Great Bentley Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Great Bentley Parish Council at the Community Resource Centre Plough Road, Great Bentley at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 5th May 2022**

**Grahame Walkingshaw**

**Grahame Walkingshaw,** Locum Parish Clerk for Great Bentley

80 Chapel Road, West Bergholt, Essex, CO6 3HL

Telephone Number: 01206 240 772

**Present:** Councillor P Dennitts, Councillor R. Adams, Councillor L Edwards, Councillor P. Harry, Councillor B Herbert, Councillor K Plummer, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor G Wright, Councillor A Clarke

Stand in Clerk to the Council: Emma Cansdale

Tendring District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, Essex County Councillor Alan Goggin

**22/01 Election of Chairman (sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office*)***

It was resolved that Cllr Pippa Dennitts be elected as Chairman of Gt Bentley Parish Council. Cllr Dennitts signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the proper officer.

**Proposed: Cllr Edwards**

**Seconded: Cllr Adams**

**Agreed by all**

**22/02 Welcome and apologies for absence**

No apologies

**22/03 Declaration of Members interests**

Councillor Adams declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in the payments as he is related to Mr Dorling who undertakes work on behalf of the Parish Council. He declared a further interest as Trustee and Vice Chairman of the Village Hall Committee

**22/04 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was resolved that Cllr Luke Edwards be elected as vice chairman.

**Proposed: Cllr Adams**

**Seconded: Cllr Harry**

**Agreed by all**

**22/06 To review the effectiveness of the system of internal control (Internal Audit**

Deferred to the June agenda

***Action: Clerk***

**22/07 Public Open Forum** (Maximum 15 minutes)

A resident asked why the beacon is not going to lit for the jubilee? Councillors responded that there was no one from the council available to light the beacon, which they understood was a requirement. Further discussion suggested that a willing volunteer could lighte the beacon, it does not have to be a council member.

Cllr Dennitts reported that as the council is due to hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss expansion of the school, if there are 2 councillor’s who would like to bring a proposal to re-visit the decision, it can be added to the agenda.

***Action: Cllr Dennitts/Clerk***

A resident reported that last Thursday and Saturday there were accidents at Lufkins. The cross roads sign has been down for 3 years and coming from the Clacton direction, the give way sign is on the ground. The PC will lobby Cllr Alan Goggin for support on the matter, and will be added to the agenda for June.

***Action: Clerk/ECC Cllr Alan Goggin***

**22/08 To approve the minutes of the last meeting** (14th April 2022)

The minutes of the meeting dated 14th April 2022 were accepted as a correct record and duly signed by the chair.

**Planning meeting April** **2022**. The minutes of the planning meeting were received and acknowledged with the following amendment to be agreed by th planning committee at the next meeting. Item P04/22.003 and 009 should state The Moors, not Moors Close.

**Finance meeting 12/04/2022:** The minutes of the finance meeting were received and acknowledged with the following amendment to be agreed by the Finance Committee. Cllr Adams Rogers declaration should be removed as he was not at the meeting.

**22/09 Visitors Report** (ECC Alan Goggin, TDC Lynda McWilliams)

Cllr McWilliams asked of the PC had received notification of the school expansion consultation. They are aware and it will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting

The vehicles which are being left parked in awkward positions has been passed to NEPP

Link to report

Cllr Alan Goggin reported on a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner, with some positive crime statistics, but also worrying statistics relating to illegal handguns, domestic violence, and drug related crimes. Cllr Goggin also reported on a cabinet meeting where a pledge to keep all 74 libraries open was repeated, possibly as community hubs; the B1027 speed survey; and Staffing issues nationally, and specifically at ECC. For full details see the report on the website

Link to report

Cllr Dennitts asked Cllr Goggin for support regarding the accidents at Lufkins Corner, particularly to expedite the replacement of the missing and damaged signs. Additionally, there is a collapsed gully near the pond. Cllr Dennitts will report it to Essex Highways, and forward to Cllr Goggin

Cllr Herbert brought another Highway matter to Cllr Goggin’s attention. At the top of Toll bridge, there is no safety barrier. It appears to belong to Network Rail, and the PC ask Cllr Goggin for support in getting this addressed by the appropriate organization.

**22/10 Clerk’s Report**

A request has been received for permission for a Bouncy Castle on the Green outside the Football Club, on Sunday 21st August, for a private event. Councillors agreed to this in principle, provided they complete the usual risk assessments, safety precautions and have appropriate insurance**.** *A formal item will be added to the June agenda*

***Action: Clerk***

**22/11 Council Reports:**

1. Footpath report- noted
2. Caretaker’s Report
3. PCSO Crime Report

**22/12 The Green Working Party**

Matters relating to the Village Green (monthly report)

The report was received and noted. Key discussion points:

* Cllr Herbert will clarify end of season dates for the football season. The Football Club are responsible for ensuring the penalty spot and goal mouths are level.
* The PC are looking at re-writing the rules and regulations for the football and cricket clubs. As there has been a request to share facilities/membership with Frinton Cricket Club, these will be included in the re-write. Councillors are happy with this in principle.

There are large number of children playing cricket, which is a result of the collaboration with Frinton CC. Cllr Edwards reported that there are not enough adults for field full teams, so this collaboration would allow that.

The re-write will be specific to this collaboration, and any request should be reviewed case by case.

* The Cricket Club have sought permission to raise a Cricket Association flag on the PC flag pole

The clerk will check planning permission regarding the flap pole in advance of the item coming to the next meeting.

* The North Essex Parking Partnership are addressing the parking around the war memorial.

***Actions: Cllr Dennitts, Clerk,***

**22/13 Highways & Transport Reports:**

1. Transport Report-nothing to report.
2. Speed Indicator Devices- these have not arrived yet. The final positioning for them will be agreed at the June meeting.

**22/14 Finance**

To approve payments for May 2022 in accordance with the Budget

**Proposed Cllr Edwards**

**Seconded: Cllr Herbert**

**Agreed by all excluding Cllr Adams Roger who has disclosed a non-pecuniary interest.**

**Finance Committee Report: Dec Robert, chairman Good Neil , Roger Show**

To approve recommendations from Finance Committee for the following Grant applications:

Great Bentley Show £350.00

Great Bentley cricket Club £350.00

Great Bentley Good Neighbours £325.00

Great Bentley in Bloom £500.00

Total £1,525.00

**Proposed: Cllr Edwards**

**Seconded: Cllr Harry**

**Agreed by all**

The payments were agreed however, the £350 for the Bentley Show, will be a direct payment for the toilets, not a cash grant.

**22/15 Planning/Housing**

15.1 Applications for discussion at meeting

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| --- | --- |
|  | [22/00549/FUL](https://idox.tendringdc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=R9NZQYQB0OT00) – **The Royal Fusilier, Aingers Green Road, Aingers Green, Great Bentley** – Proposed retention of single storey rear extension  Recommendation: No comment  **Proposed: Cllr Harry**  **Seconded: Cllr Wright**  **Agreed by all** |

15 .2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed under delegated authority since last meeting

15 .3 Planning Applications – Decisions received since last meeting

[*21/01560/FUL*](https://idox.tendringdc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QZ5YCBQB0OT00) *–* **Land to the South of Michael Wright Way, Great Bentley** – Proposed erection of six detached dwellings and associated garaging and infrastructure (uplift on original application - 16/00133/OUT that approved the erection of 50 dwellings, garages, roads, and associated works)

**Decision**: Refusal

An appeal has been lodged.

[*22/00187/FULHH*](https://idox.tendringdc.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage)– **18 Cedar Way, Great Bentley**, CO7 8LT – Proposed single storey rear extension.

Decision: Approved

**For further discussion.**

**The Moors Groundworks.** *Cllr Wright* *left the room due to a pecuniary interest.*

Cllr Harry reported that the applicant has had a rolling program for some sort of structure for 25 years. The application in 2019 was for 3 apartments. The permission was due to lapse as no work had been carried out. However, groundworks have commenced preventing the application from expiring. The driveway is in, but it has raised some concerns regarding the access.

The properties won’t inherit access rights, and if access is allowed the PC are potentially allowing them to commit an offence. This needs further investigation.

Additionally, the track should be returned to its current state.

Cllr Harry proposed that the PC put together a small working group (3-4) to look into this further, and come back with recommendations with specific questions for the solicitors and TDC Open Spaces.

Membership of the group: Cllr Harry(planning), Cllr Herbert (Green/openspaces), Cllr Adams and Cllr Clarke.

**Proposed: Cllr Harry**

**Seconded: Cllr Edward**

**Agreed by all (exc Cllr Wright)**

***Action: Working Group***

**22/16 Training/Events**

16.1 Reports on attended events- Cllr Clarke will reschedule new councillor training. ***Action: Clerk/Cllr Clarke***

16.2 Nominations for new events

**22/17 Information Exchange/Items for next agenda**

* SID
* Personnel committee TOR
* AGAR
* Bouncy castle request
* New rules and regulations for sports clubs
* Cricket Club flag
* Update on the Northfalls Wind Farm

Southside track update- working group to meet on 9th May, 7.30 Brook Farm**.**

School expansion- chairman to call an extraordinary meeting on 18th May to formulate views and submit. Cllr Plummer will lead on this. Deadline of 26th May

**22/18 To confirm date and time of next meeting**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th June 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

Meeting closed at 20.30