



Minutes

MEETING of Bentley Parish Council

Monday 10th February 2025 at Bentley Memorial Hall at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr John Fuller (Chairman)
Cllr John Goodyear
Cllr Chris Mace
Cllr Jenny Turner
Cllr John Wilson
Cllr Gordon Tillett

In attendance:

Ms Emma Wadey (Clerk)
Dist. Cllr David Ashcroft
Jane Woodyer

Ref. Comments

02/25/01 **Apologies for absence.**

Apologies received from Cllr Whowell (unwell).

02/25/02 **Minutes approved from the Parish Council meeting on Monday 13th February 2025.**

The Minutes from the Parish Council meeting on Monday 13th February 2025 were formally agreed and signed by the Chairman.

02/25/03 **To receive the declarations of interest from Members.**

Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation had been granted, they may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which they have a pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Localism Act 2011. Councillors were reminded that they must withdraw from the room or chamber when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.

None declared.

02/25/04 **Public Section.**

No comments made.

02/25/05 **Recreation Ground Management [Cllr Fuller]**

Bentley Archers Cricket & Sports Club (BACSC) wish to start the regeneration works on the recreation ground in the Spring. Cllr Fuller met with BACSC and representatives from the Fete & Flower Show in January. It was agreed, should weather allow, that works including scarifying, grading (removing lumps) and seeding, will begin ASAP with a view that by the beginning of July seeds would have taken. Cllr Fuller stated we needed a 'drop dead' date if weather is not permitting (in that case works would be postponed until August). Work will also start on the Square. The concrete wicket will be removed and moved to the centre of the recreation ground.

The Parish Council will need to supply an outside tap behind the Pavilion (School House side) to aid watering the site.

The Fete Committee agreed not to drive certain vehicles on the Square and inner outfield.

Jim Hannon has spoken to Vicky Hallett at the school and the scouts need to be informed.

Signed by Chairman..... dated 10th March 2025

The PTFA have got a school event on 2nd May. Cllr Fuller suggested Carters Meadow and the common. Jenny Bryan Brown and residents should be informed. Cllr Fuller to speak to James Ashton (PTFA).

02/25/06 **Alton College**

It was RESOLVED to support Alton College in their application to EHDC Strategic CIL funding for improvements to sports facilities at the college.

02/25/07 **Risk Assessments**

It was RESOLVED to accept and approve the following risk assessments:

- Financial: (with the following amendment: removal of Covid reference to Meeting Location)
It was agreed for Cllr Turner to also be a authorised signatory for Lloyds payments.
Cllr Goodyear to contact Lloyds to action.
Clerk to create a Procedures Manual including passwords, Clerk NOK etc and forwarded to Cllr Goodyear.
Clerk to create a Continuity Plan
- Pond
Clerk to replace lifebuoy sign.
- SID
- Play area
Cllr Tillett to change format of play area risk assessment.
Cllr Wilson suggested erecting a disclaimer notice. It was agreed that the play area is checked, inspected and repaired annually. Clerk to send Cllr Tillett the Inspection Report and to prepare a revised risk assessment for the March meeting.
- Allotments
Next year to be presented in the revised branded template.

02/25/08 **Tree, Planning & Development Applications [Cllr Mace]:**

No planning applications received.

Neighbourhood Plan update:

We have appointed John Slater as our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) examiner who visited Bentley on 28th January. He has produced a 7-page document commenting on the Neighbourhood Plan. He does not envisage a public hearing or a referendum to be necessary. We need to revert back to him on eleven points. He has questioned the period of the Modified NP Plan, which we have specified as 2040 to mirror the Local Plan. John Slater queried whether we were aware of EHDC's potential requirements for Bentley and for us to consider. EHDC have proposed for Bentley to take 20 houses plus windfall.
Cllr Mace to circulate the questions to councillors.

Cllr Goodyear requested information regarding the Glebe House and Rectory Lane applications.

02/25/09 **Report from Dist. Cllr Phillip Davies of EHDC:**

Not present.

Report from Dist. Cllr David Ashcroft of EHDC:

The Government has stated that we now must have twice as many houses. They are looking at numbers up to 2047. 'Planned period indicative housing figure 2024-42: Bentley 206'.

EHDC have been downloading the last 25 years' of planning applications which have been causing problems, Dist. Cllr Ashcroft apologies for the issues.

The Local Plan working group is meeting tomorrow afternoon.

There is a planning application for an extension to a solar farm in Farringdon. Four Marks has taken a lot of housing in the last few years.

Hampshire is progressing towards unification, how this is split is yet to be finalised. Each section of unitary needs 500,000 people in theory and Parish Councils' voice may be stronger.

Due to the Government directive EHDC are supposed to eventually collect food waste.

District councillors may have some funds left to spend with environmental grants of £3000 (from May).

Clerk to investigate applying to fund the external tap to the Pavilion.

02/25/10 **Report from the Chairman of Bentley Parish Council:**

'Footpath 13 has developed a sink hole below the sewage treatment works. We have informed both Hants CC Countryside Access and Thames Water. Both have responded: HCC will monitor and close the footpath if deemed necessary. In my latest correspondence with TW on 31 Jan, I understand contractors are applying for access to the site with a view to remediation.

I met with members of Bentley Archers Cricket & Sport Club (BACSC) and the Fete Committee to discuss renovations to the playing surface of the Rec on Sunday 12 Jan. Renovations are due to begin in March or April depending on weather. The ground will be scarified, levelled and seeded. It is important that the work is complete, and the ground has recovered by July for the annual fete and flower show. Both parties were agreed that there should be a fixed date before which work commences, to ensure the ground is sufficiently recovered to host the fete. If work cannot begin in the Spring by the deadline, it will be delayed until August. Other interested parties will be informed and consulted: School and Scouts, as well as general public. To this end the Jim Hannon from BACSC discussed with Vicki Hallett (Bentley School) and has their agreement. The parish council will consult with the Scouts. We have informed the public through a parish magazine article to be published next month and will use other social media channels to pass the message.

At the 12 Jan meeting we heard that the school PTA are planning an event at the beginning of May for which they require the Recreation Ground. Clearly this would clash with renovation work, and I propose that the event transfers to Carters Meadow and the Common. We need to inform the PTA, of course and ask if this will be an acceptable solution. We also need to inform local residents of the arrangement if the event goes ahead on this site.

Richard Tyrrell's tree, species and location need to be decided and confirmed. The location would be to replace one of three dead trees towards the Fox Hall side of the Common.

Bruce Powell and Eliza Bell have requested a drive to cleaning up litter from the parish. Both have been active with their families in doing litter picks in their respective areas. Is there a way in which we can engage the School and Scouts and local residents, especially around the village?

Chris Mace has pointed out that the Surgery sign is no longer required and could cause confusion. It should be removed from the signpost.'

Footpath 13b is now closed.

The Annual Parish Assembly meeting is set for Monday 14th April.

Peter Scott is taking over management of the allotments.

Cllr Gordon Tillett is joining the Recreation Ground Sub-Committee with Cllr Good year and Cllr Whowell. He is also going to contact David Hornsby to work of the four-point drainage plan for the village (mapping; responsibility; maintenance plan; budget).

02/25/11 **Report from the Clerk of Bentley Parish Council**

It was agreed for the Lengthsman to clear the ditch south of the Recreation Ground and the one on School Lane between Glebe House and the school.

Cllr Mace and Cllr Turner to report the flooding in front of their houses to Hampshire County Council so that the Clerk and support the application.

The Pavilion has had the annual gas certificate carried out on the boiler and the plumber also checked for leaks in the Pavilion and did not find any despite the mould issue. The Scouts requested a legionella's report which can be carried out when they supply the Clerk with the information requested.

The Clerk has received a few emails regarding concerns over the welfare of the pony in the field by the crossroads. It was concluded that there was little that the Parish Council could do.

02/25/12 **Reports from Officers**

Recreation Ground Officer: Cllr Whowell

Not present.

Footpaths Officer: Cllr Turner

The footpaths are very muddy at present.

Highways & Transport Officer: Cllr Wilson

Residents are requiring about the bus shelter.

Schools Liaison Officer: Tuba Abro

Not present.

Pond Officer: Jane Woodyer

The tree work estimates have been received. We will need planning permission for all tree works. Some logs can be stacked by the Scouts' bug hotel for a hibernating habitat for the newts.

02/25/13 **Financial and General Purposes Committee:**

It was RESOLVED to request Advanced Tree & Garden Maintenance (Karl) to carry out the tree works around the pond. Jane to liaise with Karl who will initiate the planning application.

Community Account:

- Opening Balance 1st Jan: £12,028.22
- Income for Jan: £100.00 (£100 Old Rec rent)
- Outgoings for Jan: £3,385.78
- Closing balance 30th Jan: £8,742.44

Commercial Account:

- Opening balance 1st Jan: £44,183.92
- Income for Jan: £1,684.92 (£1647.39 VAT re-imburement; £37.53 interest)
- Outgoings for Jan: £0
- Closing balance 30th Jan: £45,868.84

High Interest Account:

- Opening balance 1st Jan: £50,877.40
- Closing balance 30th Jan: £50,877.40

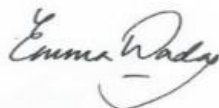
Paper A1 (cost centre report) –noted and approved by Council

Paper A2 (bank reconciliations) - noted and approved by Council

Paper A3 (payments) - noted and approved by the Council. (Incorporated in document)

Paper A4 Clerk salary (Feb) & expenses record (Jan) - noted & approved by Council.

The meeting closed at: 9.20pm. The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Mon 10th March 2025 at 7.30pm at Bentley Memorial Hall.



Emma Wadey

Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Payments authorised at the meeting held on:

10th February 2025

Payments to be authorised						
Nom. code	For	Invoice No	Item/purpose	VAT £	Amount £	Method of Payment
4000	E. Wadey		February salary	0	2139.13	BACS 97
4050	E. Wadey		Expenses/mileage	0	138.32	BACS 98
4200			Home office allowance & mileage		63.75	
4200			Adobe Pro		19.97	
4200			BT Internet		32.35	
4181			Ley lock box for Pavilion		22.25	
4030	HMRC		Tax & NI	0	710.22	BACS 99
4040	Scottish Widows		Pension	0	196.24	DD
4171	Tesco		Mobile phone	0	28.99	DD
4171	Tesco phone insurance		Phone insurance	0	10.00	DD
4160	Parish Council Websites	3254	Domain renewal for .co.uk	0	12.00	BACS 100
4181	Andrew Wood (plumber)	24	Gas safety certificate and general check for leaks	24.80	124.00	BACS 101
Total				£24.80	£3358.90	

Signed by Chairman dated 10th March 2025