

BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
Monday 3rd October 2016

Mr A. Cother	Chair
Mr P. Leijten	
Mr G. Bowsher	
Mrs G. Harman	
Mrs L. Rumens	Clerk
Mr K Chopping	District Councillor
Members of the public	15

67.

Public Forum.

A fifteen minute period for members of the public to raise matters of concern.

Barn Conversion, off Back Lane/Northview A gentleman spoke on behalf of the owner regarding plans to convert a barn into a four bedroom house. It is currently redundant, used as storage. He showed the Parish Council the plans in advance of submitting a planning application.

Village Speeding Issues A parishioner asked, is it possible to get an illuminated sign near the Six Bells/Bourne Lane to encourage drivers to slow down and give way. Mr Cother explained that this was discussed at the last meeting of the Council and that District Councillor, Keith Chopping was going to speak to West Berkshire Council's highways department about the matter. He was not present on this occasion. Mr Cother suggested that the Parish Council speak to them as well.

Aerial Nuisance A parishioner living in Webbs Lane has noticed light aircraft doing aerial manoeuvres and cutting their engines which is considered to be a nuisance. Mr Cother suggested that the Council investigate.

Preschool Concerns Paula Reed from Beenham Preschool asked what plans there were for addressing the overgrown fir trees behind the Community Room. Mr Cother reassured her that the Parish Council are looking into the options and will let the Preschool know what is planned before any action is taken.

Beenham Village Bus Services Matthew Metcalf, Transport Officer from West Berkshire District Council came to speak about the reduced bus services. He explained that following two consultation periods local bus service funding has been reduced by 60%. Average numbers for the Beenham services previous to the cuts were low. He acknowledged that the new service was 'not great'.

He also explained that proposed changes to services take 56 days to go through the traffic commissioner. He queried whether a car share to shuffle back and forth from the village and the half hourly Jet Black service that picks up on the A4 was feasible?

He added that there was hope that improvements can still be made, the Carebus may be able to provide an additional service on a Friday, picking parishioners up from their door.

A parishioner asked about where to find the information about services and was told they were currently putting together a new booklet. Mr Cother suggested that PC might be able to put timetables out with the Parish Notes.

Mr Cother urged parishioners to make sure that they are involved with the process of refreshing the Parish Plan because if bus services are considered a priority then the PC is duty bound to consider how they might help fund it. He also asked about interest in a link service from the village to the A4 which was considered favourably by those present

68. **Apologies for absence.**
Received from Mrs Liming, Mrs Johnson and Mr Chopping.
69. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 12th September.**
A discussion ensued about a point made by a parishioner and a minor amend was made to the minutes. They were then approved by the Chair with the agreement of the Council.
70. **Matthew Metcalf, West Berkshire Council Transport Officer, to speak regarding Beenham Bus Services**
This matter was discussed in the public forum.
71. **Register of Interests from Parish Councillors**
Nothing was declared
72. **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere. Parish Council Policies Update. Report from Mr Cother.**
- i. To be discussed at the next meeting
 - ii. **Review Risk Assessments. Information from Mr Cother.**
To be discussed at the next meeting
 - iii. **Parish Plan Refresh. Progress reports.**
Mrs Harman explained that plans for the public meeting on 13th October at 7:30pm are coming together well. Mrs Rumens offered to design a poster for the meeting if required. Mrs Harman also stated that lots of project meetings have been going on so things are progressing.
 - iv. **Agree Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2017**
To be approved at the next meeting to give Councillors a chance to check them.
73. **Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor**
Mr Chopping was not in attendance on this occasion.
74. **Planning.**
- i. **Applications for consideration: None**
 - ii. **Additional planning correspondence: 16/01637/FUL: Noted**
75. **Highways.**
- i. **A340 Basingstoke Road Canal Bridge (Prohibition of Driving for Maintenance Purposes) and Other Roads: Noted**
2016/17 Winter Service Plan – Consultation: Noted
 - ii. A discussion ensued about salt bins and it was decided that it was timely for Councillors to check the bins as previously allocated. Mr Cother to check the bins owned by West Berkshire Council. Mrs Rumens to follow up their ownership transferal.
76. **Environment**
- i. **Recreation Ground Goal posts. Consider sourcing new ones. Update Mr Leijten**
Mr Leijten reported that he had done some research and a pair of goals would cost in the region of £800. The current remaining goal is ok. Mr Leijten stated that movable goals are preferable. A subsequent discussion concluded that this needs to be looked at in a broader context of the Parish Plan refresh, after the public meeting in a couple of weeks. It was noted by Mr Cother that the Parish Council could also consider putting in a members bid to West Berkshire Council for match funding towards a new goal.

JL
JJ
AC
PL
LR

Work on the village playground. Update from Mrs Rumens.

- ii. Mr Leijten stated that the playground gate still needs attention at bottom closing end. Mrs Rumens to contact Triangle.

LR

Councillor's comments.

Mr Bowsher reported that the trees opposite school are hanging into the road. Mr Cother will report to streetcare.

AC

77. Mr Cother stated that the litter bins on The Wharf are being used by people living on barges on the canal and need emptying every couple of days. Mr Cother has been emptying it voluntarily for several years. He expressed the view that the bin could warrant removal if it continues to be abused.

78. **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere. District Parish Conference Invitation - 18 October 2016. Need to confirm attendance.**

Mr Cother, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Rumens to attend. All other Councillors to confirm to Mrs Rumens by 7th October if they also wish to attend.

Councillor Spackman from Woolhampton announced that their Parish Council will host Chief Executive of West Berkshire Council, Nick Carter, on 15th November at 7.30pm for a more in depth discussion regarding Devolution. The invitation is extended to Beenham Councillors who should confirm to Mrs Rumens if they wish to attend.

All

West Berkshire Council: Community Call to Action - Local events to help communities continue to thrive

These events have passed

Get Online Week Poster

Mrs Harman to ask Mrs Liming if this could be added to the Community Noticeboard.

GH

JL

Volunteers needed for the Libraries 'At Home' Service

Mrs Harman to ask Mrs Liming if this could be added to the Community Noticeboard. Mrs Johnson to please add to the Parish Notes and website.

GH

JL

JJ

79. **Finance.**

- i. **Receipts.** Noted

Payments:

HMRC	Taxes	£58.80
Triangle Management Services	Grass Cutting	£298.62
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Overtime	£78.37
Bradfield Printing	Parish Notes	£48.00
ii. Triangle Management Services	Repairs to village playground	£186.00
Axxell Limited	Website Hosting and Domain Name	£150.00
Mrs Lucy Rumens	NALC Pay Award Back Pay	£18.39
Nisbets Catering	Hand dryers	239.96
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Salary	£216.00
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary	£235.20

- iii. **Statement of Receipts & Payments:** Noted

- iv. **Other matters**

- i. **Updates on outstanding Community Room issues: Hand Dryers.** It was agreed to go ahead with replacing two hand dryers, one in each of the toilets, to be installed by Triangle who would also be asked to 'make good' the space occupied by the old dryer in the kitchen.

LR

Concern was raised by Mr Cother regarding Parish Council contractors being on the Lucy Rumens, Beenham Parish Clerk, 46 Maple Crescent, Newbury, RG14 1LR. Tel: 01635 45487
Email: theclerk@beenhamonline.org

school site and the possible need for them to declare their DBS clearance. Mrs Rumens to research how other Parish Councils have dealt with this issue.

ii. Lloyds Bank Administration Set Up, progress report Mrs Rumens.

Mrs Rumens has received a letter confirming the mandate form has been enacted on the account. It is hoped she will receive a bank statement this week.

iii. Annual Return Completion Update from Mrs Rumens. Set inspection periods.

Mazars have returned the signed Annual Return. The Council agreed on a period of 30 days from 10th October for parishioners to request to examine the final document.

80. **Date of the next meeting: Monday 7th November 2016.**