Benington Village
HERTFORDSHIRE

Benington Parish Clerk
T: 07584241465
W: www.benington-herts.co.uk

In attendance: Cllr Hewlett (Chair), Cllr Radford (Vice Chair), Cllr Ramsden, Couty Cllr Ken Crofton, Abi Brown (Clerk), 5 residents

Benington Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 16th September 2026

Benington School Hall at 8pm

MINUTES

1. **Apologies to receive and accept apologies for absence**

   None

2. **Co-option of new Parish Councillors**

Councillors were hoping to coopt two new councillors at this meeting but neither were able to attend. Both candidates will hopefully be attending at the next meeting in November to be coopted.

3. Declaration of Interests

a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda

None

b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and

None

c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None

4. Minutes

a) To confirm the Minutes of Benington Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 as an accurate record of proceedings

DRAFT

Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Hewlett proposed to approve the minutes and this was seconded by Cllr Ramsden. All in attendance were in approval of the meeting.

b) Council to review and update actions

All actions are up to date and the Clerk is following up on outstanding tasks. Cllr Hewlett has received the new defib cabinet for up near Earnest Doe's and will install it by the time of the next meeting.

5. Roads, Footpaths & Refuse

There have been several comments made on FB regarding speeding in the village and to see if the Parish Council can install an electronic speed sign. It was felt that a sign would only have an effect on those who are concerned about their speed. Another solution may be trying to install a 20mph speed limit. County Cllr Ken Crofton advised that previous councillors had tried in the past to collate information and evidence to implement a 20mph speed limit but there was not sufficient evidence to support the application. It was suggested that the Police be formally invited to the next meeting to discuss residents concerns regarding speeding in the village. A resident also raised the continuing issue with the crossroads at the Benington/Aston crossing. Cllr Ramsden suggested creating two scarecrows dressed in hi-vis. Cllr Hewlett will chase highways regarding an update.

Action: Cllr Hewlett

A resident also requested a sign be installed at the Hebing End of the village to advise road users that there is no pathway and there may be pedestrians walking along the side of the road. Cllr Hewlett will speak with Annabel Bott.

Action: Cllr Hewlett

6. Benington Parish Council Renewal

The Parish Council's insurance is due for renewal on 1st October. The price has remained the same as the previous year at £459. Cllr Hewlett proposed to approve the renewal and Cllr Ramsden seconded the motion.

A resident raised the issue with the playground and its overgrown hedges and brambles. The Clerk will speak with Richard Bott to see if he is able to help with maintenance of brambles at the playground.

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It was felt that the Council should invite Richard Bott to the next meeting to advise on the current situation with the recreation ground and playground.

Action: Cllr Hewlett

7. Finance

The Finance report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no queries raised.

The Clerk and the Chair will be reviewing budgets for 2027, ready to present and get approval in the November meeting. It would be useful if councillors could raise any additional projects or costs that need to be taken into consideration by mid October.

8. Planning

Council to review all new planning applications and provide comment for submission

- **74 Whempstead Road - Ref. No: 3/26/1160/HH** - Erection of a detached garage with associated alterations to existing retaining wall. Cllr Hewlett will speak to Cllr Tom Defley to look into this planning application as it was felt that the resident may also have other buildings which they have not obtained permission for.

  Action: Cllr Hewlitt

- **90 Whempstead Road - 3/26/1109/FUL** - Demolition of the existing bungalow and detached garage. Construction of a replacement self-build dwelling and detached garage with air source heat pump and solar panels. No comment.

- **Benington House - 3/26/1095/FUL** - Removal of existing buildings and construction of a self-build detached dwelling with solar panels and associated works. Councillors to look at the plans and provide comments to clerk.

- **Update - Cobblestones 12 Hebing End** - erection of 5 x dwellinghouses - REFUSED PERMISSION IN PRINCPLE

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9. Reports to the Council

Police report was received and circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. There were no crimes reported in August.

10. Public Issues

A resident queried the agenda and requested if more information can be included regarding planning applications. The Clerk will include further details in next agenda. Cllr Hewlett requested that residents report issues directly to the parish Clerk or if it is a criminal offence then to report it to the police and copy in the Parish Clerk so they can make the Council aware. The Clerk also advised that residents are always welcome to email agenda items they would like discussed at meetings.

A resident requested that meetings be moved to 2nd Wednesday of the month. Councillors will review and discuss and make a decision at November's meeting.

Metting closed: 21:07

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