

## BERDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 13th December 2021,  
8.00pm

Present: John Burton, Amanda Coomber, Duncan Murdoch, John Riddell, Ian Stumpf (8.10pm) Pete Hewitt, Laura Free ECC:Cllr Ray Gooding (8.30pm) Cllr Janice Loughlin (8.35pm) Public: Dilys Cranwell

252.0	<b>Apologies:</b> Diane Holt, Janice Loughlin will be late.
251.1	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Dilys Cranwell- Playground
252.2	<b>Public Participation.</b> Dilys Cranwell
252.3	<b>Ratify Decisions and Approve Minutes of last Berden Parish Council Meeting 8th<sup>th</sup> November 2021 &amp; 30th November 2021.</b> Approved & Signed
252.4	<b>Clerk's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Environment moved to report will revisit in spring.</li> </ul>
252.5	<p><b>Crabbs Green Battery Unit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No update.</li> </ul> <p><b>East End Battery Unit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Screening application has been decided. Not yet published. PC email to East Herts for clarification.</li> </ul> <p><b>Battles Farm Solar Facility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The first request for an EIA screening opinion has been declared as lapsed without Uttlesford making a decision.</li> <li>● The second request for an EIA screening opinion has been submitted but alongside the full planning application which does not contain an environmental assessment. A letter has been drafted to send to Uttlesford in this regard.</li> <li>● Request for more time to comment will be sent w/c 13th December.</li> <li>● Letter from BPC will go in before January. Short joint parish letter to be sent earlier.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stocking/Furneux Pelham Solar Facility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No application submitted to date. There have been 2 meetings in Furneux Pelham and 2 in Berden over the</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Park Green Solar Facility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No application to date. Possible Feb/March.</li> <li>● Car survey ongoing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Joint Parish Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No further meeting schedule but email to be sent just to jog memories and maybe a meeting early next year.</li> </ul> <p><b>General Comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dropbox ongoing for BPC use. Nothing added recently.</li> <li>● JR to draft a letter regarding the use of Solar panels on all future new builds in UDC as a possible plan going forward.</li> <li>● JL said that Nigel Brown has stated that they cannot ask developers to put Sp on new builds, why??</li> <li>● RG believes the reason is possibly they add no commercial advantage and are costly to install.</li> </ul>
252.6	<p><b>Finance Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review of Budget and all members agreed.</li> <li>● Diane was not present so it was a quick review.</li> </ul>
252.7	<p><b>Planning &amp; Environment.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stables on Dewes road did not apply for planning, JB to remind the owner that no planning was sought.</li> <li>● Cantlow House application has been granted although it is noted that the council stated that the PC did not make a comment which was untrue. Janice Loughlin to take this up with planning.</li> </ul>
252.8	<p><b>Playground Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trail Project- RG to donate £1000 from his fund. Ian has applied to the locality fund, we await the outcome.</li> <li>● DC has encountered difficulties since the equipment has been updated. DC feels that the position of the slide and the colour are extremely intrusive on her personal life, that you can see straight into the kitchen from the top of the slide and also the colour is so that you cannot get away from it.</li> <li>● There have been incidents of youths in the park in the early hours of morning, they have been shouting and shining lights through the windows which is very intimidating and frightening.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DC referred to comments made in 2018 in regard to the positioning of the equipment. The PC planted one tree as requested and will consider planting more in the spring. (To be added to the January agenda).</li> <li>● DC feels she isn't being listened to and feels she soon won't have any option only to move.</li> <li>● Possible solutions: Updates in the village magazine both positive &amp; negative, Signage</li> <li>● AC to visit DC to take a look and possibly pictures and PC will review in January.</li> <li>● PW to look at possible signage and wording.</li> </ul>
252.9	<p><b>Village Hall</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Joint meeting was postponed until the new year.</li> <li>● JR to speak to the committee regarding the condition of the chairs.</li> </ul>
252.10	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Speedwatch training is not scheduled for w/c 20-12</li> <li>● Ray has said that the new head is very proactive and the surgeries are beneficial. He was in the area w/c 13th December and hope is that he will be back late January.</li> <li>● VID/SID there is a lot of pros and cons to these. Ray feels the movable ones are more beneficial. It is believed that ECC pays a lot more for these than the PC. Is a grant available?</li> </ul>
252.11	<p><b>Footpaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Path 55 now cut back and is passable.</li> <li>● JB to review the winter management of the paths.</li> </ul>
252.12	<p><b>Uttlesford District Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Meeting set for 26th of January in Stansted. JB and possibly one other to attend. Possibly open to a smaller meeting.</li> <li>● Maggie Sutton possible meeting. TBC possible joint PC meeting or separate meeting?</li> </ul>

252.13	<b>Defibrillator</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Pads ordered</li></ul>
252.14	<b>Archive Storage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● No movement</li></ul>
252.15	<b>Benskins Notice Board</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● All agreed A2 is the correct size. PH to speak with Chris re costing to erect.</li></ul>
252.16	<b>Telephone Box</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Move to spring when weather is better</li></ul>
252.17	<b>Jubilee 3rd June</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The PC feel a celebration is needed, and needs to arrange finer details.</li></ul>
252.18	<b>Meeting Dates 2022</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Meeting dates now confirmed and sent to PH for publication.</li></ul>
252.19	<b>Cllr Loughlin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● New working groups formed.</li><li>● Consultants appointed to help staff and help with improving planning performance.</li><li>● Accounts not yet signed off.</li></ul>
252.20	<b>Cllr Gooding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Solar is a difficult issue as a country we need to find ways to improve our carbon emissions but also we do not want to destroy our countryside. Solar is possibly a step too far. Is what they give back enough to outweigh the impact on our local landscape.</li><li>● Health &amp; Social care bill is high on the agenda of ECC, this is a massive movement and can cause positive and negative effects.</li></ul>