

BENTLEY PAUNCEFOOT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bentley Paucefoot Parish Council Held On Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 19.30pm in Bentley Village Hall

Present : Cllr A Boss - Chairman
 Cllr K Beard
 Cllr R Bewsher
 Cllr J Harris
 Cllr J Manley
 Cllr D Stubbs
 Cllr J Winslow
 BDC Cllr P Whittaker
 WCC Cllr K Taylor

A Dyson – Clerk

Public Participation

3 members of the public were in attendance (please refer to signing in book). No matters were raised from the floor.

1.	Apologies & Approval of Absence
	None
2.	Declaration of Interest
a)	None
b)	None
c)	None
d)	None
3.	To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting Held Tuesday 17th January 2017.
	The Minutes were accepted and signed by Chairman A Boss.
4.	Progress Reports
a)	<u>Village Hall Team</u> The distribution of the Smartwater kits to residents will be coordinated from the village hall on Thursday 30 th March commencing at 2.00pm. Indoor bowling evening on the 7 th April 2017.
b)	<u>Footpaths</u> Nothing to report.
c)	<u>Tree Warden</u> Nothing to report.
d)	<u>Tardebidge Relief, In Need & Sickness Charity</u> A meeting is being held on 22nd March 2017 to review donations to the Redditch Food Bank, to Nightstop, a charity for homeless 16-25 year olds, and to Webheath School to help disadvantaged pupils. The Charity monies are reserved for those living in the old ecclesiastical parish of Tardebidge and Cllr Winslow emphasised that further requests for help from parishioners would be welcomed.
e)	<u>Broadband update</u> Cllr R Bewsher has been informed that the Parish will benefit from the funding but unfortunately this will help only a small number of properties within the Upper Bentley area of the Parish. Cllr Bewsher has asked BT if they could confirm that a new Broadband box will be erected on Pump House Lane.

f)	<p><u>Telephone box</u> The Clerk had contacted the artist responsible for the artwork on the Bishampton box and she had suggested an estimated cost of £500.00. Cllr Harris suggested that this might be something the local WI would be interested in getting involved with. Cllr Beard said that a local resident who is an artist also may be interested in doing the work. The Clerk will contact both parties to see if there is interest. A decision about the commissioning of the work will then be taken by the Council.</p>
5.	Lengthsman
	<p>2017 / 2018 contract has been received from WCC for £2390.00 pa (same as last year). However, the Lengthsman is currently carrying out more work on behalf of Highways and therefore the PC do not believe there will be sufficient funds by the end of the financial year. The Clerk will contact Highways at WCC, explaining the situation and ask if any more funding could be made available to the PC.</p>
6.	Communication
	<p>Following last month's meeting, communication has slightly improved but when responses are required from all members of the PC there still seems to be a lack of urgency. Cllr Bewsher suggested that the Clerk flag e mails which require immediate action. This would be trialled this month.</p>
7.	Smartwater
	<p>Following an excellent, well attended open day, the Smartwater kit distribution is taking place on Thursday 30th March with resident volunteers along with the Police visiting every property in the Parish to register the residents and distribute kits. Road signage placements were agreed. The kits have been funded 50 / 50 by the PCC and the Parish Council. However, the Clerk had attended a meeting and learned that other PCs had obtained a grant from BDC to pay for their kits. BDC Cllr P Whittaker said he would enquire if any funding was available from the Small Grants Committee to cover the cost - £973.20.</p>
8.	PC Vacancy
	<p>2 residents have shown an interest in the role of Councillor following Cllr J Manley's resignation. A vacancy notice was sent to all residents with a closing date for application of 30th March 2017. Following this date the PC would make a decision on what steps to take next.</p>
9.	Housing Development Compensation from BDC
	<p>Cllr Winslow stated that since development of a SUE at Foxlydiat had been agreed in principle, it would be important for the PC to have on board someone with business/financial acumen in order that the potential benefits to the parish can be maximised. District Councillor Whittaker explained the difference between CIL money and S106 funding and said that compensation is given if it is seen as proportional, relative and necessary. Councillors discussed any potential improvements which could be sought but further intensive discussion will be necessary before any requests for funding can be made. Concerns were expressed particularly about the lack of adequate broadband coverage and the impact of extra traffic on our lanes, which Cllr Manley requested should be conveyed to all concerned with the development. The PC is to ask for a meeting with Highways (Karen Hatchett) to discuss the issues. DC Whittaker said that if an application were to be lodged for funding under Section 106 the sooner the better. Chairman Andy Boss will raise this with Dale Birch at a Planning Meeting on April 7th.</p>
10	Consultations
	<p>Strategic planning (BDP) – issue covered in Minute 9.</p> <p>Worcestershire LTP4 and Minerals – 2 areas within the Parish have been identified for the potential provision of mineral resources. Sand and gravel within Upper Bentley which is classed as a safeguarded area and clays in the western part of the parish which WCC has identified as a favourable area. Should the need for the exploitation of these minerals be proposed, the PC has informed WCC they would expect to be apprised in full of these proposals.</p>

11	CPRE Cllr Winslow attended a meeting last week where housing needs and targets were discussed. Mike Dunphy is to explain, at a later date, how the Green Belt Review will be conducted for Bromsgrove. There is no mechanism at present for deciding where Birmingham's overspill will be accommodated. The Local Branch President had prepared a critical response to the Government's White Paper on Housing in which he emphasised the conflict between the purposes of Green Belts and large scale housing development and this formed the background to the discussion.
12	Environmental Septic tank over flow is still seeping on to Black Lake Lane from a resident's property on Manor Road. The Environment Agency had visited the site before but the Clerk would contact them again in relation to the problem.

13	Clerks Correspondence
	a) The Clerk distributed the correspondence list to all Councillors.
14	Planning
	<u>New planning applications since last meeting</u>
	a) 17/0052 – Land adjacent to stables, Copyholt Lane – change of use of land from agricultural for construction of equestrian manege – a majority of the PC had no objection to the change of use though reservations were expressed about additional development related to the manege and the effect of any proposals to illuminate the site.
	b) 2015 / 0145 ENF & 16/0068 – Appeal Twin Oaks – the PC have resubmitted their earlier objections on this property but no member of the PC would attend the hearing.
	c) Bromsgrove & Redditch Housing Growth update – please see Minute 9 above
	d) Foxlydiat Planning - please see Minute 9 above
15	Finance
	a) Parish Council Account Bank Balance as at 27.02.17 £9527.07
	b) Footpath Account Bank Balance as at 03.06.16 £1589.10
	The Council resolved to make the following payments. Cheques in respect of those payments were signed
	A Dyson (Feb / March salary) £575.64 Chq No 100449
	Smartwater Technology (Smartwater kit) £973.20 Chq No 100450
	A Dyson (Postage & Stationery) £ 56.57 Chq No 100451
	Bentley Pauncefoot PC (repayment of Lengthsman funds from Footpath account paid last month (See Minute 5 PC meeting 17/01/17) £528.40 Chq No 100016
	C Cooke (Lengthsman) £432.00 Chq No 100017
	Worcester CC (Grit bin) £150.00 Chq No 100453
	Worcester CALC (Audit training) £ 10.00 Chq No 100454
	Received monies
	HMRC refund of VAT £1389.95
16	Clerks Report on Urgent decisions since last meeting Nothing to report
17	Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agenda Cllr Harris has been asked to represent the PC at a meeting on the 4 th of April 2017 with the Village Hall team to discuss the possible location of a defibrillator within the village. He asked the PC for their input in order that he could relay the PCs position correctly at this meeting.
18	Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 16 th May at 8.00pm preceded by the AGM at 7.30pm in Bentley Village Hall.

Meeting Closed at 21.20 hrs

Signed:

Date:

Cllr A Boss
Chairman

DRAFT