

LITTLE BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk : Mrs Karen Fiddes
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Held in the Village Hall on **Wednesday 08 July 2015 at 7.30pm**

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7.15.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. William King
Cllr. Giancarlo Guglieimi – County Councillor
Cllr. Alan Coley – Tendring District Councillor

PRESENT

Nigel Dyson - Chair
Phillip Suarez – Deputy Chair
Lesley Hunt – Cllr
Nicholas Claydon – Cllr (Elect)
Karen Fiddes – Clerk

Members of the Public (2 representatives)

Thanks given to Clerk for taking the position up.

7.15.2 PUBLIC FORUM :

No addresses from the Public

7.15.3 PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM

Clerk advised that in future minutes will be sent via email on approval from the Chairman and following this, it will be assumed that all Councillors have read the items and will bring matters arising forward. A copy of summary council minutes will be submitted to the village magazine and a copy of this also placed on the council notice board will full minutes and attachments available from the Clerk on request.

Matters arising from Previous Minutes

Funding Support for Broadband Application has been rejected by ECC. No further applications will be made at this stage.

Removal of Debris from Monkey Street – Cllr Dyson advises that this debris has nothing to do with UK Power Networks and has now been moved by the homeowner responsible. Cllr Dyson is assured that it will all be removed.

Previous minutes signed and approved by Chair Cllr. Dyson on behalf of the council.

(Action - Cllr Dyson) Cllr Dyson will keep an eye on progress and report further at the next meeting.

7.15.4 CASUAL VACANCY – CO-OPTING OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Proposal of Nicholas Claydon, as new councillor and co-opted accordingly.

(Action: Clerk) Arrange for Cllr Claydon to be registered formally and DPI forms to be completed and sent to ECC.

7.15.5 PRESENTATION BY JOE FOXCROFT OF TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL ON RECYCLING IN ESSEX

Update on Tendring Recycling – Essex wide initiative to improve recycling which is in decline – 2/3rd recycling – household collections – 1/3 recycling points.

Cllr Dyson noted that we do not have food waste caddy collection service in Little Bentley or Ravens Green, Joe advised that the rural nature of the community makes the exercise cost and labour/resource intensive and therefore not viable.

Working on new campaign rebranding to promote and educate on recycling, welcome pack to each new house and new tenants on recycling currently being sent with some success. 10,000 welcome packs sent out in 1 year.

Current Projects - Schools campaigns commenced and trial of food waste from schools collections and home visits. Improved recycling research investment. TDC monitored 6,000 properties to assess efficacy of schemes and information, 1/3 of households found not to be recycling – - approached individually about their habits and educated accordingly, increased participation in areas was seen - 22%. 3,500 people currently subscribed to garden waste collection service – Cllr Dyson advised he was not aware of this service – Joe outlined service. Handles 30 tons of waste a week. Self-funding service. Paid for on top of council tax by householders at a cost of £75.00 for year one and £50.00 per year thereafter.

Future Plans – TDC plan to refresh recycling advertising materials and continue all of above initiatives as well as roadshows and community events.

Cllr Dyson requested information on new recycling plant for standard household waste. Joe confirmed that it is operational. Tendring will start sending waste here hopefully in 2015 but Joe not sure of when exactly as contracts are being finalized.

Some discussion about items that currently cannot be recycled and Joe attempted to answer the queries, Joe reassures council that the same amount of plastics are recycled. Low grade plastics are separated and sold but only if demand exists and this is infrequent. Tendring have a 7% rejection rate for materials – comparably low to Colchester and other districts/boroughs therefore costs are saved for parishioners as a result – this is why householders are not able to dispose of such items. Items are being recycled wherever possible.

Public question – Garden waste collection re separate collection for this waste – is it necessary? Joe answered adequately and explained the structure of collection services and how this differs in rural areas.

Council question - Nick Claydon asked for clarification on nature of collections and items that qualify – Joe clarified and advised more information could be found on the TDC website.

Council question - Parish Clerk asked about the possibility of information to be sent to Council for distribution to the residents. Joe would see what is available and whether budget would allow us to do this.

Council question - Cllr Suarez re wheelie bins and provision of these for parishioners. Joe responded. These are not available as budget will not allow but gave some information about pilot projects for seagull proof bags and material bags which are promising – people are welcome to purchase their own bins but should be easily accessible for collection staff.

Council Question - Nick Claydon re alternate week collection days – will always remain as so because this is the most cost effective way to plan collections.

7.15.6 PLANNING

No determinations granted in the last period although Cllr Dyson confirmed that approval was granted for work on Lemon Cottage with restrictions as per permission.

No new planning applications to report in either Little Bentley or Ravens Green for this period.

Cllr Dyson gave notice of the application for Church Car Park work to be funded by proceeds from the Little Bentley Garden Show, donated to the church by local residents Christopher and Virginia Palmer-Tompkinson. Plans were presented and discussed with other councillors – Cllr Dyson wishes PC to support the application strongly when this goes to Tendring District Council. Everyone happy with plans.

Cllr Hunt asked re path from Gate to Church – Cllr Dyson advised this was already in place and no further provision for a path was needed.

ACTION: (Parish Clerk) Letter to be written to Peter Johnson, Architects expressing our strong support of the project for presentation with application to TDC. Addressed “To Whom it Concerns” – copied to Peter Johnson and Giancarlo Guglieimi (County Councillor).

7.15.7 HIGHWAYS – A120 UPDATE, MONKEY STREET UPDATE, A133 SPEED RESTRICTION APPLICATION

A120 – Email sent to Highways England by Chairman of District Council regards meeting postponement – Meeting now planned during Autumn to discuss plans for roundabout at Hare Green Junction. (**Action: Cllr Dyson**).

No further update on Monkey Street speed limit application except this has been submitted and is being considered. (**Action: Clerk to review prior to next meeting and obtain progress update if no decision made prior to then**).

The Clerk reported that prosecutions from the cameras now installed on A120 enforcing 50 mph limit have totalled in excess of 700 during an 8 week period from completion of the works. This accounts for circa 12 a day. No serious accident or fatalities since measures were put in and Councillors agreed that it appeared to have had the desired effect of reducing accidents on this stretch of road, although it is early days and work will continue to fight for a roundabout at this junction as this is considered to be essential in preventing fatalities in the future.

Request received from Shell Corner Garage on the A133 to assist with an application for speed restriction on the A133 following complaints from their customers and local residents regarding access and exit from the store. Roundabouts thought to be too invasive to traffic flow and expensive to implement and unlikely to be approved.

However, Councillors agreed an application for reduction of speed to 40mph along the stretch of A133 before Ravens Green and to and just after the Shell Petrol Station. Great Bentley Parish Council to be informed of application and asked if could they also support the application by providing the same from their council to Highways.

Council are aware that very few accidents occur on this round given the volume of traffic and current speed limit but that the problem with speeding and access on the road (particularly during the summer months when the Great Bentley Bike Runs are on and traffic volume is high with the summer season) was sufficient reason to make an application.

(Action: Clerk to complete application for reduction and submit. Clerk to contact Great Bentley Parish Council and advise of application, request support, copies of all to County and District Councillors with further requests of support).

7.15.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/CLERK RE ANY RELEVANT ACTIONS TAKEN or MEETINGS ATTENDED

None. No actions taken by current Clerk as handover underway and previous clerk has had little contact with current Clerk.

7.15.9 FINANCIALS – BANK, SIGNATORIES & PAYMENTS IN/OUT

Payments In/Out – Invoices presented - flowers for previous councillors – Cllr Dyson requested reimbursement.

Check with previous clerk re outstanding payments for her services
Phillip Suarez to be second signatory and Brian Evans to be removed.
Correspondence to the Clerk.

(Action: Clerk To complete Bank Paperwork and distribute to relevant Councillors for completion and presentation to the Bank.
Clerk to write cheque for Cllr Dyson
Clerk to contact previous clerk regarding monies outstanding and arrange payment approval for the next meeting)

7.15.10 REPORT FROM PCSO – SUMMARY OF NHW REPORTS RELEVANT ITEMS

Clerk gave update from Neighbourhood Watch Reports – see attached.
Community speedwatch programme discussed

(Action: Clerk to make enquiries about implementation of Community Speedwatch Scheme and post NHW reports to council notice boards following meetings)

7.15.11 LITTLE BENTLEY GARDEN SHOW & PROPOSED USES OF FUNDS FOR THE VILLAGE – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Garden Show resulted in a profit of just under £20,000 and Mr & Mrs Palmer-Tomkinson have agreed to directly fund the following Village projects from the Proceeds. Cllr. Dyson thanked all those in the Village who had helped with such a wonderful result.

1. County Broadband proposed as the main project, with a loan of £6,500 to seed fund the infrastructure. Cllr Suarez outlined packages from County Broadband for Cllr Claydon who asked about service cost to villagers. Villagers to be informed by means of Little Bentley Village News about project and County Broadband to provide a map and proposal of coverage for masts. No further

action to be taken until this has been received and distributed for consideration by villagers. Clerk suggested a further more detailed consultation with the village to gauge interest and Cllr Dyson assured council that County Broadband would canvass villagers once commitment to the project was given.

2. Annual Fireworks to be restarted - Nick, John, Mike, William have all expressed an interest in restarting the village fireworks display and bonfire night. Free to Villagers and payment for non-villagers. Advertising to be kept to a minimum to avoid large outside crowds. Cllr Dyson advised that display covered under insurance from Parish Council. Nick Claydon to take on project for looking into the possibilities for this, results of which can be reported on at the next meeting. Need to have discussion about 2015/2016 – need to see options prior to making a decision about timing and scale.
3. Free village magazine from January 2016 to every household in the village. Cllr Suarez thought an online option may be a good idea to supplement the village magazine. (Action: Clerk to look into possibility of creating PDF format for village magazine for upload to the website)
4. Ravens Green Notice board to be refurbished not replaced, Brian Evans has volunteered to organize this work.
5. Village Cinema – Kelvin and Laura Robinson are keen to host an event once a month. License Fee of £150.00 for an annual license to be paid .
6. Church Car Park and Path to Church Hall - See above.

7.15.12 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

See below

7.15.13 REPORT FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Dyson outlined items on Report from County Councillor, copy attached for the record.

7.15.14 CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk reported that on correspondence received. Copies attached. Actions detailed in minutes.

7.15.15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Hunt – reports Rubbish along Harwich Road, 2 x rubbish bags collected this week along and 8 x dumped tyres which were quickly removed by TDC.

Flytipping is a crime – please can residents report fly tipping to TDC directly giving registration plate, date and time of offence and contact 101 with the same details. Signs will be created for roadside asking people to respect the village and

not drop litter/flytip. Lesley and Dan Hunt offered to do these and erect them in the area they have a problem. Cost of this to be covered by the Hunts. Council thanked them for their generous support.

Hedge trimming in Rectory Road to be completed. Mike Taylor (Tree Warden) has been asked by Cllr Dyson to contact Kelvin Robinson re hedge maintenance.

Best Kept Village award has been received and Brian Evans has gone to collect this evening, we were awarded Runner Up in the Small Village section

Essex County Council to be contacted about exit from Ravens Green and trimming of verge.

Action: Clerk – Contact Essex County Council regards maintenance of the verge on A133 exit of Ravens Green.

7.15.16 NEXT MEETING & CLOSE

Wednesday 2nd September – 19.30