

# BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Mr A. Cother Chair  
Mrs J. Johnson  
Mr P. Leijten  
Mr G. Bowsher  
Mrs G. Harman  
Mrs L. Rumens Clerk  
Members of the public 3

Actions

## 81. Public Forum

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

A parishioner raised concern about cars/vans parking almost in the middle of the road on the junction of the green and Clay Lane and requested that someone raise this with the owners.

AC

Councillor James Spackman of Woolhampton raised the local drainage issues. Mr Cother stated that a parishioner mentioned it some months ago and was encouraged to contact Thames Water. Mr Spackman said a public meeting may be held in January to gather thoughts for Thames Water's consultation and that a representative of Beenham Parish Council would be welcome to attend. Mr Cother mentioned that the Aldermason Wharf residents group may be regathering soon.

## 82. Apologies for absence

From District Councillor Keith Chopping. Mr Cother reported that Mrs Liming, Vice Chair has officially resigned her post. Mr Cother said that he is very grateful to Mrs Liming for being Vice Chair and particularly for her efforts linked to the Parish Plan. She will be missed.

## 83. Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016

These were approved by the Chair with the agreement of the Council

## 84. Register of Interests from Parish Councillors

Mr Bowsher mentioned that he rents a unit to Vision SPV Ltd who had a planning application to be considered.

## 85. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

### i. Parish Council Policies Update.

#### a) Standing Orders, Mr Cother.

Following a review from Mrs Rumens of the legal requirements it is hoped that these will be adopted at the next meeting.

LR

#### b) Financial Regulations Mrs Johnson.

To be deferred to the next meeting.

### ii. Review Risk Assessments. Information from Mr Cother.

Mr Cother will review employee section and change the date by which VAT should be reclaimed. This should be adopted at next meeting.

AC

### iii. Parish Plan Refresh. Progress reports.

Mrs Harman reported that the footpaths survey had yielded useful feedback. Footpaths in Church View have been reported to be in poor repair. Mrs Harman to review. She will also look into a reported lack of dog bins Webb Lane into Whites Lane.

Mrs Johnson spoke about the grants from West Berkshire Council for parish plan projects. She would like to pull forward the projects recommended by the youth facilities group. She sought approval from the Council to apply for up to £5000 to facilitate one proposed project, to install a zip wire on the Recreational Ground.

GH

It was agreed Mrs Johnson should make the application and therefore also agreed that in principle the Parish Council will earmark £5000 (which would be needed in addition to the £500 grant) for associated costs. This would be officially ratified at such a time as the grant is successful and is subject to further feedback from parishioners and quotes being sought.

JJ

### iv. Agree Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2017.

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These were agreed.

- v. **A discussion about Christmas Event Preparations.**  
The Christingle Service is on 4<sup>th</sup> December so the Christmas tree needs to be up in advance. There will be a flyer, publicising associated events, funded by the Parish Council, in the next Church magazine. JJ
- 86. Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor**  
Mr Chopping sent his apologies
- 87. Planning.**
- i. **Applications for consideration:** 16/02878/FUL: no objection  
16/02528/FUL: objections were raised relating to the AONB, traffic movements, overdevelopment and visual impact.  
16/02720/HOUSE: no objection  
16/02737/HOUSE: no objection  
16/02662/FUL: no objection  
16/02882/FULD: 4 objections 1, non-objection: concern remains that service road traffic issues are not resolved
- ii. **Additional planning correspondence:** 16/01598/FUL: noted. 16/01951/HOUSE: noted.
- 88. Highways.**
- i. **Village Speeding Issues, Mr Cother to feedback information from West Berkshire Council**  
Mr Cother reported that he intends to speak to the Police Community Support Officer. AC
- ii. **Parish Salt Bins, update from Mrs Rumens.**  
West Berkshire Council have informed Mrs Rumens that the Parish Council now own all the salt bins in the parish. Part of this transferal process is that they will top up all the parish salt bins soon. The additions need adding to assets register. LR
- iii. **Closure of Back Lane 28th Oct to 25th Nov.**  
The closure is not in Back Lane, some confusion has been caused by this. Contact Gigaclear to explain situation. GH
- iv. **Aldermaston Bridge Closures:** Noted
- 89. Environment**
- i. **Aerial Nuisance, report from Mr Cother.**  
Mr Cother has written to the person responsible for Brimpton airfield. He quoted from "Noise considerations at GA Aerodromes" which recommends consultation with Parish Councils. No such communications have so far been received.
- ii. **Work on the village playground. Update from Mrs Rumens/Mr Leijten.**  
The playground gate has been repaired to a satisfactory standard. Mrs Johnson mentioned that bird fouling or the swings is still an issue and perhaps the Council should consider purchasing preventative equipment. GH/PL
- 90. Councillors' comments.**  
Mrs Johnson suggested Grundon should be thanked officially by letter for the donated daffodil bulbs. Mrs Rumens volunteered to do this. LR
- Mrs Johnson has been asked who will take over the Village Hall liaison, in light of Mrs Liming's resignation. Mr Cother agreed this needs to be considered.
- The lights outside the Community Room are not working, this is an ongoing issue. Mrs Johnson to approach the school about this. She will also follow up the reported problems with the socket outside the kitchen, which will be required for the Christmas tree. Mrs Johnson will also speak to preschool regarding issues with urinals. JJ
- Mr Bowsher reported that the trees opposite school still not cut. He will [report to Streetcare](#). GB
- Mr Leijten suggested that the Parish Council bear in mind that the existing village playground needs to be reviewed in the future, both in terms of maintaining the current provision and purchasing new equipment. The flooring will need to be done eventually.
- Mr Cother informed the Council that he attended the Berkshire Association of Local Councils' AGM. An increase to their subscriptions of 2p per elector was agreed. There was also a discussion about devolution and the realities of this in view of plans to cap the precept.
- Mr Cother mentioned further correspondence from Preschool regarding the trees outside the Community  
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Room. Following discussion an agreement was made in principle to follow procedures in order to have five conifers removed in the Easter school holidays. Mrs Johnson will mention this to preschool.

JJ

**91. Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.**

- i. **Newbury Weekly News: Over 80s Christmas Parcel Fund, consider request for donation.**  
It was agreed not to donate this year. It is disappointing that information regarding the number of people this would benefit in Beenham is not provided.
- ii. **Local Council Awards and the Devolution Agenda, email from Cllr James Spackman of Woolhampton:** Noted
- iii. **Rural Community Ownership Event – Hampshire, an invitation to attend:** Noted
- iv. **Transport Initiative within Parish Plan Refresh Project, email from a parishioner.**  
The email relates that a 'Carebus' service can be established between the village and Newbury once a week. The operator requires a £15 contribution to run the service. A £2 fare and a trial period to the end of the year is suggested. It is considered that the worst case financial scenario is that the service is in deficit to a total of £50 over ten weeks.  
  
The Parish Council was asked to commit to subsidising the service up to a maximum of £50 for the trial period of the remainder of this year. The Parish Council agreed.
- v. **Launch of West Berkshire's Library Service Review Consultation, invitation to take part:** Noted
- vi. **Invitation Poster for a Flood Fair in Pangbourne on 10th Nov, invitation to attend, request to help publicise:** Noted
- vii. **Letter from West Berkshire Council regarding the revaluation of Business Rates, effective 1<sup>st</sup> April:** Noted
- viii. **Letter from West Berkshire Council regarding CIL Parish Payments.**  
No payments are due to Beenham in 2016/17 as there have been no applicable developments. A discussion ensued regarding Neighbourhood Development Plans and their value as regards CIL payments.
- ix. **Carers Rights Day Event Poster:** Submit for Community Noticeboard.
- x. **District Conference Presentation PDF:** Mrs Johnson asked to be sent the presentation.
- xi. **West Berkshire District Council Budget Consultation (Closes 11<sup>th</sup> December)**  
Councillors to respond individually. Mrs Rumens to forward to Mr Cother for the Wharf noticeboard. Mrs Johnson to put on the website and submit for the community noticeboard.

JJ

LR

JJ

**92. Finance.**

**i. Receipts.**

SEPTEMBER	Lettings	£424.38
	Lettings	£33.00
	Precept	£7,000.00
	Lloyds Bank	£0.91
	Preschool	£221.38
	Bank Compensation	£87.00
OCTOBER	Lloyds Bank	£0.91
	Preschool	£322.00
	Lettings	£63.50
	Lettings	£141.38

**ii. Payments**

HMRC	Taxes	£58.80
Bradfield Printing Limited	Parish Notes	£48.00
Mazars LLP	Audit Fees	£150.00
Beenham Surgery Run	Surgery Run Expenses	£65.00
Beenham WI Litter Picking	Litter Picking	£200.00
Triangle Management Services	Grass Cutting	£298.62
Triangle Management Services	Hand Drying Installation	£204.00
Mrs J Johnson	Reimbursement for meeting refreshments and paint for maintenance.	£65.43
Mrs T & Miss Palmer	Allotment Rental	£225.00
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Overtime	£78.37

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Mrs Lucy Rumens	Expenses	£3.25
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Salary	£216.00
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary	£235.20

iii. **Statement of Receipts & Payments.**

iv. **Other matters**

i. **Updates on outstanding Community Room issues:**

a) **New hand dryers installation.**

Mr Cother is pleased with the new equipment and thanked Mrs Harman for selecting them. Preschool have also reported that they are happy with them.

b) **consider Triangle's quote for 'making good' the kitchen wall.** This will be deferred for now

c) **DBS Clearance for contractors.**

Mrs Rumens has advised councillors that advice she has received recommends the Parish Council should be using DBS cleared contractors in the community room. And the Parish Council should be getting copies of contractors' Public Liability documents as part of contracting work with them.

Subsequent discussion concluded that for now this is covered in the risk assessment but may need to be considered again at a later date.

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

Still to receive an automatically generated monthly statement for the current account. Mrs Johnson to check that they aren't being sent to the Community Room and ending up with the school.

JJ

iii. **Update on Budget/Expenditure, Mrs Johnson**

As it was getting late it was agreed to defer this item to the next agenda. Mrs Rumens suggested permanently moving Finance up the agenda and this was agreed.

LR

93. **Date of the next meeting, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**