

BENSON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, Wallingford. OX10 6LZ
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Minutes of the Benson Parish Council Finance Committee held on On Monday 10th April 2017 at 8:00PM in the Committee Room

Present:	Cllr P. Peers	(PP)
	Cllr J. Fowler	(JF)
	Cllr P. Baylis	(PB)
	Cllr McTeague	(TM)
Proper Officer:	Anna Field	(RFO)

1. **Apologies** - none

2. **Declarations of Interest** – None declared

3. **Public Session** – There were 2 members of the public present.

A member of the public referred to an article published in the Henley Standard and expressed concerns regarding possible restrictions to advanced bookings, limiting them to 6 months. They also expressed concern regarding a proposed move to hourly charging for Hall Hire.

Cllr Peers addressed these concerns stating the 6-month limit would not apply to parishioners and that both proposals were still under discussion; referring to item 7 on the current agenda.

Concern was also expressed over the padlocking of the school playing field. It was pointed out that if this is due to dog fouling the issue stemmed from access to the field from private gardens.

Cllr Peers explained that the Council were in touch with the Church Trustees and would relay the message and clarify the reasons behind the padlocking.

4. **Minutes of the last meeting** – The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14th March were approved.

5. **Online Banking:**

The Finance Regulations are to be reviewed at the next Finance Meeting.

Action: RFO to prepare mail merge in readiness for informing suppliers and customers of new banking arrangements

RFO

6. **Millstream Car Park:**

There has been no progress on the adoption of the Car Park by the Parish Council and SODC's position, on the adoption, is currently unclear.

Action: Clerk to request an informal meeting between the PC and SODC.

Action: Clerk to write to SODC to enquire about completion of repairs to the kerb in the car park

CLK

CLK

7. **Hall Hire Rates**

Recommendation to Full Council:

Hall Hire rates should move to an hourly rate from 1st May 2017, subject to all hirers being contacted in advance with an explanation and subject to phased increases for R&B Dance and Wallingford Artists; also, subject to special measures for the Bensington Society and the Youth Club.

Action: Clerk to send regular users sheet, phased proposals and new price list to all councillors. CLK

The six-month rule needs to be communicated to all potential hirers.

Recommendation to Full Council:

To apply a limit to Hall Bookings of six months in advance for non-parishioners and commercial & corporate only.

8. **Millstream Toilets Business Rates:**

RFO has registered for the VO online appeal system and is waiting for login details in order to progress an appeal

RFO

Action: RFO to progress

9. **Paddock – request to purchase:**

The council are not in a position to accept any offers to purchase the paddock.

Action: Clerk to inform interested party

CLK

10. **AOB**

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):

Benson Parish Council are due to receive 2 CIL payments of £810 and one of £8182.50. There are restrictions on how the funds can be spent but one suggestion is that they are put towards resolving parking issues in the parish.

Action: Clerk to request first payment be processed

CLK

Action: RFO to monitor receipt of first instalment

RFO

Play Equipment Grant

A Grant application is in progress. RFO to contact grants team regarding proof of title to playgrounds **Action:** RFO

RFO

Registration of Millbrook Mead and Green Close is required asap.

Action: JF

JF

11. **Date of Next Meeting:** 16th May 2017

Anna Field Responsible Finance Officer 13.04.2017