

Bengeo Rural Parish Council Meeting 20th May 2024

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MINUTES

<u>Present:</u>		<u>In Attendance:</u>
Cllr Tony Ellis (Chair)	Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck	Victoria Preuss – Clerk
Cllr Neil Blackaller		District Cllr – Ken Crofton

24/25 – 015	Election of the Chairman Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck proposed Cllr Tony Ellis for Chairman. Cllr Neil Blackaller seconded Cllr Tony Ellis for Chairman. Cllr Tony Ellis elected as Chairman.
24/25 – 016	Election of the Vice Chairman Cllr Neil Blackaller proposed Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck for Vice Chairman. Cllr Tony Ellis seconded Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck for Vice Chairman. Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck elected as Vice Chairman.
24/25 – 017	Apologies Cllr Matthew Lezemore and Cllr Jayne Abery
24/25 – 018	Declarations of Councillors’ interests pertaining to agenda items. None
24/25 – 019	Minutes from 15 th April 2024 were approved.
24/25 – 020	Public Participation None
24/25 – 021	Internal Audit Actions None
24/25 – 022	Planning None
24/25 – 023	Finance a – The latest financial position was presented and noted. The Parish Council were informed that the VAT refund submission had been made, and awaiting payment. The Parish Council was also informed that the insurance was due to be renewed on 1 June, and that the new litter bin had been added to the asset list. b – The Parish Clerk requested approval from the Parish Council to pay all future invoices relating to items on the approved budget for ground maintenance – TWN Contracting and for payroll and processing – Dacorun.
24/25 – 024	Parish Updates <u>Chapmore End</u>

	<p>Following an email to Highways, and subsequent follow concerning the speed of traffic on the B158, it was agreed that another email would be sent to the Highways Team with District Cllr Ken Crofton copied in. Cllr Crofton agreed to follow this up on behalf of the Council. It was also agreed that a fault report would be submitted for the faded red SLOW road markings to be repaired.</p> <p>The painting of the pond railings, phone box and refurbishment of the bench have been completed.</p> <p>A question was asked concerning the power supply to the phone box as the Council are paying NPower for an unmetered supply. This will be follow-up with the supplier.</p> <p><u>Tonwell</u></p> <p>Cllr Clutterbuck had been in contact with East Herts Council concerning whether there would be any grant funding available to support the proposed new play area within the field. Following positive discussion, it is very likely that the Parish Council would be able to apply for and be awarded a grant from the UK Share Prosperity Fund for towns and Parishes. The final conditions of the grant are yet to be confirmed, but this would require match funding, in the sense that the Parish Council would cover future maintenance and insurance for the equipment. This is very positive news, and Cllr Clutterbuck will be taking this forward.</p> <p>A meeting and walk about was also held at the school to assess the quality and condition of the play equipment in the school. This was to assess the cost of moving the equipment into the field to create a new play area for the village. The cost for moving and repairing the equipment was provided.</p> <p>An assessment will need to be made as to whether the purchasing of new equipment or moving the equipment from the school provides best value for the local community. Quotes for new equipment and the associated ground works are being sought.</p> <p>It was also agreed that contact would be made with local Cllr Aubrey Holt concerning the grant and to help determine if any permissions would be needed.</p> <p><u>Crouchfields</u></p> <p>A question was asked from a resident concerning the management of an unadopted road in the Parish as the association who was responsible has ceased. The question was asked via email of the District Cllr Ken Crofton and the response has been forwarded to the resident.</p>
24/25 – 025	<p>Items to note</p> <p>a – It was noted by the Parish Council that Tonwell was asked to make a submission to East Herts Planning – Village Hierarchy Study.</p> <p>b – The discussion concerning the July meeting was deferred to the June meeting.</p> <p>c – The 2023/24 audit had been completed and that the actions from the Internal Audit will be circulated to.</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>17 June 2024</p>	