

Bentley Annual Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report 2025

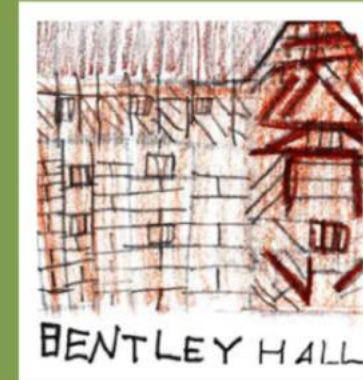


Bentley Neighbourhood Plan

- Our adopted Neighbourhood Plan is being used by Babergh to help determine planning applications
- With government increased housing targets, we need to review our plan to assess whether we need to allocate any housing sites.

BENTLEY

Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2037



**REFERENDUM
DECEMBER 2022**

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Review of Bentley Neighbourhood Plan

- Public drop in session on Saturday 8th March
- Well attended with lots of discussion
- Analysis of comments on Parish Council website
- Policies in our plan may need updating
- Housing numbers will need to be confirmed with Babergh
- Full formal public consultation of any proposed changes



Current Major Planning Applications

- **Solar Farm, Grove Farm –**

- Planning permission refused by Babergh on grounds of impact on heritage assets and landscape. The applicant does have the right to appeal.

- **Brockley Wood Quarry waste processing & concrete crushing –**

- Successful claim in the High Court by Bentley PC and a Bentley resident
 - SCC failed to consider the Valued Landscape and the planning permission was quashed.
- Plans have been resubmitted with
 - Additional woodland planting adjacent to the plant site.
 - Weight Restriction on Bentley Hall Road and Church Road to be paid for by the applicant
- Concerns remain over noise and visual impact of the plant site
- SCC meeting on Thursday 24th April to decide on the application

Affordable Housing in Bentley

- Small development of affordable housing being investigated
- Rented and low cost home ownership
- For people with a connection to Bentley
- Parish Council working with Hastoe housing association to find a suitable site outside the village boundary

Traffic Calming - HGVs

- A Weight Restriction has been agreed for Bentley Hall Road/Church Road as part of the Brockley Wood Quarry application
- Bentley PC is working with Suffolk Highways to install “Unsuitable for HGV” signs.

Traffic Calming - Speed Indicator Devices



- 2 SIDs one solar powered and the other battery operated are helping to reduce traffic speeds.
- 85% of traffic travelling at or less than 30 mph as they pass SID.
- More issues with traffic leaving village towards Capel.
- Plans to buy a solar panel for the battery operated SID to save on charging/charging batteries

Traffic Calming – Community Speed Watch

- Our current CSW coordinator has done an excellent job over the past 4 and a half years but is retiring.
- Many thanks to Cliff and his team for all their hard work.

We need our CSW to carry on! Interested?

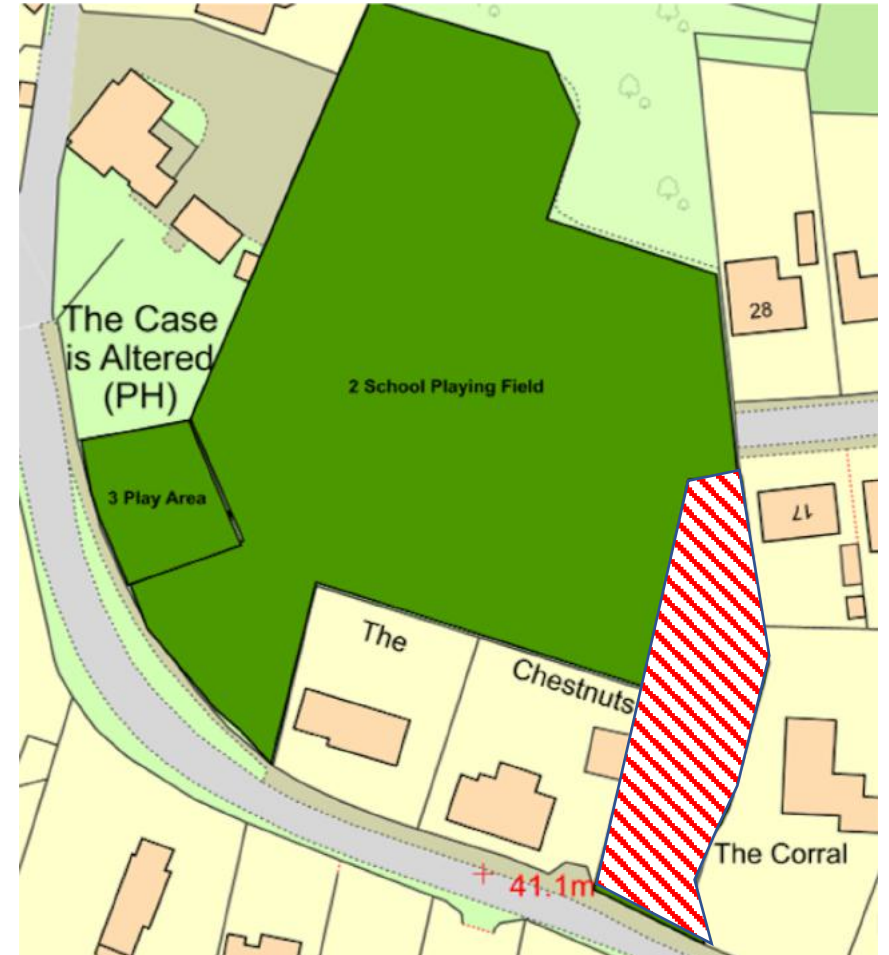
Contact our Clerk

Clerk@bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk



The Copse – improving biodiversity

- Planned improvements to this area
- Parish Council working on a “Land for Nature Recovery” scheme with Babergh to replant
- Land cleared thanks to a grant from Babergh. Native trees left to flourish.
- Long term project - an area people can walk through



Events on Playing Field

- Fireworks Display November
 - Great to see the return of this really popular event.
- Bentley School PTA Summer Fayre
 - PTA organising a Summer Fete to raise funds for the school on Saturday 21st June.
- Maritime FC not continuing but Brantham FC trialling use during the summer.
- Bentley PC have purchased Maritime's pavillion and storage unit using CIL money which can be used for events.

CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy

- Paid by developers – 15% paid to parishes but with a NP we get 25%
- For community to improve infrastructure
- Possible to get additional funding from District Council for large project.
- What the funds have been used for so far –

Deep aeration treatment Village Playing Field	Landscape Appraisal Review Report Solar Farm
2nd Speed Indicator Device (SID) and Pole	Conservation Area Appraisal
War Memorial Upgrade	Traffic Survey re HGV restrictions
Gym equipment 25% of cost (75% met by Babergh grant)	Maritime Pavillion & Storage units

Thanks to..

- Cllr Georgia Hall, our County Councillor for all her help with Highways and planning matters
- Cllr Dave Busby and Cllr Helen Davies, our District Councillors for all their support and advice with planning matters
- Our Clerk, Joy Scott whose sterling work helps support the the Parish Council in so many ways
- All the clubs and organisations in the village and
- The Village Hall Trustees for sharing half the costs with the PC for WiFi in the Village Hall
- Our Tree Warden, Footpath Warden, Speedwatch volunteers and all other volunteers who help make Bentley such a vibrant community

Special thanks to..



- Pam Rayment who has run the Bentley Parent and Toddler Group for over 40 years.
- Bentley Parish Council wish to recognize this amazing service to the village and would like to present to Pam a small gift as a token of our appreciation.

