

# FENNY BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Brenda Kirkham

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## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 22 May 2023 at 7.00 pm in Fenny Bentley Church

**Present:** Cllrs: C Miller (Chair); K Croft (Vice Chair); A Everitt; S Wright and D Stone. 10 Members of the Public. Clerk: Mrs B Kirkham.

### 1. Election of Chair

Cllr Miller was re-elected as Chair, proposed by Cllr Everitt and seconded by Cllr Wright.

### 2. Co-option of Parish Councillors

Councillors Stone and Croft were re-elected to the Parish Council.

### 3. Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Croft was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chair.

### 4. Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting, there were no apologies.

### 5. Declaration of Interests

The Chair declared an interest as a relative of the Clerk.

### 6. Invited comments from County & District Councillors and members of the public

There were no County or District Councillors present at this meeting. One member of the public commented that the stiles on some footpaths around the village needed attention.

### 7. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on the 21 March 2023

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting held on the 21 March 2023 as a true record of that meeting.

### 8. Matters Arising from the last meeting

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

### 9. Planning Application – NP/DDD/1222/1611 – The Firs Wood Meadow, Fenny Bentley – Application for retrospective planning permission for 1) an agricultural farm track, 2) retrospective planning permission for a static caravan, 3) retrospective planning for a shipping container.

The Chair suspended standing orders at this point to allow comments from members of the public on this matter. Several members of the public spoke on this application and called upon the Parish Council to oppose the application. To summarise the comments included: concern about road safety and the access/visibility on to the A515; dangers that increased traffic from staff/customers would bring; the site is an eyesore in a highly visible location on the entrance to the village; more shipping containers will be needed to make the business viable; there are no mains electricity/water on site; business plan drawn up with no market research; the farm track on site was far too wide; no notice of the application on the site and neighbours had not been informed. Difficult for residents to see all the documents associated with the application due to the Peak Park Planning Portal not being accessible at present.

After discussion the Parish Council resolved to oppose the application and make the following points:

- The proposed application is not 'agricultural use' therefore the application should reflect this change of use.
- The access from the site is on to the busy A515, there is limited visibility from the southerly direction and to the north there is accidents on an almost daily basis from HGVs who clash wing mirrors, the debris from these accidents can be seen on the pavement above the site.
- A static caravan is not appropriate in this highly visible situation and on the edge of the village conservation area.
- The Council are concerned about noise issues if this site is developed
- This development is completely inappropriate on this site and the proposals will have a harmful impact upon the character of the area.
- What will be the implications if this business expands?
- There is no electricity/water to the site.
- The business plan lists multiple ventures but lacks detail, where will staff park? What will be the hours of operation?

#### **10. Highway matters – flooding/potholes/traffic/bridge**

There had been no further news on the pedestrian bridge over the river, the Clerk was to contact Cllr Simon Spencer for an update. **Action: Clerk**

#### **11. Results of the Housing Needs Survey**

A draft report had been circulated to members which showed that there had been a very small take up of housing need in Fenny Bentley and Tissington. The Housing Officer would like to organise a zoom meeting for Councillors in both villages, Clerk to organise. **Action: Clerk**

#### **12. Order for a speed indicator device**

The Council resolved that the Clerk should place the order for the speed indicator device and contact the County Council about the erection of the pole ready for installation. **Action: Clerk**

#### **13. Order for defibrillator at Bentley Corner**

The Council resolved that the Clerk place an order for the defibrillator at Bentley Corner. **Action: Clerk**

#### **14. Acceptance of mowing contract**

The Council resolved to accept the contract, however there was concern about the exact area which was being mown. The work was to be monitored and the Clerk was to speak to the contractor. **Action: Clerk**

#### **15. Audit for 22/23**

##### **a) Approval of Annual Governance Statement**

The Council resolved to accept the annual governance statement.

##### **b) Approval of Annual Accounting Statement**

The Council resolved to accept the annual accounting statement.

##### **c) Approval of Internal Auditor's Report**

The auditor had suggested that the Council have a business resilience plan in place to reduce risk. The Clerk to work on this and present at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

##### **d) Approval of Certificate of Exemption**

The Council resolved to accept the Certificate of Exemption.

**16. Council Policies for Approval**

**a) Code of Conduct**

The Council resolved to accept the code of conduct with no amendments.

**b) Financial Regulations**

The Council resolved to accept the financial regulations with no amendments.

**c) Standing Orders**

The Council resolved to accept the standing orders with no amendments.

**d) Asset Register**

The Council resolved to accept the asset register as correct, it was noted that this would need to be updated after the purchase of the SID and defibrillator.

**17. Financial Report & Administration:**

**a) Insurance Renewal**

The Council resolved to accept the insurance renewal. **Action: Clerk**

**b) Financial Statement**

The balance in the current account was £6,465.86 the precept of £2,800 had been received.

**c) Items for approval and payment at this meeting**

The Council resolved to approve payment of the following items:

Zurich Insurance	500.59
HMRC	52.60
Clerk's Salary - Mar 23	94.90
Clerk's Salary - Apr 23	170.10
Clerk's Expenses	10.48

**18. Clerk's Report & Correspondence**

All correspondence had been sent out electronically.

**14. Councillors Comments & Observations**

There were no further comments from Councillors.

**15. Date of Next Meeting**

The Council resolved to hold an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 6 June at 7 pm to discuss the Ashbourne Heights Planning Application which had come in too late for discussion at this meeting.

Signed.....

Dated.....