

FENNY BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Brenda Kirkham

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Unapproved Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2 October 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Dining Room at the Coach & Horses, Fenny Bentley

Present: Cllrs: C Miller (Chair); K Croft, S Wright (Vice-Chair). Cllr N Edwards-Walker (DDDC). 5 Members of the Public. Clerk: Mrs B Kirkham.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs A Everitt and D Stone.

2. Declaration of Interests

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

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

Matters raised by members of the public included:

- What is happening with the footbridge? A planning notice is now up and multi agencies are working together, it is hoped work will be done during 24/25 but no firm date given for the start of work.
- The Hedge between the Coach & Horses and Cherry Orchard Farm has now been cut, when will the pavement be cleared? Clerk to report. **Action: Clerk**
- The verges from Bentley Corner to Ashbourne are very overgrown and pavement is not useable? This matter was reported in April. Chair has recently uploaded new photos.
- What is happening with Firs Meadow following the refusal of the planning application? This matter is with the enforcement officer, but unsure whether applicant may appeal.

4. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on the 16 July 2024

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting held on the 16 July 2024 as a true record of that meeting.

5. Matters Arising from the last meeting

There were no matters arising.

6. Planning Application - NP/DDD/0524/0563 Site address – Land West of Ashbourne Road, Off the A515, Fenny Bentley

After discussion the Council resolved to oppose the application on the following grounds:

The proposed building looks like a modern industrial unit rather than a cow shed and is not in keeping with the Peak Park; the building would not be suitable for the housing of animals as it does not provide any ventilation; Impact on this site as raised by the archaeology survey; Lack of supporting information.

Action: Clerk

7. Progress on the pedestrian bridge over the river adjacent to the A515

No further information available at present. **Action: Clerk**

8. Access to School Playing Field for residents

Clerk to write to the head teacher to ask if residents could have access to school field outside of school hours, this would provide a much safer area for village children to play. **Action: Clerk**

9. Highway & Planning matters – flooding/potholes/traffic/bridge

There were no further matters raised. **Action: Clerk**

10. Housing Needs Update following site visit

A report from the site meeting is outstanding, Clerk to follow up. The preferred site was on the field next to 8 Ashes Lane. **Action: Clerk**

11. Village Tidy Up and Litter Pick

Councillors and members of the public agreed to carry out litter picking and weeding on Monday 14 October starting at 2pm meeting in church. Hi-Viz vests, litter pickers and bin bags would be available, for safety reasons the focus of the work was to be away from the main road. Clerk asked to write to the owners of the Orchard to ask them to cut their hedge back along the A515 as brambles were spreading on to the pavement. **Action: Clerk**

12. Data from the Speed Indicator Device

Results from the speed sign were presented to the Council, the majority of vehicles were not breaking the speed limit. The correct date and time had now been set on the device. The device now needs to be pointed to the opposite direction. **Action: Cllrs Wright & Croft**

13. Financial Report & Administration:

a) Resolution to hold funds on behalf of the Fenny Bentley Initiative for a limited period of time

It was noted that there was a potential conflict of interest on this matter as Councillors present were also trustees of the FBI. However, Council resolved to approve this resolution.

Cllr Edwards-Walker (DDDC) joined the meeting at this point.

b) Consideration of quotes for moving to a .gov.uk domain and email

The Council resolved to go ahead with a .gov.uk domain for the website a Microsoft 365 business email for the clerk email. Cllrs to set up Gmail accounts for their Council business with the possibility of moving to .gov.uk emails in the future if required. **Action: Clerk & Cllrs**

c) Financial Statement

The balance in the current account was £5,276.10 including restricted funds.

d) Items for approval and payment at this meeting

The Council resolved to approve payment of the following items:

Community Heartbeat Trust	198.00
Clerk's Salary - July	75.50
Clerk's Salary - August	75.70
Clerk's Salary - September	100.50
HMRC	56.80
J S Marriott & Co	60.00
Landscape Maintenance Services (3 invoices)	372.00
Clerk's Expenses	12.57

14. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The Clerk's appraisal has now been carried out by Cllrs Wright and Croft.

15. Councillors Comments & Observations

No other comments from Councillors other than concerns previously raised about verges and potholes. It was noted that some dogs were again being allowed to run free around the village.

Cllr Edwards-Walker commented that at a recent planning meeting the number of houses required to be built in Derbyshire Dales had risen to 460, these would mainly be built in Wirksworth, Ashbourne and Matlock.

16. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in January unless there is any urgent business. Date to be confirmed.

Signed.....

Dated.....