

Bengeo Rural Parish Council Meeting 17th March 2025

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

MINUTES

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

24/25 – 065	Apologies None
24/25 – 066	Declarations of Councillors’ interests pertaining to agenda items. None
24/25 - 067	Minutes Minutes from the meeting held 13 th January 2025.
24/25 - 068	Public Participation None
24/25 - 069	Internal Audit Report The updates to the actions were noted and closed accordingly.
24/25 - 070	Planning Applications No planning application to review
24/25 - 071	Finance <p>a – The latest finance sheet including invoice details, powers to spend and reconciliation to the cash book was presented to the Parish Council for review and their approval. The Parish Council approved the finance sheet as presented as well as noting the invoices that had been paid since the last meeting. It was noted that the submitted VAT refund had also been received.</p> <p>b – The spend to date against budget was reviewed and noted. The end of year position will be present at the next meeting.</p> <p>c – Setter are due to start work on the playground in the coming days. A deposit has already been paid, with the final invoice due to be received once work has been completed, before year end. The Clerk has been in contact with Councils current insurance provider to add the new play equipment to the policy. The Clerk is currently waiting for a quote but is requesting approval prior to the final costs being known to ensure that there is no lapse of cover. This request was approved. A quote has been provided for signage for the new play area and fencing. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk will seek other quotes for playground signage for comparison. It was also agreed that the quote for replacing the fencing on the two other sides of the play area would not be taken forward at this time due to financial constraints.</p> <p>d – Following the playground inspection in 2024, the Parish Council asked Setter if they would be able to provide a quote for the required work, following the decision to keep the</p>

	swings. A quote for £951 has been submitted to carry out the required works. The Parish Council accepted the quote.
24/25 - 072	<p>Parish Updated</p> <p><u>Chapmore End</u></p> <p>It was brought to the Parish Council attention that that litter bin in Chapmore End by the telephone box had been removed, suspect stolen. Local Cllr Aubrey Holt informed the Parish Council that this had happened at some other locations, and that these litter bins has not been stolen, but removed by East Herts Council as part of a rationalisation programme. Cllr Aubrey Holt agreed to follow this up with East Herts and keep the Clerk informed of the outcome.</p> <p>Further discussion took place concerning the BOAT in Chapmore End and the ongoing fly-tipping along it. This also included the use of the area by commercial dog walkers, and the anti-social behaviour that takes place in and around the disused quarry. Cllr Aubrey has raised the fly-tipping issue with the East Herts environmental team who are aware of the issues. The East Herts enforcement officer has left but Cllr Aubrey Holt will continue to follow this up. Also, District Cllr Ken Crofton also offered to raise the access issues with East Herts.</p> <p><u>Crouchfields</u></p> <p>No issue raised</p> <p><u>Tonwell</u></p> <p>The work on the playground is continuing and Andrew Figgs East Herts is due to visit the site later in the week to see how the grant funding has been utilised. The play area will require signage, and wording will need to include how the play area was funded. Once the area is finished, the play area will be open for use, but there will be a formal opening once the signage has been installed.</p>
24/25 – 073	Items to Note
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>14 May 2025</p>	