

BENWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Benwick Parish Council held on Tuesday 13 October 2009 in the side room of the Village Hall at 64 High Street Benwick commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs: L Keppel-Spoor; T Richardson; P Tickner; R Few; H Langford and one member of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs G Thomas – another meeting
R Butcher – another meeting
M Chapman – work commitments
P Potts – another meeting
J Clark – work commitments
PC L Hards – holiday
Cllr H Langford apologised for his late arrival.

109/09 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors to declare any interests under the Local Code of Conduct in respect of any item to be discussed at this meeting:-

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| a) personal |) | NONE |
| b) prejudicial and personal |) | DECLARED |

7.35-7.50 **Public Time**

It was stated that the Village Hall Funding was requested last month to be included on the Agenda this month and it was not. The Clerk apologised for this error. Clerk
It was noted that the bus company had removed a service through Benwick in the Cllr
afternoons without prior notice. The Chair will speak with Cllr Butcher. Keppel-Spoor
The Grass Contractor asks if dog fouling notices could be erected on the bank along Nene
Parade. Contact Highways. Clerk
The Chair reported that the new Lilyholt Road sign obstructs the war memorial for remembrance
services and access between the seat and the memorial. Contact Highways. Clerk
The light in Lilyholt Road was still not working and the light opposite the public house in Cllr
High Street was also not working. Cllr Richardson will forward details. Richardson/Clerk

110/09 **Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2009 were **APPROVED** and signed.

111/09 **Matters Arising**

- Update on signposting and waymarking of public footpaths - e-mail circulated – work should be completed by end of October.
- Update on street signs - e-mail circulated – a sign will be placed at beginning of the High Street footbridge prohibiting motor cycles.
- Update on safety concerns at junction of High Street/Lilyholt Road – a temporary walkway was provided as an alternative route for pedestrians and further temporary 3-way traffic control.
- The Clerk has received notification from the owner of the overgrown hedge near the corner of Ramsey Road that this will be attended to.
- The street lights have been reported to the Contractor and should be repaired by 9 October.

- f) The Clerk has informed the Grass Contractor that the cutting of the bank in Nene Parade is within our contract with him although part of the bank is owned by a resident.

112/09 Friends of Benwick Church

Update on proposed lease. The solicitor had promised the lease by the end of September. Will chase again. Cllr Keppel-Spoor

113/09 Police Matters

No Police representative report has been received.

114/09 County Councillors Report(s)/Communications

No reports from Cllrs Butcher; Potts and Clark as they were unable to attend.

115/09 Income & Expenditure

a) Members considered and **APPROVED** the following accounts for payment:

	Description	Amount
K Poole	Admin – Sept 09	235.74
Inland Revenue	PAYE – mth 06	66.49
Abbots Ripton Farm Co.	Allotment rent	1,300.00
J O Cutteridge	Verges 6 th cut/Cemetery 11th/12th cut	460.00
MHB Services	Street Light Contractor	69.32
March Stationery & Print	Parish Plan Booklets	80.86
Moore Stephens	External Auditor 2008-09 Accounts	172.50
K Poole	Expenses July-Sept 09	100.91
E on Energy – dd	Energy Charge – Sept 09	99.40
Anglian Water – dd	Water Rates	8.00
	TOTAL	£2,593.22

b) The Clerk reported the current balances at 30.09.09 as follows:

Alliance & Leicester	17,276.36
NSI	<u>11,069.83</u>
	28,346.19
Parish Plan	450.95
Verge Planting	<u>730.00</u>
TOTAL	£29,527.14

c) After discussing the banking interest and rates it was **AGREED** to leave the monies in their respective accounts but further investigations would continue to be made to find better rates of interest.

Cllr Richardson

d) The Annual Return from Moore Stephens has been received in respect of accounts for the year ending 31 March 2009. This was circulated amongst the Councillors. A Notice of Completion of Audit has been displayed on the notice board.

f) The Clerk reports that £4,800 has been received in respect of the second half of Precept.

116/09 Planning/Development

F/YR09/0581/F P Robinson – conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation to existing dwelling – 14 Skeifs row Benwick. Plans circulated-it was **AGREED** that there were ‘no objections’ to this application. Clerk

Pending Decision:

F/YR09/0555/F Grange Farm – erection of part single-storey, part 2-store rear/side of existing dwelling – Keyworth House Farm Chase Road Benwick. – Plans circulated to Councillors. This application has now been granted by FDC.

Refused:

F/YR07/1306/F Taylor Wimpey – revised proposals for development at 13 Doddington Road Benwick. It was reported that Cllrs Langford and Richardson attended Planning Committee at which Cllr Langford re-iterated the Parish Council's concerns over this development.

117/09

Highway Matters/Street Lighting/Transport

Highways

a) Street Pride Event/verge project – after discussion it was **AGREED** to contact Co-ordinator to arrange only to litter pick on 24 October as Cllr too little notice has been given for more Councillors to attend. It Keppel-Spoor is also to establish what will be happening in the future together with costs of these works. Local village groups will also be contacted. Cllr Langford

Street Lights

b) It was **AGREED** by a majority to install three new lights in Ramsey Cllr Road and to approach the two contractors in a bid to reduce their prices. Richardson

118/09

Cemetery

a) An application has been received from Kent Memorials to place a vase on plot no 559 the grave of Mr B Beckwith deceased-**AGREED**. Clerk
b) Letter received from the Grass Contractor was read to the meeting. The Contractor referred to a meeting he had with Cllr Richardson and the fact that the cheque withheld for payment last month was for work carried out the previous month not for the month to which the Parish Council had complaints.

119/09

Allotments

a) A Notice to Quit has been received from the solicitors of Abbots Ripton Farming Co. Ltd – Lord De Ramsey has agreed that holdover will be until 10 November 2010.
b) Update on land registry from Chair/see circulation of article in LCR magazine – obtain form from Land Registry in respect of The Pound. Clerk

120/09

Precept and Concurrent Grants

Discussion of grants for 2010/2011. Information circulated. Concurrent Grant to be discussed next month and the Precept to be discussed during December 2009. Clerk

121/09

Funding

Woodford Community and Environmental Fund

The Chair informed the meeting that this fund had already had an application from another village group.

Cambridgeshire Play Pathfinder

E-mail received and circulated regarding stage 2 of the above funding programme-it was **AGREED** that this e-mail was not official. To forward Cllr Tickner info on funding held. Clerk

122/09

Correspondence

- a) Green Communities Programme – update from Cllr Chapman – unable to attend due to work commitments .
- b) FDC meeting – Access to Services Review – Cllr Richardson attended the meeting and only one subject that could relate to Benwick discussed – village transport and not sufficient passengers using bus services. Cllr Richardson will be sought. Supplementary services may be put in place and further information will be sought.
- c) CCC survey on growth and development in Cambridgeshire – the Chair will try to complete this survey and forward copy to Clerk. Cllr Keppel-Spoor
- d) Letter received from the Forget-Me-Not Club thanking the Parish Council for postponing their meeting. Reply. Clerk
- e) Community Fairs – Cllr Langford attended – very similar to other fairs with nothing new to report.
- f) Victim Support have requested a donation-Cllrs Keppel-Spoor; T Richardson and H Langford gave personal donations. Clerk

123/09

Agenda Items/Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on 3 November. Items to be included in the agenda to be with the Clerk by Monday 26 October 2009.

Risk Assessment/Financial Regulations

Village Hall Funding

Street Pride

Street Lights

Concurrent Grant

British Legion Wreath

Meeting closed at 21.45