

Bengeo Rural Parish Council Meeting 18th March 2024

Email: bengeoruralparishcouncil@outlook.com Website: www.bengeoruralparishcouncil.co.uk

DRAFT MINUTES

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

Before the meeting started, the Chair acknowledged the work and commitment of Michael McMullen who had recently passed away. Michael was a member of the Parish Council and held the position of Chair for a considerable number of years, before retiring from the position. Michael was a valued member of the local community and will be missed.

23/24 – 082	Apologies Cllr Matthew Lezmore, Cllr Jayne Abery, Cllr Neil Blackaller
23/24 – 083	Declarations of Councillors’ interests pertaining to agenda items. None
23/24 – 084	Minutes from 12 th February 2024 were approved.
23/24 – 085	Public Participation None
23/24 – 086	Internal Audit Actions a – the outstanding actions were reviewed and the request to close the completed actions noted.
23/24 – 087	Planning The approval for Chapmore End house was noted by the Council, along with the recent granting of planning for the solar farm – Westmills.
23/24 – 088	Finance a – The latest financial position and financial spreadsheet was presented to the Council for review. The financial position showed all payments up to 13 March 2024. The Clerk will chase the County Council for the invoice for the work carried out on the street lamps within Tonwell. b – The quotes were noted by the Council following out of committee approval. c – The use of the template contract was noted and approval will be given at the next meeting. d – The agreed donation of £150 in the memory to Michael McMullen was noted by the Council. As requested by the family, the donation was made to St Catherine’s Church, Sacombe. The Chair attended the funeral on behalf of the Parish Council.
23/24 – 089	Parish Updates <u>Chapmore End</u> It was noted that the email sent to Hertfordshire County Council concerning the speed on B158 had been follow-up. County Ken Crofton was also going to follow this up at a Highways meeting.

	<p>The work has been completed on the Willow tree overhanging the pond.</p> <p><u>Tonwell</u></p> <p>The issue with the litter bin on Tonwell field has been resolved, and the old bin removed.</p> <p>The Chair, County Cllr Ken Crofton and representatives from Highways held a site visit at the bus turnaround in the village to discuss ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the area. As confirmed in 2023 the maintenance of this area is the responsibility of the Highways and Hertfordshire Council. It was also noted that the Council had mowed the two grass areas at the entrance to Barley Croft.</p> <p>It was also noted that Woodhall Estate had carried out some tree maintenance along the bank, along the path exiting the village.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the final decision on the proposed closure of Tonwell School will be announced shortly.</p> <p><u>Crouchfields</u></p> <p>Nothing to note</p>
23/24 – 090	<p>Items to note</p> <p>a - The Clerk informed the Council that access had finally be set up on the bank account and will now take over making payments on behalf of the Council.</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>15 April 2024</p>	