

# BENINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Benington Parish Council meeting held in Benington School Hall  
17 January 2024

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr S Rew (Chair) Cllr R Hewlett (Vice Chair)  
Cllr F McClure Cllr D McLean  
Cllr Radford Cllr S James

**In attendance:** Jo Ransom (Clerk), Tom Deffley District Councillor EHDC

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### 1) Apologies

- None

### 2) Declaration of Interests

- None
- The Cllrs agreed to co-opt Steve James and the declaration of office forms were duly completed

### 3) Minutes of the last meeting

#### a) Acceptance

- Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were accepted by Councillors as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

#### b) Review of Actions

- None – actions covered below

### 4) Village Pond

- A quote has been received for repairs and the Council agreed to send out a specification to 2 other contractors. **Action: Clerk**

### 5) Roads

- Parking Three Stiles - Cllr McClure has carried out a large amount of research to identify previous planning suggestions and Highway restrictions. This resulted in an in depth discussion and Cllr McLean thanked Cllr McClure for the clarity of her presentation and the Council agreed to make a site visit to try to establish potential solutions to the parking issues. **Action: All**
- Various issues in Blacksmith Hill and Three Stiles including potholes, a broken drain cover and car park marking. Still no resolution to these issues or any response by Clarion. The District Councillor has intervened, and to date, there has been no response. **Action: Clerk**
- The drain issues in Three Stiles with flood water eroding the road and pavements appears to have abated although remedial work is required to ensure debris is prevented from collecting and blocking the drain in future. Clarion, the Housing Association, is still not taking ownership although they have fitted a padlock to the drain grill. Erosion needs to be reported to Highways. **Action: Cllr McClure**

- The Highways’ department is due to report back with road survey details including any cost to the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr McLean**
- Missing 30mph sign at Old School Green – highways ref no. **401003784573**.  
Councillors agreed to purchase a replacement sign and to look into 30mph ‘sticker’ heads as many signs are now faded. **Action: Cllr McLean**
- Walkern Rd/Shummary Lane - road flood relating to irrigation ditches. Subsequently Highways have cleared the drains and follow up work is due – enquiry logged as 23/HCS/1208. **Action: Clerk**
- 100 Town Lane fault reported – number **401003839640**. Cllr James reported this issue and subsequently the builders have tidied up the damage **Actioned: Cllr James**
- Three new school signs to be placed throughout the village: Locations; 1) Aston Cross roads on Walkern to Watton road, 2) Bottom of Walkern road to Benington on the Walkern to Watton road, 3) On A602, the Whempstead Road to Benington. **Actioned: Cllr Crofton**
- Damage to Benington welcome sign, Church Green. Replacement may be required along with the 30mph sign **Action: Cllr Rew**

## 6) Planning Update from East Herts District Council

- Planning consultation - Lingfields, Whempstead Road. Demolition of outbuildings and building 2 storey extension
- Planning granted - 68 Whempstead Road
- Planning decision granted - awnings for Village Hall
- Planning consultation – High Elms side extensions, new 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, below ground swimming pool, new detached garage

## 7) Recreational facilities

- No update

## 8) Fair

- No update

## 9) School

- No update

## 10) Finance

Accounts, expenditure and income for period 9 November 2023 to 16 January 2024

### 10.1 Expenditure 9 November 2023 to 17 January 2024

Date paid	Name	Details	Total
6 December	London Hearts	New defibrillator	£750
6 December	Tina Piggott	Litter picking and bin emptying November	£165
6 December	J Ransom	Clerk Salary, Tel & Broadband November, stamps £6	£472.60
6 December	HMRC	Clerk Salary tax month 08	£108.40

6 December	Essex and Herts Air Ambulance	Annual donation	£100
6 December	St Peters Church	Annual Churchyard maintenance grant	£3500
6 December	BWP Creative	Domain name; new email	£12
17 January	Tina Piggott	Litter picking & bin emptying December	£165
17 January	BWP Creative	Domain name; website	£12
17 January	EofE Ambulance Trust	Donation for defib training	£100
17 January	HMRC	Clerk salary tax 09	£108.20
17 January	J Ransom	Clerk Salary, Tel & Broadband December, ink cartridges 5 months £14.95	£481.75

10.2 **Income 9 November 2023 to 27 January 2024**

4 December £62.53 - Bank Interest

10.3 **Precept and Budgets 2024/25** – the Councillors agreed the budget for 2024/25 and the precept will remain the same as the current year - £21,663.00

**11. Correspondence received**

- Communications received in relation to the proposed Beane Valley solar plant
- Thank you from CAB East Herts for the donation
- Thank you from EHAA for the donation (Essex and Herts Air Ambulance)

**12. Members points of information**

- No information received from BT or Gigaclear.

**13. Date of next meeting**

- **Wednesday 20 March, 2024 at 8pm in Benington School Hall**

**14. Public participation**

- No members of the public in attendance

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date: