

BENEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, the Annual Parish Council and Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 21st May 2018

Councillors Present	A Tarbuck, J Cutmore, C Parkhouse, and I Tadman
Also Present	District Cllr Jake Vowles and Mrs S Cook (Clerk)

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

- 296 Cllr Tarbuck gave the following **Chairman's Report**: The Council has again maintained sound financial control whilst still managing to make some progress on our plan. The precept has been kept at the same level for the fourth consecutive year and we have closed the year with a surplus which will more than cover our immediate costs. We have made a number of notable achievements:
- Replaced the 5 oldest lights in Lower Benefield for a unit that improves the lighting and is more cost effective.
 - Organized another very successful litter pick.
 - Continued to support the Village Hall
 - Contributed to shaping the plans for Tresham Village and lodged our requests for infrastructure funding
 - Led a successful campaign objecting to development beyond the settlement line at the Wheatsheaf
 - Refurbished the Village noticeboards
 - Continued to link with pathfinder flooding project
- On the negative side we recognize that we have not resolved the gates in Lower Benefield and are still looking for cost effective solutions and the community Speedwatch scheme was disappointing.
- 297 There were no questions from the Floor.

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- 298 Cllr Parkhouse proposed that Cllr Tarbuck be elected as Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Tadman. Cllr Tarbuck agreed and completed the Acceptance of Office Form.
- 299 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that Cllr Tadman be elected as Vice Chair, Cllr Cutmore seconded the proposal. Cllr Tadman agreed.
- 300 Village Representative will be held over to the next meeting.
- 301 Mrs. D Pridmore has agreed to continue as Representative to 401st Bombardment Group.
- 302 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the new Standing Orders be adopted by the Parish Council, Cllr Parkhouse seconded the proposal with everyone in favour. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy.
- 303 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the council adopt the Financial Regulations, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy.

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- 304 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Compliant Procedure, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy.
- 305 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Code of Conduct, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy.
- 306 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Risk Assessment, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy
- 307 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Fixed Asset Register, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy
- 308 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Data Protection Policy, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy
- 309 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Data Breach Policy, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy
- 310 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Access Request Procedure, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy
- 311 Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council adopt the Records Retention Policy, seconded by Cllr Parkhouse, agreed by all. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed the policy

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

- 312 **Apologies** had been received from Cllr Naylor and Cllr Shatford (both on Holiday) which were accepted.
- 313 There was no **Member's declaration of interest in items on the Agenda**
- 314 The Clerk reported to the meeting that she has only received one application for **Co-option**. It was agreed to accept Mr A Pridmore be co-opted onto the Parish Council.
- 315 **No members of the Public present.**
- 316 District Councillor Vowles gave the following **Report**: It is thought that CBC, KBC, WBC and ENC will merge into one unitary Council with the remaining District/Borough Councils merging into the other. This will almost certainly mean that the Council Tax will rise. There may also be a delay in the Local Elections which were pencilled in for May 2019, these may now not be held until May 2020. Hopefully some sort of offices will remain at Thrapston.
- 317 **No Crimes have been Reported.**
- 318 **The Minutes of the Meetings held on 16th April 2018** were approved and signed by Cllr Tarbuck

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319 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 16th April 2018

- a. Cllr Tarbuck has contacted Sarah Barnwell for new costings on the wooden gates.
- b. The Clerk reported that Reginald Price's name does not appear on any other War Memorial. Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Parish Council make funds available for the name to appear on Benefield's War Memorial. Everyone agreed and the Clerk agreed to start the process and liaise with Mrs Berridge.
- c. Hopefully most of the parking issues have been resolved, there will be a notice placed in the next Newsletter outlining the Highway Code on Parking.
- d. The Clerk hopes to have the new Web-site live by the September meeting.
- e. The VAS will be located in 4 different locations around both Upper and Lower. Cllr Parkhouse to agree dates with Mr Gretton.

320 The Village Hall Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 25th April. The Year End reported had been presented at the meeting which showed just over £3000 in the bank. The grant money from Waitrose has not yet been received.

321 Financial Matters:

- a. Cllr Tarbuck proposed that the Council accept the Year End Accounts, which had been previously audited and circulated, Cllr Parkhouse seconded the proposal with everyone in agreement. Both Cllr Tarbuck and the Clerk signed various documents on the Annual Governance and Accountability forms.
- b. The Clerk confirmed that there is £10360.58 currently in the Bank, there first half payment of the precept has been received since the last meeting.
- c. The following were confirmed for Payment

Details	Value	Cheque No.
Tom James, Internal Audit	£80.00	624
Zurich, Insurance of Fixed Asset 5 Year Plan	£509.23	625
Sue Cook, Salary for May plus Expenses	£167.52	626

Payment of the unlimited use of the Village Hall £500 held over to the next meeting.

322 New Planning Applications:

- a. There were no objections to 18/00841/LBC, 33 Lower Benefield
- b. There were no objections to 18/00840/FUL 33 Lower Benefield

Decisions made by East Northamptonshire Council on any Planning Applications since 16th April 2018

- a. 17/02078/PNA Agricultural Sprayer Shed, - Refused
- b. 18/00489/FUL Stock Hill Cottage – Passed
- c. 18/00570/FUL 4 dwellings at the Wheatsheaf - Withdrawn

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- 323 Correspondence/Training and Events: The following items of correspondence had been circulated to the Councillors prior to this meeting and all were noted.
- a. Call Connect and County Connect Rural Bus Services. Benefield is not affected by this service being cut as the X4 runs hourly. Stagecoach have decided to increase the service by running every 30 minutes starting in early June.
 - b. Council Community Funding from ENC is now open.
- 324 Future Agenda Items/Business. The nature of future Agenda items can be discussed at this point but no decision can be made until the next meeting.
- a. Repairs to the street lighting in Upper Benefield. E-on's total quote is for £1991 to replace 3 Lantern Tips, install 3 Holophane Mars- Line LED's, install 1 new column replace 1 bracket and install new service box. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Forde & McHugh for a quote to keep all the lanterns the same.
 - b. The Grass has not been cut by NCC. The Clerk agreed to contact NCC for an update.
 - c. District Cllr Vowles informed the meeting that there will be a weight limit of 3 ton placed on the Station Road Bridge, in Oundle due to at least six arches needing urgent repair although NCC admit there is no money to pay for the repairs. There is a possibility that the weight limit on the Barnwell Road bridge may be removed. Once the weight limit is in place HGV's will be using any road to get around Oundle and this will have a major impact on all the Villages. NCC are still deciding on what action to take.
- 325 Date of the next meeting:
Monday 25th June 2018,
Monday 3rd September 2018,
Monday 15th October 2018 and
Monday 26th November 2018

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 7:35 p.m.

Approved by Benefield Parish Council:		
Signature of Chairman:		Date: 25th June 2018