

BENEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th March 2023

Councillors Present	Robert Bullimore, Jason Cutmore, Dan Groom, John Naylor, Alf Pridmore, and Graham Shatford (Chair),
Also Present	3 members of the public and Sue Cook (Clerk)

- 801 **Apologies** had been received from Cllr Tarbuck which was approved.
- 802 **There were no declarations of interest**
- 803 **The following were raised by a member of the public** The contractors have been leaving mud on the road and have been reminded by the planning enforcement officer of their conditions. There is a lot of basal growth around the tree on the junction with the Gated Road and the Oundle Road, could it be tidied up. This was granted and two members of the public will tidy it up. There is a problem with overhanging hedges on the footpath, the Clerk suggested that it is reported to Fix my Street. Could the following items be added to the next agenda, Dog Bins and Lost Footpath, this was agreed..
Mr Steve Lingley gave an outline of his work as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Upper as well as his work within Crime Stoppers. The Clerk agreed to put his presentation on the Website and forward copies to the Councillors.
- 804 The minutes of the **Full Council Meeting held on Monday 9th January** were approved and signed by Cllr Shatford.
- 805 **Benfield War Memorial** - The Clerk reported that there has been a site visit to the War Memorial in order to get the exact dimension for the plaques, one has to be circular and is now waiting for the quote.
- 806 **Floral Carpet** - No progress has been made, it was resolved to remove this item from future agendas
- 807 **Defibrillator** - Cllr Cutmore has made a lottery grant application for this along with a seperate lottery grant application for 2 Vehicle Activated Signs.
- 808 **Coronation of King Charles III** - Cllr Groom informed the meeting that the Jubilee Committee has been disbanded. Mrs Groom would like to organise a traditional party for the children in the Cricket Field. The Clerk suggested that Mrs Groom look at the Coronation page on the NNC website to see if there is an appropriate grant available.
- 809 **Appointment of the New Clerk** - Cllr Shatford proposed that Mr Peter Bullock is appointed as the new Clerk on the same salary scale of LC1/9 £12.05 per hour as the current Clerk, to be reviewed in 3 months. This was seconded by Cllr Cutmore and agreed by everyone. Mr Bullock will officially take over on 1st May, the current clerk will conduct a complete and thorough handover. It was agreed that Mr Bullock should enrol for the following courses “Agendas & Minutes” and “New Clerks” run by Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC).
- 810 **Finance**
- a) It was resolved to appoint Mr Tom James as Internal Auditor at a cost of £80..
 - b) There is currently £10193.96 in the Bank, which includes a VAT Refund of £217.29. The Parish Council will end the year with £9704.21 in the bank.
 - c) The following payments were approved in line with currently legislation

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Payee	Reason	Amount	Chq No
Sue Cook	Salary for Feb, March & April + Expenses	£429.75	754
Nigel Cook	Litter Pick	£20.00	754
Sue Cook	Renewal of ICO Membership	£40.00	754

811 **Planning -**

- a) NE/23/00045/LBC & NE/23/00172/FUL - 14 Solar Panels at the Wool Barn, Upper - No Objections comment to made that no panels should be on the North Side
- b) NE/23/00181/TCA - Group of Ash trees - Remove to ground level due to poor form and declining crown | Ashdale House Main Street Lower - No objections

Outstanding Applications waiting for Decisions since 9th January

- a) NE/22/01531/FUL & NE/22/01532/LBC Single side extension to Plot 1 (approved under 18/02408/FUL) and installation of 1 additional glazing unit. - Rectory Farm Buildings Main Street Lower Ref. **Both Withdrawn**
- b) NE/22/01549/LBC Replacement of double glazed wooden frame, windows structural repairs, repointing with lime mortar, replacement front door, replacement wooden painted, double glazed doors/windows and 4 new pivot doors on cart shed - Banhaw Farm House Main Street Lower
- c) NE/22/01310/FUL - Three space green oak car port. | Mayberry House Main Street Upper - **Approved**
- d) NE/22/01356/TCA - 2 x Sycamore trees - crown thinning by a maximum of 30%. at the Rear Of Hillside Main Street Lower - **Approved**
- e) NE/22/01071/CND | Discharge of conditions pursuant to 18/02364/LBC. Conversion of farm buildings to form 3 residential dwellings. Condition 3 - joinery details | Rectory Farm Buildings Main Street Lower - no comments required from Parish Council
- f) **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 – **Still Outstanding No updates on NNC Website since Sept 2021**

812 The following items of **Correspondence** had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

- a) Newsletter from Jason Smithers
- b) Transport Study from Oundle Town Council
- c) Town and Parish Planning Briefing
- d) Garden Waste Collection
- e) Training Newsletter from NCALC

813 **The following items will added to the May agenda:**

To consider purchasing our own Litter Picking Equipment, Cllr Groom to obtain quotes for Hi-Vis vests, hoops for bags, litter picking grabs.

814 **The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 15th May in Benefield Village Hall starting at 6:30p.m. This meeting will be Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Full Council Meeting**
This being all the business the meeting was closed at 7:30pm.

Signature	Date 15th May 2023
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