

PARISH COUNCIL OF BENENDEN

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 15th April 2024, 7pm, Memorial Hall

Present	Cllrs Beveridge, Cochrane, Cruse, Driver, Grant, Hagan, Lewis, Presgrave and Thomas.	
In Attendance	Cllrs Dawlings, Holden and Warne. C Levett, Clerk.	
Item		Action Responsibility
1. APOLOGIES	No apologies. Cllr Presgrave gave her apologies for the Parish Council meeting on 20 th May.	
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	Cllr Thomas declared an interest in the planning application for the land adjacent to Rothermere Close as her employer is the agent for the development.	
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	The Parish Council minutes from the meeting held on 18 th March were unanimously approved as a correct record of the meeting.	
4. REPORTS BY COUNTY/ BOROUGH COUNCILLORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borough Council Elections take place on 2nd May. 13 candidates are standing and electors can vote for up to 3 councillors. Cllr Holden will not be standing in this election, but will remain County Councillor. Cllr Warne will be standing in the new Cranbrook, Sissinghurst and Frittenden ward. Cllr Thomas thanked Cllr Warne for representing Benenden. <p>Cllr Warne reported :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Cranbrook residents regarding the lack of maintenance, customer service and communication by the management company, Fusion, at the Weald Sports Centre. Fusion was responsive and a meeting was held. The Centre has been holding Meet the Manager sessions. • Work is ongoing to break the cycle of antisocial behaviour in Cranbrook and a number of agencies are involved. Cllr Holden advised that shoplifting is also an issue, and that the Police are not attending. Cllr Holden has made a request to Kent Police for the statistics for burglaries and hate crime cases solved over the past 3 years. <p>Cllr Holden reported :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council remains active in its campaign for a new, non-selective secondary school to serve the Weald and a meeting with the KCC Cabinet Member has been arranged. Details of the campaign are on BPC's website. • KCC is discussing the issue of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. Kent cannot cope with the numbers and the national transfer scheme is not being rolled out quickly enough. • Special Education Needs transport costs are putting major pressure on KCC finances. Kent issues Education, Health and Care Plans 20% above the national average. SEN children are entitled to home to school transport at the nearest appropriate school, which may be some considerable distance away. • Central government has provided funds to assist with pothole repairs. Repairs have been delayed because of the weather. To resurface entire roads costs a lot more. Country roads are built to a lower standard than main highways. Money provided by central government is based on the number of miles of road, rather than usage. KCC has pressed central government on the traffic passing through Kent, including the numbers of lorries, which cause much greater wear and tear. <p>Cllr Dawlings reported :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The previous Article 4 Directions served on Apple Pie Farm outlined the wrong area. This has now been corrected. • Building work is taking place on 2 plots at Apple Pie Farm. These have been reported to TWBC. 	
6. REPORTS BY CHAIR AND PARISH COUNCILLORS	Cllr Thomas was unable to attend the Parish Chairs meeting on 18 th March. Minutes of the meeting and presentations were circulated.	
6. PLANNING	<p><u>a. Planning Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/00495/FULL Hill Top Farm, Hinksden Road. Variation of Conditions 2 & 4 of 20/00039/FULL - adjustments to layout and alter use to mixed agricultural storage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conditions 2 & 4 of the original consent under 20/00039/FULL expressly defined the proposed barn as agricultural and constrained its use solely for agricultural storage purposes and only in relation to the land identified in the approved plan. ○ The proposed variation lifts those constraints to allow for a mixed use, i.e. between agricultural storage and 'agricultural contractor machinery store' for use by the applicant for the purpose of storing equipment that is used for his agricultural drainage contractor 	

Chairman..... Date.....

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These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions taken at the meeting.

	<p>business (Field Water Installations); the latter constituting a commercial use for which consent for a barn in this location would not have been granted originally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BPC made contact with the agent for the application to arrange a site visit. This was denied by the agent. ○ The original consent under 20/00039/FULL Drawing no. 2644 02 D relates to the layout of the site showing the location of the barn and the hard-standing area. This has been breached as evidenced by the proposed drawing showing the existing layout of the site, with the hard-standing extended to the south and east of the barn. Further evidence can be viewed on Google maps which shows that the hard-standing extends beyond the area for which consent was granted. The effect of this hard-standing and of 6 or 7 large vehicles parked to the south of the barn is that of an industrial/commercial type space in a remote field in the HWNL and has the appearance of a site compound rather than a farm. ○ The objective by the applicant is a rearrangement of the internal areas of the existing barn to create space for equipment used in his business and is seeking mixed use, changing the wholly agricultural use to include storage for his commercial enterprise. ○ There is no evidence of any animals on the agricultural holding. It is stated on the application form that the farm area has increased by approx. 8 acres, but there is no evidence that this is the case as the location plan does not show any extension of ownership since the original application, nor is there a site plan for the application to delineate the land to be bound by the proposed revised condition. ○ All approaches to the site are via narrow single carriageway rural country lanes with a tight turn off the lane and a tight turn into the site from the access track. Additional large vehicles, other than those relevant to the operation of the agricultural holding, should be denied for these reasons. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to object to this application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/00731/FULL Barn To South Of Great Nineveh Farm, Nineveh Lane. Conversion to dwelling with detached garage, terrace and swimming pool & change of use of land (Part retrospective) ○ Original scheme for conversion (construction of dwelling within steel framed structure and removal of parts of roof) 22/02567/FULL was granted consent. ○ Application Form states : Design change to consented scheme in the form of extended terracing. ○ Work has already started on original scheme. ○ BPC objected to the original application for conversion of this building into residential use due to the bulk and design resulting in an overly domestic building in a rural setting which would harm the character of surrounding countryside. ○ Applicant has stated that the current application is a "minor change" to the consented scheme but admits that the "design intent" of the original scheme was to keep building and associated curtilage within footprint of original building (as any conversion of a rural building should be). Even though the site area is some 1,394sq.m, apparently this has resulted in "limited private amenity to rear". ○ Proposal for raised terracing to south and east would encroach still further into the rural setting of this building, resulting in additional harm to the character of the surrounding countryside. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to object to this application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/00722/REM Land Adjacent Rothermere Close, Walkhurst Road. Approval of Reserved Matters (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) pursuant to Hybrid application 19/00822/HYBRID; and submission of conditions 2 - (Details), 7 - (Existing Building), 14 - (Garaging, Parking and Turning), 16 - (EV Charging Points), 18 - (Renewable Energy), 20 - (External Materials), 21 - (Existing and Proposed Levels), 24 - (Safeguarding Trees) and 30 - (Hard and Soft Landscaping) ○ BPC Comments : ❖ Nearly half of the houses have a slate roof. Whilst not opposed to slate, especially if teamed with a white weatherboarding façade, perhaps one or maybe two houses could incorporate a 	
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	<p>slate roof, not six. A slate roof over a tiled façade does not necessarily work well and does not reflect local character.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Plot 19 - ridge is too high, dominating the landscape and it has a long 6ft brick wall facing the access road which looks impenetrable. Perhaps a hit and miss fence might be more appropriate. ❖ Any white weatherboarding should cover the whole of the front upper elevation of houses, not just be a token gesture where it is used. ❖ The bay windows have flat roofs giving a Georgian style appearance which does not reflect local character. ❖ Plot 18 has black weatherboarding over whole elevation, presumably to emulate a barn. This works quite well. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the reserved matters making the above observations.</p> <p>CLlr Thomas asked that CLlr Cruse responds to queries from Walkhurst Road residents, and point out that this is an allocated site in the BNDP.</p> <p>CLlr Dawlings reported that TWBC has accepted that enabling works have started and that the planning permission has not expired. It is hopeful that Homes England will contribute to Benenden Almshouse Trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/00813/FULL Car Park Opposite, Woodcock Inn, Woodcock Lane. Installation of retaining oak sleeper wall around perimeter of car park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SITE CONSTRAINTS: (11 in total) Parish Wide BNDP Policies; HWNL; Historic Environment; Ancient Woodland (Moor Wood); Ancient Woodland +30M Buffer Area; Outside LBD ○ SITE HISTORY: 89/0223 Creation of car park opposite Woodcock Inn - approved. ○ LISTED BUILDINGS IN PROXIMITY: Woodcock Inn Grade II Listed. ○ APPLICATION FORM INFO: Site Area: 0.10ha; Trees and Hedges: Applicant answered 'No' to questions: Are there trees or hedges on proposed development site? And to the question: And/or: Are there trees or hedges on land adjacent to proposed development site that could influence the development or might be important as part of the local landscape character?; Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Is there a reasonable likelihood of the following being affected adversely or conserved and enhanced within application site, or on land adjacent to or near application site? Applicant has answered 'No' to a) Protected and priority species; b) Designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features; c) Features of geological conservation importance. ○ Pre-app advice not sought. ○ D&A STATEMENT INFO STATES: Land around edge of car park slopes up, and due to wet weather is eroding away into car park. Layout of the existing car park will be retained. Proposed to install oak sleepers around periphery of car park. Proposed to retain existing mature trees and landscaping surrounding car park. Type 1 surfacing will be retained. Proposed solid oak sleepers will retain land around edge of car park, and will be in keeping with surrounding woodland setting and rural locality in which the site is situated. ○ GENERAL COMMENTS: Proposed retaining walls of solid oak sleepers to a maximum of 4 sleepers high, set between steel 'H' sections set in concrete footings. Car park is located within Designated Ancient Woodland of Moor Wood and currently has appearance of rural woodland car park. In recent years car park has been extended to east, all banks cleared of vegetation and regraded by digger. Bank to west side is higher than other banks and has not been graded and is basically a wall of soil. Development on north side of Woodcock Lane ends at Medway Cottages; land being Ancient Woodland and agricultural land, with the only dwelling being Woodcock Farm on left at bottom of lane. Installation of sleeper walls within car park will give appearance of a wooden box in ancient woodland and would not enhance environment, important habitats or other biodiversity features. ○ It is suggested that regeneration of ancient woodland with native tree planting to retain soil naturally would be better option for future growth and development of woodland and biodiversity. Trees fronting lane should also be supplemented with tree planting to give 	
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	<p>screening to properties on other side of lane overlooking car park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opinion of TWBC’s Landscape & Biodiversity Officer would be welcomed. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to object to this application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/00834/FULL The Garden House, Standen Street. Two-storey rear extension, alterations to fenestration on side elevations (resubmission of 21/00766/FULL) ○ Consented application 21/00766/FULL for demolition of existing single garage; erection of detached 3 bay garage with room above; first floor rear extension with internal alterations, changes to fenestration. BPC supported. ○ 3 bay garage has been constructed under previous consent. ○ All materials to match existing and forms a modest addition to property. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support this application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/00694/LBC Duck Cottage,1 Rolvenden Road. Variation of Condition 2 in Relation to 23/00127/LBC - Change proposed extension roof to half-hip ○ BPC had unanimously agreed that it could not support the 2023 application as the garden room extension with pitched roof will cause loss of most of the cat-slide roof on small historic Grade II Listed cottage, with bulk, mass and height of extension causing a blank façade to the elevation facing road and would not enhance building. ○ TWBC approved. ○ Small modification to approved plans to garden room extension to form a half-hipped roof to gable end. ○ Modification will improve the stark, sharp appearance of the gable end. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support this application subject to the works being satisfactory to the Conservation Officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 23/02523/FULL Uphill <p>A meeting took place on 26th March with TWBC, developer and BPC representatives. Notes of the meeting were circulated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TW agreed with the amendments BPC put forward for the apartment block, as well as cladding for plot 14. ○ TW Landscape and Biodiversity Officer suggested that the arc in the amenity space be somewhere between what BPC wants and what has been suggested, because of bio-diversity net gain area. ○ TWBC agreed with parking suggestion for plot 13, ie that plots 12 & 13 are moved to west so that parking for plot 13 can be adjacent to it on east side, and path across plot 12 is then lost. ○ TW independent viability assessment calculations – no problem with viability and affordable housing can be achieved. <p>The developer sent updated drawings to the planning officer These include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enlarged public open space with greater quantum of benches and gate to allow informal access to wider space located beyond, offering appropriate balance between tree and ecological impact and open space provision. ○ Plots 1 to 9 adjusted to remove finials, bay window on front elevation removed so to match the window at the other end of the front elevation, cross beam removed and style of window layout within dormer windows has been adjusted. ○ An element of tile hanging has been re-added to add further articulation to southwestern corner of proposed building. ○ Provided on-plot parking to side of plots 12 and 13 and removed communal footpath between two front doors. ○ Adjustments made to plot 14 consistent with discussions at meeting. <p>The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support these amendments.</p>	
7. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS & TRANSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cllr Hagan raised concerns about the junction of Hinksden Road and Babbs Lane/Coldharbour Road where the road markings have worn off and there is no GIVE WAY sign. Cllr Driver has requested a refresh of the white lines and asked KHS to consider installing Give Way signs along Hinksden Road. The Parish Council does not support the proposal of a Give Way sign. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A parishioner advised that she is constantly reporting issues of potholes and drainage to KHS but with little outcome. BPC has thanked her for efforts. Poor drainage has a detrimental effect on the lane edges and existing holes. The deterioration of the lane edges is not helped by the large vehicles that use them and people just pulling in instead of reversing back to a natural gateway. • A parishioner has requested consideration of a pavement to connect Golford Road to Benenden village so that parishioners on the outskirts of the village can connect with the community without the need for a car. ○ BPC felt that it highly unlikely that Highways would agree to this and the cost would be prohibitive. The road is a Designated Rural Lane to which a pavement would be a significant distraction from the appearance of the road. There is a footpath through the school grounds which comes out on the school drive and picks up the pavement into the village on Cranbrook Road from there. The Clerk to respond. • Cllr Grant raised concerns about the very large, heavy lorries accessing the Standen Street development site causing verge damage and creating hazards as the lorries reverse down Standen Street or turn in Woodcock Lane. The developer responsibility should be set out in the Construction Management Plan. Cllr Grant to speak to the site foreman in the first instance. 	<p>CL</p> <p>PG</p>																																																																																																																												
8. RESOURCING/ FINANCE	<p>a. Monthly Finance</p> <p>TRANSACTIONS FROM 1st March 2024</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Brought forward</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: right;">68929.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Payee</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Reference</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Amount</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">UKSPF Grant</td> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Allotments</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">3500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Donation</td> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Wells Fundraising</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">WKPS</td> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Wells Fundraising</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">B&IG WI</td> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Copying</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">5051.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Supplier</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Reference</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Amount</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DD Nest</td> <td>Pension</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">84.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fee UTB</td> <td>Bank Charge</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">18.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DD Corporate Finance</td> <td>Printer/Copier</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">178.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS F&C Cleaning</td> <td>Public Toilet Cleaning</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">690.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Edf</td> <td>Public Toilet</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">93.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Employee</td> <td>Staffing Costs</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1104.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS o2</td> <td>Telephone</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">31.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS HMRC</td> <td>Q4 Employer Contributions</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">358.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Iden Green Pavilion</td> <td>Meeting hire</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Chris Knott Insurance</td> <td>Allotments</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">178.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Noticeboard Company</td> <td>Noticeboard</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1259.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS TW Counselling</td> <td>Donation</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS TP Jones</td> <td>Payroll Q4</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">63.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS F&C Cleaning</td> <td>Public Toilet Cleaning</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">336.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">4513.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reconciled with bank statement 093 31st March 2024</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">69467.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Approved April 2024 Payments</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DD Nest</td> <td>Pension</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">84.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS F&C Cleaning</td> <td>Public Toilet Cleaning</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">690.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Tompsett Landscaping</td> <td>Grounds Maintenance</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">156.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACS Employee</td> <td>Staffing Costs</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1113.81</td> </tr> </table>	Brought forward			68929.16	Income				Payee	Reference		Amount	UKSPF Grant	Allotments		3500.00	Donation	Wells Fundraising		50.00	WKPS	Wells Fundraising		1500.00	B&IG WI	Copying		1.80	TOTAL			5051.80	Expenditure				Supplier	Reference		Amount	DD Nest	Pension		84.55	Fee UTB	Bank Charge		18.00	DD Corporate Finance	Printer/Copier		178.80	BACS F&C Cleaning	Public Toilet Cleaning		690.00	BACS Edf	Public Toilet		93.58	BACS Employee	Staffing Costs		1104.22	BACS o2	Telephone		31.56	BACS HMRC	Q4 Employer Contributions		358.89	BACS Iden Green Pavilion	Meeting hire		16.00	BACS Chris Knott Insurance	Allotments		178.50	BACS Noticeboard Company	Noticeboard		1259.98	BACS TW Counselling	Donation		100.00	BACS TP Jones	Payroll Q4		63.40	BACS F&C Cleaning	Public Toilet Cleaning		336.00	TOTAL			4513.48	Reconciled with bank statement 093 31st March 2024			69467.48	Approved April 2024 Payments				DD Nest	Pension		84.55	BACS F&C Cleaning	Public Toilet Cleaning		690.00	BACS Tompsett Landscaping	Grounds Maintenance		156.00	BACS Employee	Staffing Costs		1113.81	
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BACS	edf	Public Toilets	99.72																											
TOTAL			3366.37																											
9. ENVIRONMENT & MAINTENANCE	<p><u>a. Beacon Field Wildflower Meadow</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk confirmed with KCC Principal Estates Surveyor that BPC accepts the proposed single contribution of £7,000 towards the planting and maintenance of the meadow and a draft lease is awaited. • Weeds will need dealing with soon but the ground is too wet and muddy at the moment. <p><u>b. Village Asset/Maintenance Report</u></p> <p>i. Parish Wells</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work has started on Iden Green Well. • Anthony Hicks has advised that about 75% of the root tiles are concrete and not Kent peg tiles. Some of the existing Kent peg tiles are damaged. In total more than 80% of the roof tiles will need to be replaced. Anthony Hicks to be asked to provide a quote for all Kent peg tiles, unless this been included in their original quotation. • There are 6 existing detailed tiles and these will be placed more prominently. • Anthony Hicks has moved the appeal banner to a more obvious position. • The Clerk has contacted Highways to ask about the erection of bollards at both Wells to protect the structures from vehicle damage and has requested work is carried out on the oak tree at Iden Green Well to make it safe. A response is awaited. <p>ii. Flagpole</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Hagan is in the process of obtaining 3 quotes for the work required to repair/replace the flagpole. • It was agreed to ask the PCC to make a financial contribution towards the cost of replacing the flagpole. <p>iii. Noticeboards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk has contacted KCC Highways to request permission to install a noticeboard inside Iden Green bus stop. A response is awaited. • The Clerk has chased delivery of the noticeboard for the Village Hall and this is due soon. <p>iv. Church Clock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 parishioners have worked hard to restore the hourly strike. The problem was progressive wear in the steel striking rack which governs the number and interval of the hourly strike, such that the revolving engagement tooth which connects with each tooth on each rotation, was starting to miss some of the teeth, with the result that the number of strikes at each hour became incorrect. Monitoring of the clock will continue and small adjustments made to the minute hand so that it synchronises on the hour with the striking. • BPC would still like the PCC/Clock Committee to set up a maintenance fund which BPC would contribute to annually. Cllr Hagan to take this up with the Clock Committee and the PCC. 	<p>PG</p> <p>GH</p> <p>CP</p> <p>GH</p>																												

Chairman..... Date.....

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions taken at the meeting.

	<p>c. Spring Village Tidy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A successful tidy took place on 23rd March with 26 volunteers on the day and another few who collected the week before and the day after. Rubbish collected included large car parts and everything was taken away promptly by TWBC. • BPC thanks all those who took part. <p>d. War Memorial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex Durnell continues to care for the War Memorial Garden. The grass has been mown and the beds turned over, but it remains too wet and cold for planting to take place. • It was agreed that Alex could expend up to £400 per annum on expenses relating to the upkeep of the garden without reference back to BPC. Receipts to be obtained and sent to the Clerk for reimbursement. • BPC is grateful for his work. 	
10. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS/ COMMUNITY	<p><u>a. Allotments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full report was circulated. • New items to note : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Grant bid submitted to Amity Allotment Fund for £1,900. ❖ 2 half size vacant plots. ❖ Plans to raise awareness and secure tenants for vacant plots underway. <p><u>b. Public Toilets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Grant has cleared a blocked drain, tightened the loose flush handle, and fixed the latch on the door so that it now closes by itself. • Cllr Grant has adjusted the flush from eco-flush to see if this resolves the blocking issues. • The door is not self-locking on the timer. The programme timer is working properly and the problem may lie with the override box and the loose lock barrel. Cllr Beveridge offered to assist Cllr Grant to open it up and see if it can be tightened. • London County Contracts will be fitting the extractor fan week commencing 22nd April. • Parish Councillors felt that the snagging issues should be referred back to the contractor for rectifying. • The Village Hall Manager is looking at the use of hall CCTV to cover the area. • Cleaning issues : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The cleaners wipe everything down and wash the floor, and have now been asked to dry the sanitary ware and the floor to keep the moisture down. ❖ The cleaners did not alert BPC to the block drain or the loose flush handle. ❖ It was agreed to contact F&C Cleaning and ask that BPC requirements are fully carried out. • <u>Storage Space</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Clerk has spoken to the Cricket Club and is in ongoing communication with them. ❖ Cllr Beveridge advised that a resident had spoken to The Grange and it is likely that they can help with Cricket Club storage. The Clerk to advise the Cricket Club ❖ An agreement between BPC and the Fete Committee for fete storage was agreed. The Clerk to clarify whether this should be in the name of the PCC or the Fete Committee. <p><u>c. Annual Assembly</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed that this would take place on Saturday 25th May, 2pm, at Iden Green Pavilion. 	<p>GB/PG</p> <p>CL</p> <p>CL CL</p>
11. CORRESPONDENCE/ PARISHIONERS' QUESTIONS	No other correspondence or questions.	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 20 th May 2024, 7pm, Iden Green Pavilion	
	The meeting closed at 9.05pm.	

C Levett, Clerk to Benenden Parish Councillor, 15th April 2024

Chairman..... Date.....

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