

# BENEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## Approved Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Councillors Present	Robert Bullimore, Jason Cutmore, Dan Groom, John Naylor, Alf Pridmore, and Alan Tarbuck
Also Present	3 members of the public and Mrs S Cook (Clerk)

- 679 Apologies** had been received from Cllr Shatford and were accepted
- 680 No declarations of interest were registered**
- 681 A Member of the public asked** what progress had been made with the list of handover activities from the Annual Parish Meeting in May. It was agreed that this would be re-circulated to all Councillors for discussion at the next meeting.
- 682 North Northamptonshire Councillor Report** - The Clerk reported that there will be an election for the vacancy left by Annabel de Capel Brook. The Clerk also reported that she had invited Cllr Smithers to this meeting but he had a prior engagement.
- 683** It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Monday 2<sup>th</sup> November and the Finance Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> January**
- 684 Grass Cutting** –The Clerk agreed to contact The Mowerman to confirm the cutting of the grass verges in both Upper and Lower. Longhurst’s have employed a new Estate Manager and it was agreed that the cutting of Townsend Court and Coronation Crescent should be left to Longhurst’s.
- 685 Litter Picking** – Mr Cook will carry out litter picks once a quarter.
- 686 Pathfinder II residual funds** – The 400-litre black grit bin has been delivered, just needs placing in the Village Hall Car Park. Cllr Cutmore to order the sandbags.
- 687 Footpath Width-** The Clerk has written to Cllr Smithers, who has delegated the matter of the footpath width to Head of Highways. The Clerk reported that the letters to the residents should have gone out last week, the Clerk to obtain a copy of the letter and forward to the Councillors.
- 688 Vehicle Activated Signs** – The Clerk is waiting for obtain quotes these will be presented at the next meeting. The Clerk also agreed to try to find out if the one on the entrance to Upper Benefield can be upgraded in anyway
- 689 War Memorial** – Mrs Berridge has emailed the following report: “Thank you for submitting an enquiry to War Memorials Trust regarding grant funding for Benefield Cross war memorial. Based on the information you have provided I am pleased to say the project, or part of it, is **eligible** for a grant from War Memorials Trust. Please be aware that just because a project is eligible does not mean a grant application will be successful. The charity has limited funds and available funding is allocated to those war memorials in greatest need. Based on the information provided I feel your project is **medium priority** and works are necessary. **Please read the following comments** on the works you propose, or the Trust advises need doing, as these will help you ensure your application has the greatest chance of success. If you ignore this advice, it is likely your application will be rejected. I would note that works to this memorial were previously funded by the Trust in 2002 and 2005. We would not normally provide funding for the same works but are willing to consider doing so in this instance. As such, we would welcome information relating to the maintenance undertaken to the memorial since the last project to inform our decision. **Cleaning** Any cleaning should be limited to hand washing using water and soft natural bristle brushes. The moss will first need removing using wooden spatulas. **Further works** When developing your project I would recommend assessing the condition of the joints to determine if any repointing in lime mortar is required. It also appears that there are some areas of stone damage which may benefit from lime mortar repairs.”

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It was resolved that Mrs Berridge should go ahead with obtaining the grant, and that Cllr Pridmore would represent the Parish Council.

690 **Joint Action Group Meeting Report**, held on 20th January – no one had been available.

**691 Financial matters:**

- a) The Current Bank Statement stands at £9614.99 which includes £429.69 residual from the Pathfinder II funding.
- b) The following Payments were approved for payment in line with the relevant legislation

Details	Value	Cheque
Sue Cook – Salary for Jan & Feb, Expenses & Grit Bin	£504.42	726
E-on - Energy	205.25	727
N Power - Energy	£163.43	728

- c) **It was resolved to** approve Urban Highway Grass Mowing Grant under Section 106 of the Local Government Act 1972

**692 Planning:** The following planning applications were discussed

- a) NE/21/01700/LBC, NE/21/01699/FUL, NE/21/01698/LBC, & NE/21/01697/FUL – Various works at Rectory Farm House – **Objection as per the Highways concerns.**
- b) NE/21/01840/CND - Discharge of conditions pursuant to application 18/02364/LBC Conversion of farm buildings to form 3 residential dwellings Condition 4 -Archaeology at Rectory Farm Buildings Main Street Lower - **No Comments required from the Parish Council**
- c) NE/21/01838/CND - Discharge of condition pursuant to application 18/02408/FUL: Conversion of listed farm buildings to create 3 dwellings together with demolition of modern agricultural buildings and construction of 2 new build dwellings. Condition 2 - Archaeology Condition 4 - Trees Condition 10 - Contaminated land investigation Condition 16 - Landscapes Condition 18 - Bird box Condition 19 – Sustainability at Rectory Farm Buildings Main Street Lower - **No comments required from the Parish Council**

NE/21/01450/FUL – construction of a 3 bay timber garage carriage house, fronted with bar doors at Benefield House, Lower – No objections.

**Outstanding Planning Applications awaiting decisions**

- a) NE/21/01164/FUL & 01165/LBC Repair and improve the boundary wall between pavement and front garden; Change existing single glazed windows to slimline double glazed at Berkeley House Main Street Lower
- b) NE/21/01450/FUL - Construction of a 3 bay timber garage carriage house, fronted with barn doors at Benefield House Main Street Lower - **Approved**

**693** The following items of **Correspondence** had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. All were noted with no further action.

- a) Newsletter from Jason Smithers, leader of NNC
- b) Newsletter from Northants Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner (PFCC)

**694 Future agenda items/business.**

- a) 20’s Plenty Campaign – the Clerk explained that this is a nationwide campaign
- b) Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – It is hoped that all village organisations can work together on this.

**695 The Date of next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022.**

This being all the business the meeting was closed at 7:15p.m.

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