



# Minutes

## MEETING of Bentley Parish Council

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Bentley Memorial Hall at 7:30pm

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<b>Present:</b>	Cllr John Fuller Cllr John Goodyear Cllr Alan Lockey Cllr Chris Mace Cllr Gordon Tillett Cllr Stephen Whowell
<b>In attendance:</b>	Ms Emma Wadey (Clerk) x6 members of the public

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Ref.	Comments
03/26/01	<b>Apologies for absence.</b> Apologies received from Cllr Turner and Dist. Cllr Ashcroft.
03/26/02	<b>Minutes approved from the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026.</b> The Minutes from the Parish Council meeting on Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 were formally agreed and signed by the Chairman.
03/26/03	<b>Minutes approved from the Recreation Ground Sub-committee meeting with the Scouts on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February.</b> Minutes approved from the Recreation Ground sub-committee meeting with the Scouts on Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February were formally agreed and signed by the Chairman.
03/26/04	<b>Declarations of interest from Members.</b> None declared.
03/26/05	<b>Public Section.</b> Robert Simpson attended the meeting to request funding of £87/year for equipment to monitor the Nitrogen and Phosphate levels in the River Wey. The information collected is inputted into a national waterrangers.com database. The council agreed in principle to meet these costs and agreed to support the scheme conditionally if Robert contacted Andrew Joy.
03/26/06	<b>The Bentley Growers Co-Operative [Jade Bower]</b> Cllr Fuller thanked Jade for her detailed report. Jade presented the report circulated earlier to councillors (available to view on the Bentley Parish Council website). The Clerk presented Jade with historical Old Rec documents (to be returned) for reference.
03/26/07	<b>Volunteer tree warden [Andy Moffat]</b> Andy commended the proposal of promoting volunteer tree wardens to the council. It was agreed to help promote the recruitment of tree wardens [posters around village and Facebook]. Cllr Mace suggested it would be good to have a tree warden from the community.
03/26/08	<b>Bentley Recreation Ground update [Cllr Fuller]</b> <i>As you will know, after meeting with Bentley Archers and Mr Nick Caddick, we, the Parish Council, drafted and sent a letter to Kestrel outlining our intention to begin legal proceedings regarding their failure to</i>

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Signed by Chairman ..... dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

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remediate the damage to the Recreation Ground, caused by the contaminated topsoil used in the renovation project should they not respond in one week.

In response to the letter Kestrel's MD, Mr Chris Hyde requested a meeting. Together with representatives of Bentley Archers, the clerk and I met with Kestrel at the pavilion last Thursday to discuss a solution to the problem. At the meeting I outlined the position of the Parish Council as landlords: We have an obligation to ensure that the ground is not only usable for Bentley Archers, but also for the School, the Scouts, the Fete and the general public. If we do not begin remediation soon, the ground will be out of action for the rest of this year. This is not acceptable. Therefore, we need to take immediate action. We need to ensure that should any injuries occur in the future they cannot be attributable to glass left during Kestrel's renovations.

We agreed that Kestrel, at their own expense, will remove the contaminated material and reinstate the ground. To ensure that the work is acceptable to insurers and ourselves, Kestrel will: arrange for the Ground Maintenance Association (GMA), the professional body, to approve the procedure; for the GMA to inspect the work on completion to ensure the procedure has been correctly implemented; and ensure that their insurers accept these steps. At the same time Bentley Archers and the Parish Council will, respectively, seek the same acceptance from their insurers.

Finally, we agreed that work should start by the third week of April, weather permitting. This will ensure that the surface will be ready for school sports day and the fete in July, again weather permitting.

03/26/09 **Bentley Recreation Ground: drainage on the eastern boundary [Cllr Gordon]**

Cllr Gordon stated that there is a pipe under the school and Greenfield Cottages, but the water table is too high. It was proposed in the last meeting to dig a ditch on the eastern boundary of the Recreation Ground as an alternative (leaving the pipe) and taking the pipe down towards the road. The water flooding at School Lane is the water backing up. Bentley Archers are happy with the proposed plan. Work can start at the end of May/beginning of June. Clerk presented Cllr Tillett with historical drainage plans showing original drainage.

+03/26/10 **Bentley Recreation Ground: installation of gate at junction of ~~Station~~ School Road and Main Rd**

A few months ago, a dog was killed on the Main Road after running out from the Recreation Ground.

It was agreed to install a gate to ensure safety.

03/26/11 **Lengthsman Scheme**

Members agreed to continue to participate in the scheme for the next two years 2026-28.

At the last visit they cleaned the road signs, bus shelters, cleared the ditches south of the Recreation Ground and north of School Lane.

03/26/12 **Tree, Planning & Development Applications:**

- a) **Site:** Elm Cottage School Lane, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5NF  
**Proposal:** Notice under Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell and remove one Ash and one Beech (T11 and T12 within description of tree works by GHA Trees) in rear garden of Elm Cottage.  
**Ref no:** EHDC-26-0171-TCA  
**Comments:** Bentley Parish Council have reviewed the application to fell and remove one Ash and one Beech at Elm Cottage. We are supportive of this work.
- b) **Site:** Cedar Cottage Main Road, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5NE  
**Proposal:** The demolition of the existing modern single storey extension and replacement with a new single storey extension, including internal alterations  
**Ref no:** EHDC-26-0183-HSE  
**Comments:** Bentley Parish Council reviewed this application at their Parish Council meeting on Monday 9th March. We are supportive of this application to demolish the existing modern single storey extension and replace with a new single storey extension, including internal alterations at Cedar Cottage, a Grade 2 listed dwelling. We view the application as:  
A set of sympathetic improvements to Cedar Cottage; Making much better use of the internal space;  
Utilising materials all in keeping with the age and appearance of Cedar Cottage;  
In keeping with our Bentley Neighbourhood Plan (2025) including policy BEN3 - Design.
- c) **Site:** Cedar Cottage Main Road, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5NE  
**Proposal:** The demolition of the existing modern single storey extension and replacement with a new single storey extension, including internal alterations  
**Ref no:** EHDC-26-0193-LBC  
**Comments:** Bentley Parish Council reviewed this application at their Parish Council meeting on Monday 9th March. We are supportive of this application to demolish the existing modern single storey extension and
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replace with a new single storey extension, including internal alterations at Cedar Cottage, a Grade 2 listed dwelling.

We view the application as:

A set of sympathetic improvements to Cedar Cottage;

Making much better use of the internal space;

Utilising materials all in keeping with the age and appearance of Cedar Cottage;

In keeping with our Bentley Neighbourhood Plan (2025) including policy BEN3 - Design.

The Broadacre development was refused on two grounds: (in summary) loss of visual and spatially important open field which contributes to the established settlement pattern and rural character; insufficient information submitted to enable the local planning authority to fully assess the development on biodiversity. These points were in line with the comments we submitted.

03/26/13 **Report from Dist. Cllr David Ashcroft of EHDC:**  
Not present.

03/26/14 **Report from the Chairman of Bentley Parish Council:**  
*On the 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. I met with members of the Bentley Archers and Mr Nick Caddick, who advised us on possible legal action to expedite remediation of the Recreation Ground following the discovery of contaminated topsoil during the renovation works. We were advised that we had a strong case. A letter was sent to Kestrel advising that should we not receive a firm commitment within one week we would begin legal action. Within the week Kestrel responded and a meeting was held with Mr Chris Hyde last Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> Mar. where a proposal was discussed and agreed.*  
*On the 5<sup>th</sup> Mar. I discussed, on site, with representatives of Bentley Archers the proposal for a new ditch to facilitate drainage along the eastern side of the Rec. They agreed to the proposal. Incidentally, the water level in the ditch behind Greenfield Cottages is still above the outflow. The new ditch will allow the drain from the NE corner of the Rec to discharge.*

03/26/15 **Report from the Clerk of Bentley Parish Council:**  
Joe Hixon (tree surgeon) has trimmed the trees outside the school and School House including clearing the branches around the power lines. Cllr Fuller mentioned that the owners of School House did a good job cutting the hedge alongside Rec car park.  
A resident requested the Council to ask Bentley Stores to clear any rubbish outside the shop, the Clerk agreed and spoke to the owners.  
The Clerk requested new litter bins from EHDC by the Rec and new bus stop and is awaiting a response.  
The gate on the south eastern side of the Rec and Pax Hill is being looked into to estimate repairs.

03/26/16 **Reports from Officers:**  
**Recreation Ground Officer: Cllr Whowell**  
The play park needs strimming, Clerk to add to the Lengthsman's list.  
Cllr Whowell to check connection on the defibrillator, invoice for new pads to be sent to the Clerk.  
Cllr Fuller stated that the paving is going in by BACSC.

**Footpath Officer: Cllr Turner**

Not present.

**Drainage Officer: Cllr Tillet**

Cllr Tillet stated that this Thursday and Friday, the greenery is being cleared around the ditch and ditch is being cleared off the Main Road.

Hampshire Highways (organised by Mark Kemp-Gee) have cleared the drains.

The Clerk gave Cllr Tillet historical drainage plans found in the cupboard of the Memorial Hall. The Clerk requested that the Memorial Hall arrange for Pilates equipment be stored in a separate location as the cupboard is very congested inhibiting access to Parish Council documents. Cllr Fuller to speak to Malcolm MacNaghten. Cllr Fuller stated that Mark Kemp-Gee will be retiring in May.

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03/26/17

**Financial and General Purposes Committee:  
Grant Aid**

a) **It was RESOLVED to award the following S137 grants:**

- Home-Start Hampshire: £0  
More information required proving local Bentley residents benefit from the organisation.
- Citizens Advice Hampshire: £300

b) **Insurance**

- It was **RESOLVED** and approved to continue our insurance policy from AJG Community Schemes Insurance £2620.11 (incl. tax & admin fee), an increase of £103 from last year.  
When it is up for renewal, we will assess other options.

c) *Community Account:*

- Opening Balance 1<sup>st</sup> February: £23,670.29
- Income for February: £50.00 (Old Rec rent £50)
- Outgoings for February: £5,996.89
- Closing balance 28<sup>th</sup> February: £17,723.40

*Commercial Instant Access Account:*

- Opening balance 1<sup>st</sup> February: £20,416.61
- Income for February: £9.00 (Interest)
- Outgoings for February: £0
- Closing balance 28<sup>th</sup> February: £20,425.61

95 Day Notice Account:

- Opening balance 1<sup>st</sup> February: £50,212.24
- Closing balance 28<sup>th</sup> February: £50,429.77

The following documents to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were approved:


A1 – Cost centre report

A2 –Bank reconciliations: Community, Commercial IA accounts

A3 –noted and approved by the Council. (Incorporated in document)

A4 Clerk salary (March) & expenses record (February) were noted & approved by the Council.

**The meeting closed at: 9.03pm. The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm at Bentley Memorial Hall.**



**Emma Wadey**

Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

**Payments authorised at the meeting held on:**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Payments authorised						
Nom. code	For	Invoice No	Item/purpose	VAT £	Amount £	Method of Payment
4000	Clerk & RFO		Salaries (March)	0	2773.04	BACS 124
4050	Clerk & RFO		Expenses/mileage	0	174.43	BACS 125
4200			Home office allowance & mileage		60.51	
4070			BT-Internet		39.35	
4190			Water for meeting		4.00	
4170			Batteries for mouse		6.50	
4190			Registered post		5.75	
4190			Stationery		58.32	
4030	HMRC		Tax & NI	0	837.26	BACS 126
4040	Scottish Widows (to Clerk for this month only)		Pension	0	205.35	DD
4171	Tesco		Mobile phone	0	28.99	DD
4171	Tesco phone insurance		Phone insurance	0	10.00	DD
4200	Microshade	26020043025 7	IT services	17.98	107.88	BACS 127
4210	Hammerton Design Ltd	14354	A31A leaflets (design)	0	74.00	BACS 128
4210	Wildly Upbeat Printers	9706	A31A leaflets (printing)	0	118.00	BACS 129
4450	Castle Water	10008740152	Old Rec water	6.15	36.35	DD
4440	East Hants Arborists Ltd	0071	Trees by School House	240.00	1440.00	BACS 130
4910	JRB Enterprise Ltd	29499	Dog pooh gloves	24.11	144.66	BACS 131
<b>Total</b>				<b>£288.24</b>	<b>£5949.96</b>	

Signed by Chairman ..... dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026