hall. |

Meeting Closed at 21.20 hrs

Signed: A R BOSS

Date: 15.01.2019

Cllr A Boss - Chair