

FENNY BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Brenda Kirkham

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Unapproved Minutes a Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15 July 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Dining Room at the Coach & Horses, Fenny Bentley

Present: Cllrs: C Miller (Chair); K Croft (Vice-Chair), A Everitt, D Stone, S Wright, Cllr Nick Adams (DCC), Cllr Edwards-Walker (DDDC) and 1 Member of the Public. Clerk: Mrs B Kirkham.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests

The Chair declared an interest as a relative of the Clerk.

3. Invited comments from County & District Councillors and members of the public

Cllr Nick Adams the newly elected County Councillor introduced himself to the meeting. Councillors briefed Cllr Adams on several local issues, including the pedestrian bridge alongside the A515, potholes on Ashes Lane, speed of traffic, the road surface on the A515 and flooding issues in the village.

4. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on the 13 May 2025

The Council resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting held on the 13 May 2025 as a true record of that meeting.

5. Matters Arising from the last meeting

Clerk still needed to send a letter to the previous County Councillor. The Asset Register needed to be updated. **Action: Clerk**

6. Update on Planning Matters and Planning Applications for consideration at this meeting

A new planning application for Ashbourne Heights had been received, the company had applied to use an additional field for holiday accommodation; after discussion the Council resolved to have no objection to the proposals. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Adams was given an update on outstanding planning issues in the village, namely the Firs Wood application and planning proposals on land adjoining Valley View.

7. Progress on the pedestrian bridge over the river adjacent to the A515

There was no update available; Cllr Adams had viewed the bridge prior to the meeting. **Action: Clerk**

8. Highway & Planning matters – flooding/potholes/traffic/bridge

It was noted that the A515 had been marked out for repairs. The potholes on Ashes Lane had still not been repaired. The issue of flooding in the village was raised with Cllr Adams, the Coach & Horses was last flooded in October 2023. The new proposals from Ballidon Quarry to pump water from the quarry, which would eventually end up in the Bentley Brook, were noted, the Council had not been asked to formally comment on these proposals.

9. Housing Needs Update following site visit

There was no update available following the Housing Needs survey. Cllr Adams was given an update on the housing needs in the village and issues with Platform Housing Association.

10. Data from the Speed Indicator Device

There was no additional data available; sign to be changed to opposite direction in due course. **Action:**
Cllrs Wright & Croft

11. Financial Report & Administration:

a) Financial Statement

The balance in the current account was £5,689.88.

b) Items for approval and payment at this meeting

The Council resolved to approve payment of the following items:

Fenny Bentley Initiative	250.00
Landscape Maintenance Services (2 invoices)	145.20
Community Heartbeat Trust	198.00
Clerk's Salary - May	79.11
Clerk's Salary - June	104.11
HMRC	59.20

12. Clerk's Report & Correspondence

New audit regulations covering council websites, were to come into force next year, Clerk to obtain more information. All correspondence had been sent out by email.

13. Councillors Comments & Observations

- Speed on Ashes Lane had improved slightly, following the erection of the 20s Plenty signs, but delivery vans were often seen speeding.
- Cllr Adams gave an update on the Ashbourne Reborn project which should be finished by mid-November. The question of an Ashbourne Bypass was discussed and the implications this would have on local traffic and business.
- There were also discussions about the proposed local government reorganisation and how the County might be split into 2 unitary authorities

14. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in October unless there is any urgent business. Date to be confirmed.

Signed.....

Dated.....