



Minutes

MEETING of Bentley Parish Council

Monday 14th September 2026 at Bentley Memorial Hall at 7:30pm

Present:	Cllr John Fuller (Chairman)
	Cllr Chris Mace
	Cllr Dominique Lucas
	Cllr Gordon Tillet
	Cllr Stephen Whowell
In attendance:	Ms Emma Wadey (Clerk)
	Dist. Cllr David Ashcroft
	Jade Bower (Bentley Green Community Group)
	x 2 members of the public

Ref.	Comments
09/26/01	Apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllr Lockey (work) and Cllr Goodyear (holiday).
09/26/02	Minutes approved from the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026. The Minutes from the Parish Council on Monday 13 th July 2026 were formally agreed and signed by the Chairman.
09/26/03	Declarations of interest from Members. Cllr Mace declared an interest on item 09/26/08 a).
09/26/04	Public Session. A resident requested that the impact of the draught on the pond be included in next month's meeting. Clerk to send latest pond report to Geoff Woollen.
09/26/05	Memorial Hall request for funding The Parish Council has received a request to contribute towards essential enhancement work on the cupola and flat roof of the Memorial Hall. The trustees have stated they can contribute £8000 towards repairs, but estimates indicate the necessary work will be in the region of £20,000 to £25,000. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the trustees to find out more. Clerk to contact EHDC to find out if there are grant opportunities.
09/26/06	The Bentley Green Community Group (BGCG) The Heads of Terms (V3) agreement between BGCG and Bentley Parish Council was RATIFIED. All in favour. Once the charity is established, the named licensees can be removed. The license will move to a lease once charitable status is achieved, in doing so the spirit of the licence is carried through to the lease. Cllr Fuller requested clarification of the term 'hardstanding'. Jade responded confirming that by the main entrance gate a more substantial substrate needed to be in place. A tree audit needs to be done. BGCG to arrange a site visit to assess the trees. Jade thanked Cllr Tillet for his work clearing ditches on his weekends. Cllr Fuller stated that BGCG should be responsible for the open ditches across Bentley Green once cleared. The culverts would be the responsibility of Bentley Parish Council.

Signed by Chairmandated 5th October 2026

The following amendments will be applied:

1. Permeable footpaths at the entrance to the field may be installed (definition of hard standing).
2. BGCG responsible for the open ditches across Bentley Green once cleared. The culverts would be the responsibility of Bentley Parish Council.

All in favour.

09/26/07 **Bentley Archers (BACSC) [Cllr Fuller]**

Cllr Fuller had a private meeting with Jim Hannon. Jim had meetings with EHDC, the FA and ECB to discuss funding for ground maintenance on the Recreation Ground. They requested the remaining football goal be removed as it is claimed to be unsafe. BACSC have asked for the cricket nets to be removed and claim the ECB have requested replacement. The Clerk stated that the cricket nets and poles were purchased in February 2016 for £1700 and are included on our asset register. Cllr Fuller stated that BACSC wish to fund the new nets. It was NOT ratified to remove the cricket nets as they are a Parish Council asset, however, Cllr Fuller offered to source estimates for replacement.

Jim reported to Cllr Fuller that here is funding available from the ECB and FA for ground works. They asked who uses the Recreation Ground except the Bentley Archers, and may be approached to be asked for contributions. Also, that the ECB stated that there is a fund for ground maintenance within the council for schools [later confirmed not to be the case].

Clerk to contact the school and EHDC. The Fete Committee are also users and make a contribution through their donations, the public are represented by the Parish Council who make a contribution for grass cutting. The Scouts are not big users of the Rec and have had significant depletion of their own funding through the closure of the Rec due to the glass issue. They have offered their contribution in the form of access to changing facilities.

It was stated that BACSC should inform the Scouts when they intend to access the Pavilion, which they are currently not doing.

Ben Smith requested that if BACSC were secure any further funding for maintenance of the Rec, it should not come with any further restrictions of use from the public, Scouts or Fete Committee. Cllr Fuller stated the point is very clear [there would be no such restrictions] and that this point was written in BACSC's lease.

Cllr Fuller suggested that he, Ben Smith, and Jim Hannon meet to clarify access arrangements.

Cllr Tillett picked up on the point regarding the Pavilion being 'condemned'. It was indicated by BACSC that EHDC has suggested this [this was later discovered not to be the case].

09/26/08 **Tree, Planning & Development Applications [Cllr Mace]:**

After discussion, the following comments were submitted:

a)

Site: 1 Somerset Cottages, Main Road, Bentley, Farnham. GU10 5ND

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for a repair to a damaged chimney with like for like materials

Ref: EHDC-26-0788-LBC

Comments: Bentley Parish council discussed the Listed Building Consent application at 1 Somerset Cottages, Bentley at the PC meeting on Monday 14th September. We are fully supportive of the work to replace the damaged chimney pot.

Comments were RATIFIED that were made outside of the meeting (stated on the agenda) for:

b)

Site: The Paddocks, Vickery Lane, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5JU

Proposal: Three additional Gypsy/Traveller pitches at an existing Gypsy and Traveller site, each comprising 1 static home, parking for 2 vehicles and bin and cycle stores (retrospective)

Ref: EHDC-26-0555-FUL

c)

Site: 20 Bonners Field, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5LH

Proposal: Multiple works to be done to various 13 trees.

Mixture of Elm, Conifers, Silver Birch, Sycamore, Ash

Ref: EHDC-26-0810-TPO

d)

Proposal: Revised address Bentley Lodge Nursing Home_

Multiple works to be done to various 13 trees.

Mixture of Elm, Conifers, Silver Birch, Sycamore, Ash

Ref: EHDC-26-0810-TCA

e)

Site: Land At Marsh House Lane, Bentley, Alton, Hampshire

Proposal: Change of use of agricultural land to use for exercising of dogs including perimeter fence, pathway, shelter and associated parking
Ref: EHDC-26-0663-FUL

f)

Site: 2 Broadlands Close, Bentley, Farnham, Hampshire, GU10 5LE
Proposal: Construction of an attached single storey garage extension
Ref: EHDC-26-0836-HSE

Cllr Mace attended the Planning Committee meeting in Petersfield regarding the Somerset Fields application (21 houses) and made the following observations:

- The applicant provided no details or diagrams about access even though access was being considered, the point not gaining traction.
- The tilted balance argument won the day.
- The need for houses argument was ratified by the planning officer.
- No issues raised by Highways, despite 40+ extra cars entering/exiting Hole Lane.
- There is not going to be a Phase 3.
- A condition is going to be added regarding drainage. Foul water must go down to the treatment plant.
- Protected species found on the field are to be relocated.

09/26/09 **Report from Dist. Cllr David Ashcroft of EHDC:**

The Government are to reimburse the county expenses incurred due to unitary plans. There is a change in the National Planning Policy. As of October, any planning applications for smaller developments (< 10), we won't get an input and cannot request to go to committee. If there are more objections, it won't be called in automatically. Up to 10 houses, the Planning Officer will decide. The District Plan is now up and running. Thames Water will have to sort their act out. Dist. Cllr Ashcroft advised looking ahead at the next Neighbourhood Plan. There will be district councillor elections in May.

09/26/10 **Report from the Chairman of Bentley Parish Council:**

The first cricket matches were played on the new square on the 16th August when Bentley Archers held an eight a side tournament for Bentley and local village sides. Although it was a very enjoyable day, with a very good spectator attendance, the event was slightly marred by damage to a neighbouring chimney pot on Greenfield Cottages. Bentley Archers are addressing the incident and we will be in discussion with them regarding solutions to prevent further such incidents.

On 21st August, Jenny, Alan and I met with representatives of the Bentley Green Community Group to discuss Heads of Terms to establish a contract between us for their use of the Old Recreation Ground, now known as Bentley Green. It was a constructive meeting and legal and insurance issues arising will be pursued by both sides.

Following correspondence with Mr Andrew Joy I have been investigating the source of our water supply in Bentley. This follows a press release, earlier this summer, describing a water supply problem in NE Hants. The report describes an appeal lodged by S.E. Water following the refusal of the Environment Agency to renew the water extraction license from the aquifer at Swaines Hill, South Warnborough for environmental reasons; damage to Greywell Fen. As a result of the refusal, S.E. Water are now objecting to further housing developments in the North Hampshire area due to potentially insufficient water supply.

The reason for our interest is that the area, Zone 4/WRZ4-W, where this policy applies is adjacent to Bentley. We are in WRZ5 (Farnham). I discovered that 73% of our water comes from aquifers, but Swaines Hill is not one of them.

From where (boreholes) and which (aquifers) does our water come? Could future housing development in Bentley be subject to similar water supply issues, if parishes to the west of us had to draw from supplies that currently feed our parish?

The county sign entering Hampshire from the Farnham direction on the A31 has been removed. Why?

Vickery Lane residents have been advertising to rent out mobile homes on the site, another one has recently been cited arriving on site, we have not seen a planning application.

The Clerk commented that previous requests for action have been fruitless.

Anna Woodfine would like to organise a litter pick around Vickery Lane, to be added on to the next meeting agenda.

09/26/11 **Report from the Clerk of Bentley Parish Council:**

The bin has finally been installed at the bus shelter outside the nursing home.

Following the play inspection report, we were informed that a zip wire link was missing. The Clerk managed to get it urgently repaired, and it is now safe.

The Clerk received correspondence from an Isington resident hoping to work between nearby villages and set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme following a burglary in Isington involving a fake call to distract the Police whilst a genuine burglary was taking place.

The Clerk has sorted the Parish Council documents in the Memorial Hall boxes.

Currently waiting for Dottie Tots to submit their article to us for the New Residents booklet, then it can be returned to Mike Hammerton to be amended.

Clerk read out a report from County Councillor Antonia Cox reporting a meeting scheduled with BGCG; working on the school transport issue; B3004 road re-surfacing closure.

09/26/12

Reports from Officers:

Recreation Ground Officer: Cllr Whowell

Jim Hannon requested a digilock for the Pavilion.

Footpath Officer: Cllr Turner

Not present.

Drainage Officer: Cllr Tillet

Cllr Tillet suggested getting on top of the drains before proper rain set in.

The Clerk confirmed that the planning application to EHDC for the tree work around the pond is still undecided. EHDC asked for clarification on some points of the application, which the Clerk forwarded to Joe (tree surgeon) and we're currently awaiting a reply.

Highways Officer: Cllr Lucas

Cllr Lucas has been managing the batteries on the SID.

The surgery sign is still in place by the crossroads. Cllr Fuller suggested contacting Antonia Cox for action.

09/26/13

Financial and General Purposes Committee:

a)

Grant Aid

The following grants were awarded

BAD Co. (£330)

Tyler's Trust were not successful due to lack of direct benefit to Bentley residents.

b)

Conclusion of audit

Members received the Conclusion of Audit report for reference.

c)

External auditor's report

The Clerk read out comments from the external auditor:

'We note that assets have been purchased in the year but not reflected in the AGAR or asset register due to the asset register being approved by the council prior to year end. A bus shelter which was purchased in January 2026 (£11,173) has not been included in Box 9. The Council have confirmed that going forward it shall approve the asset register at the end of the financial year. They also made improvements to the asset register to include all movements.'

The following documents to 31st August 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman:

A1 – Cost centre report

A2 – Bank reconciliations: Community, Commercial IA accounts

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

A4 - Clerk salary (September) & expenses record (July & August)

d)

Community Account:

- Opening Balance 1st July: £55,535.66
- Income for July & August: £1420.91 (£1238.72 BGCG Dist. Cllr grant; £170.00 BCGC Dist. Cllr grant gate; £12.19 BGCG re-imb. water)
- Outgoings for July & August: £14,030.01
- Closing balance 31st August: £42,926.56

Commercial Instant Access Account:

- Opening balance 1st July: £22,330.57
- Income for July: £663.48 (£644.51 VAT; £18.97 interest)
- Outgoings for July & August: £0
- Closing balance 31st August: £22,994.05

High Interest Account:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • Opening balance 1 st July: | £50,761.50 |
| • Closing balance 31 st August: | £51,091.74 |

The meeting closed at: 9.29pm. The next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on Mon 5th October 2026 at 7.30pm at Bentley Memorial Hall.



Emma Wadey
Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Payments authorised at the meeting held on:

Mon 14th September 2026

Payments to be authorised						
Nom. code	For	Invoice No	Item/purpose	VAT £	Amount £	Method of Payment
4000	Staff salaries		Salaries (Sept)	0	2274.94	BACS 54
4050	Staff expenses		Expenses/mileage	0	188.13	BACS 55
4200			Home office allowance & mileage		44.85	
4210			BT-Internet		56.60	
4190			Printer cartridges		53.60	
			Stationery		33.08	
4030	HMRC		Tax & NI	0	926.03	BACS 56
4040	Scottish Widows		Pension	0	214.49	DD
4171	Tesco		Mobile phone	0	28.99	DD
4171	Tesco phone insurance		Phone insurance	0	10.00	DD
4400	Premier Grounds	3680	Grass cutting - Rec	66.00	396.00	BACS 57
4200	Flotek	2608005 03513	IT Services	17.98	107.88	BACS 58
4920	R J Playground Services Ltd	2226	Replace damaged link on Cableway	18.00	108.00	BACS 59
4120	BDO LLP	876063	External audit	84.00	504.00	BACS 60
4200	Parish Council Websites	4831	Domain renewal .co.uk	2.40	14.40	BACS 61
4450	Bentley Green Community Group		Supply & installation of gate (re-imbursement of Dist. Cllr grant received)	0	170.00	BACS 62
4450	Castle Water	1001090 9718	Water for Bentley Green	2.44	14.27	DD
4850	Source for Business	70951363 07	Allotment water (4 th Feb-6 th Aug)	0	372.05	BACS 64
Total				£190.82	£5329.18	

Payments made outside of meeting						
Nom. code	For	Invoice No	Item/purpose	VAT £	Amount £	Method of Payment
4000	Staff salaries		Salaries (Aug)	0	2274.94	BACS 45
4050 4200 4170 4070	Staff expenses		Expenses/mileage Home office allowance & mileage BT-Internet Amazon Prime Water & cups for meeting	0	116.53 47.82 55.34 8.99 4.38	BACS 46
4030	HMRC		Tax & NI	0	926.03	BACS 47
4040	Scottish Widows		Pension	0	214.49	DD
4171	Tesco		Mobile phone	0	28.99	DD
4171	Tesco phone insurance		Phone insurance	0	10.00	DD
4410 4430 4400	Premier Grounds	3632	Grass cutting Grass cutting - Other areas Strimming Grass cutting - Rec	157.00 30.00 22.00 105.00	942.00 180.00 132.00 630.00	BACS 48
4200	Flotek	2607004 91075	IT Services	17.98	107.88	BACS 49
4440	East Hants Arborists (Joe Hixon)	0078	School Lane tree work requested by Tony Wright	74.00	444.00	BACS 50
4450	DW Woodwork (Daniel Wheatley)		Bentley Green oak noticeboard (Dist. Cllr grant re-imbursed)	0	895.00	BACS 51
4910	JRB Enterprise Ltd	29966	Dog gloves	24.15	144.90	BACS 52
4440	Green Frontiers	2247	Tree work around the village	300.00	1800.00	BACS 53
Total				£573.13	£7904.76	

Invoices have been examined, verified and certified by the RFO

Signed by Chairmandated 5th October 2026

