

FENNY BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Brenda Kirkham

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 May 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) and D Stone. 1 Member of the Public.
Clerk: Mrs B Kirkham.

1. Election of Chair

Cllr Miller was unanimously re-elected as Chair.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr Wright was elected as Vice -Chair.

3. Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr S Spencer (DCC) and Cllr N Edwards-Walker (DDDC).

4. Declaration of Interests

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

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

The resident commented that the village was looking untidy and unloved with weeds and potholes. It was noted that some pavements at Bentley Corner have been swept, although the pavement opposite Valley View was very narrow and dangerous for pedestrians.

6. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on the 19 March 2024

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting held on the 19 March 2024 as a true record of that meeting.

7. Matters Arising from the last meeting

Pavement opposite Valley View still needs to be cleared. Chair to follow up. Clerk was to remind the maintenance contractor about strimming the footpath at the side of No 1 Ashes Lane. The situation with dogs out of control had not improved and complaints were still being received. Clerk to report to the Police. Work done as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme had helped to tidy up some areas of the village. **Action: Chair & Clerk**

8. Update on Planning Matters and Planning Applications for consideration at this meeting

There was no update currently available for the Firs Wood Meadow application, although the Clerk had spoken to the Peak Park Planning Department. A rare newt had been found near Firs Wood Meadow, this was a protective species and the Peak Park Planning and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has been notified.

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

No further information is available at present. Clerk to send follow up email. **Action: Clerk**

10. Public Rights of Way Minor Maintenance Scheme

The Council resolved to join the footpath maintenance scheme again this year. **Action: Clerk**

11. Highway matters – flooding/potholes/traffic/bridge

The water issue which was coming from behind the bungalows on Ashes Lane is damaging the surface of Ashes Lane and can be dangerous in icy weather. The problem was thought to be caused by ground water.

12. Housing Needs Survey Report & Update

No further information was currently available.

13. Data from the Speed Indicator Device

Cllr Miller to provide the data shortly. **Action: Cllr Miller**

14. Audit for 23/24

a) Approval of the Annual Governance Statement

The Council resolved to approve the annual governance statement.

b) Approval of the Annual Accounting Statement

The Council resolved to approve the annual accounting statement.

c) Receive & Note the Internal Auditor’s Report

The Internal Auditor’s report was received and noted. The Council resolved to update its HR Policies and carry out a Clerk’s appraisal. **Action: Cllrs Wright, Croft & Clerk**

d) Approval of the Certificate of Exemption

The Council resolved to approve the Certificate of Exemption.

15. Council Policies for Approval

a) Code of Conduct

The Council resolved to approve the Code of Conduct as presented.

b) Financial Regulations

The Council resolved to approve the new 2024 Financial Regulations.

c) Standing Orders

The Council resolved to approve the Standing Orders as presented.

16. Financial Report & Administration:

a) Insurance Renewal

The Council resolved to accept the insurance renewal which included cover for the new speed sign and defibrillator.

b) Financial Statement

The balance in the current account was £5,836.82 the annual precept of £3,500 had now been received.

c) Items for approval and payment at this meeting

The Council resolved to approve payment of the following items:

HMRC	56.80
Insurance	544.62
Peak Park Parishes Forum	6.00
Clerk's Salary - March	100.70
Clerk's Salary - April	75.70
Clerk's Salary - May	75.50
Fenny Bentley PCC	100.00

17. Clerk’s Report & Correspondence

Most correspondence had gone out by email. Clerk had attended the Parish Council Liaison Forum. The Council resolved to pay Fenny Bentley Church PCC £100 towards the cost of heating for meetings held over the last 2 years.

18. Councillors Comments & Observations

Work needed to be done to the Church roof. The Council resolved that the Clerk should order a further supply of ‘20s Plenty’ signs. The Council also resolved to carry out a village tidy up and litter pick, Clerk to order Hi-Viz vests. **Action: Clerk**

Signed.....

Dated.....