

BENINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Benington Parish Council Meeting
8 March 2017 8.00 pm
Benington School

Minutes

Present: R Bott (Chair) K Daniel
B Morcom J Jaques
S James

In attendance: Cllr Crofton, J Haire (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

- 01. Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr Hughes
- 02. Declaration of Interests :** Chairman Bott declared an interest in the Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0021/OUT - Land at Gosmore Paddock
- 03. Minutes of the Last Meeting**
 - a) **Acceptance**
 - **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 11 January 2017.** The Minutes were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
 - b) **Review of Actions**
 - **Defibrillator Training** Cllr Morcom had been in contact with E Herts Ambulance Service who would do the training. Dates to be confirmed shortly
Action: B Morcom
 - **Lamp post and path subsidence** The lamp post was now repaired. Responsibility for the footpath had been determined and E Herts Council would progress this.
 - **Damaged street light Old School Green** The replacement column had been installed, and the transfer of power was reprogrammed for 10 March.
Action: J Haire
 - **Missing drain cover Walkern Road** - it was agreed the Parish Clerk would report this to Highways
Action: J Haire
 - **Restore bank outside the new house on Whempstead Road** - Cllr Hughes had established that this would be done after the landscaping, which was nearing completion.
Action: M Hughes
 - **Replacement dog bin** - The Chairman installed the new dog bin a few days after the last meeting
 - **Speed Indication Device** - The Chairman had acquired accident statistics for the village from which it was apparent that no one had been injured in the past 5 years. Councillors agreed that the device was not required.

04. Village Pond

- Cllr Daniel advised that unfortunately the installation of the new fence at the entrance to the pond, and along Duck Lane, had been postponed from 7 March due to staffing problems. It was hoped that this would be rescheduled before the end of the month.
- Cllr Daniel and the Parish Clerk were looking at recommendations for planting around the pond. **Action: K Daniel & Parish Clerk**

05 Roads

- **Drain on Walkern Road** The Chairman advised that Ringway had carried out the work 13 - 15 February to coincide with half term at the School, but unfortunately BT had not connected at the same time their chamber to the drain. The day after the meeting, James Vine at Ringway advised that BT had had a contractor was on site the day of the meeting to start work on the manhole. Parish Clerk to follow up. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- Cllr Morcom expressed appreciation to Cllr Crofton that resurfacing had been carried out on Walkern Road. Cllr Crofton advised that further resurfacing in the village would follow.

06 Planning

As a result of his Declaration of Interest the Chairman left the room

- Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0021/OUT - Land At Gosmore Paddock Benington - Outline planning application for the development of up to 13 dwellings including associated access. The Vice Chairman Cllr Morcom advised that the Parish Council had objected to this Planning Application following extensive representation from the public. The Chairman returned to the meeting.
Planning Notifications – the following Notifications were read out by the Chairman:
 - Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0019/HH - 72 Whempstead Road - Second storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear of property. Associated drive and front garden landscaping. Creation of new site access - no objection.
 - Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0109/VAR - Garage Site To The North Of 9 Three Stiles - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of LPA approval 3/12/2063/FP. The Parish Council had objected (see Minutes Parish Council Meeting 11 January 2017).
 - Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0146/HH - 68 Whempstead Road - single storey extensions - no objection.
 - Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0175/HH - 2 Whempstead Road - Two storey side extension - no objection.
 - Planning Application Decision 3/16/2725/OUT - Land Adj 4 Benington Park Farm Cottages Benington - application approved.
 - Planning Application Decision 3/16/2857/PNHH - Lingfields Whempstead Road - application refused.

- Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0287/PNHH - Lingfields House Whempstead Road - Single storey rear extension - no objection.
- Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0307/REM - Land Adj 4 Benington Park Farm Cottages Benington - no objection.
- E/16/0049/ENF Old Mead Barn, 64 Walkern Road, Benington - enforcement notice appealed.

07 Recreational Facilities

- The Chairman advised that Peter Warren had requested that a member of the Parish Council attend the next meeting of the BRGCT, and it was agreed that Cllr Morcom would attend. Peter Warren had enquired about the arrangements for the grass cutting at the Recreation Ground and the Play Ground, and the Chairman advised that the Parish Clerk was awaiting quotes for the coming season.

08 Fair

- The date of the Fair would be Saturday 8 July 2017. The Chairman reminded everyone that Mr Hawes was looking to step down as Chairman of the Fair Committee, and would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in taking over as Chairman, and from new volunteers as soon as possible. It was agreed that the Chairman would speak to Mike Hawes regarding support from the Parish Council. Cllr Daniel had booked the Morris Dancers from Baldock.

09 School

- Cllr Jaques reported that Mrs Swan, Deputy Head Teacher from Aston, had been recruited as the new Head Teacher, and would start in September. The School had just celebrated a successful World Book Week the previous week.

10 Finance

11.1 Accounts Expenditure and Income from 12.01.17 to 07.03.17

Date Paid	Name	Details	Total
20.01.17	Konnect Contracts Ltd	Excavator, tractor and trailer hire to drain pond	£3,000.00
01.02.17	Tina Piggott	Litter Picking January 2017	£ 135.00
01.02.17	Clerk Salary	Clerk Salary & Telephone and Broadband Allowance and postage January 2017	£ 340.43
03.03.17	Herts County Council	Street lighting - maintenance, energy and admin	£1,526.52
03.03.17	E Herts District Council	Empty 6 dog bins on 65 occasions 01.04.16 - 31.03.17	£1,097.39
03.03.17	Tina Piggott	Litter Picking February 2017	£ 135.00
03.03.17	Clerk Salary	Clerk Salary & Telephone and Broadband Allowance February 2017	£ 320.00

Income 12.01.17 to 07.03.17

10.02.17	HAPTC	Transparency Grant	£1,263.28
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11 Correspondence Received

- 21 copy letters of objection to East Herts Planning re Planning Application Consultation 3/17/0021/OUT - Land at Gosmore Paddock, including one from CPRE Hertfordshire.
- Peter Warren advised that the Litter bin sited by the Brick Bus Shelter in Town Lane has rusted and broken from its ground fastening pole. The Chairman advised that the Parish Clerk would obtain prices for a replacement.

Action: Parish Clerk

12 Members' Points of Information

- Good Friday Litter Pick - the Chairman expressed thanks to Leon Stracy for keeping areas outside the village litter free, and to Tina Piggott for her work within the village. Details of the Litter Pick to follow. **Action: R Bott**
- Damaged streetlight 146 Town Lane - the Clerk reported that Ringway had advised that this streetlight was damaged and required urgent replacement. It was agreed that the Parish Council would claim on the Parish insurance. Two quotes of identical specification in respect of replacement would be requested. **Action: J Haire**
- Cllr Daniel advised that the Village Hall would be having the AGM shortly; there were no items which the Parish Council wish to put forward.
- A member of the public requested the Parish Council consider repainting the benches in the village as they were very shabby. Cllr Bott to look into this. **Action: R Bott**
- Cllr Daniel enquired whether Ernest Doe would contribute to the website. It was agreed the Chairman would follow this up. **Action: R Bott**

13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 10 May 2017 at 7.30 pm in the School

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.36 pm.