

BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th February 2017

Mr A. Cother Chair
Mrs J. Johnson
Mr P. Leijten
Mrs G. Harman
Mrs L. Rumens Clerk
Members of the public 5

Actions

120 Public Forum.

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

Two parishioners enquired about how the Parish Council intends to share their aspirations for facilities on the Rec. They were informed that there are plans to hold a meeting on the Rec on Saturday 25th March between 1-3pm where residents could discuss the proposals and share their concerns. All will be welcome; those closest to the Rec will receive direct invitations. One resident voiced strongly that she did not want a zip wire on the Rec, she is worried about the privacy and also a detrimental effect on the value of surrounding houses. She questioned members about how it came to be proposed. She was told that the Parish Plan, drawn up in 2010 revealed residents' desire for more youth facilities. A more recent survey aimed at 11-16 year olds, the results of which can be made available, highlighted a number of preferred facilities, a few of which were discounted on issues of practicality and safety. There was also a public meeting in October where plans and concerns were discussed. When questioned about the safety of zip wires it was agreed that no play equipment was without risk but that it was not deemed to be excessively dangerous.

A parishioner asked if the Parish Council could do anything about dangerous parking on the corner of the Strouds, impairing visibility. During the weekend a van was obscuring the pavement. The Chair suggested that the Parish Council could leave a note on the vehicles involved. The parishioner asked if there was a case for double yellow lines being instated and was informed that it was potentially some the Parish Council could lobby for.

AC

The Parish Council was addressed with regards to it having no representative on the Beenham Events Committee. One councillor expressed disappointment that the forthcoming meeting was to be held at the same time as a meeting about Greyfield Woods. She said she had heard people express an interest in being involved with events and concern that there might not be a fete. It was resolved that Mrs Harman would represent the Parish Council on the Events Committee.

Mrs Liming updated everyone on progress in refreshing the parish plan. Three surveys, for separate issues, have been conducted so far, targeting specific groups. More work will be done to 'bottom out those results and achieve a more representative sample. Another questionnaire to address outstanding issues is planned for distribution in March with a view to getting results in by end of April. A new "Tea Room" event has been held in Working Mens Club. It to be repeated on the last Tuesday of the month, 2-4pm. It is intended to be a hub for people getting together and sharing local information and advice.

121 Apologies for absence.

Received from Mr Bowsher and Mr Chopping.

122 Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th January 2017.

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

123 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors.

None were declared.

Signed



29/03/17

Lucy Rumens, Beenham Parish Clerk, 46 Maple Crescent, Newbury, RG14 1LR. Tel: 01635 45487
Email: theclerk@beenhamoline.org

124 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere. Parish Council Policies. Report from Mr Cother.**

- i. Following further insertions by Mrs Rumens, Mr Cother said he was happy for these to be circulated with a view to ratifying them at the next meeting.

LR

Parish Plan Refresh Updates

Having looked further at the footpaths on the Rec it has been identified that drainage of parts of the path need addressing before resurfacing. A verbal quote has been given for the £3450 to complete the works required.

- ii. This needs to be obtained in writing and two further quotes need to be received. Mrs Rumens to send Mrs Harman the quote received in 2016.

LR
GH

A contact responsible for path between High Wood and Greyfield Wood has been found and needs to be followed up.

GH

125 **Finance.**

Receipts.

- i. Noted and summarised by the Chair

Payments

HMRC	Taxes	£58.80	
Marion James	Beenham Surgery Runs, Oct- Dec	£62.50	Local Government Act 1972 s137
Beenham W.I.	Litter Picking	£200.00	Local Government Act 1972 s137
Bradfield Printing Limited	Parish Notes	£21.00	Local Government Act 1972, s.142
ii. Mr Ian Johnson	Reimbursement for a contribution to the Carebus service	£36.00	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, ss.26-29
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Overtime	£52.74	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Mileage	£17.02	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Salary standing order	£225.26	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary standing order	£235.20	Local Government Act 1972, s.133

Statement of Receipts & Payments.

- iii. Noted and summarised by the Chair. It was observed that the school still haven't invoiced us for property contributions; this is large portion of parish funds the Parish Council are anxious to pay in year.

iv. **Other matters**

AC
LR

a) Parish Council Insurance 2017/18

Mr Cother will look into this. Mrs Rumens to forward him the relevant documents.

b) West Berkshire Council - Library Review. Parish Council to consider a request for £1155 contribution. Update from Mr Cother and Mrs Rumens.

Mr Cother summarised the situation so far, Beenham Parish Council have been asked to contribute to the cost of library services, the Berkshire Association of Local Councils (BALC) has advised caution on legal grounds. There has been much communication between BALC, West Berkshire Council and parishes. Mr Cother noted that Chieveley Parish have declared they will not be contributing on point of principle, ie libraries should be funded by district not parish. Mrs Rumens presented the council with library usage statistics for Beenham residents. A discussion ensued about whether it was right for Beenham parish to contribute and whether the funds would be beneficially spent for Beenham residents. West Berkshire Council's offer to come and discuss plans with the Parish Council were noted and it was agreed to invite them to attend. Mrs Rumens to arrange.

LR

c) Updates on outstanding Community Room issues

A twin RCD socket has been damaged and needs replacing in kitchen. Mrs Rumens to ask Triangle to look and quote. Mrs Johnson to ask Preschool not to use the portable heater in the Community Rooms as it is contrary to the risk assessment.

LR

The Parish Council should look to get the fir trees outside the Community Room removed during the Easter Holidays. Mrs Rumens to obtain further quotes. Mrs Johnson to supply Mrs Rumens with the one quote received so far, liaise with school and to show prospective contractors the site, preferably over school half term.

LR
JJ

JJ

Signed

Lucy Rumens

29/03/17

Community Room charges should be reviewed in a separate meeting. Recommendations will be made at a future full Council Meeting. Mrs Johnson to arrange the initial meeting.

126 **Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor**

Mr Chopping sent his apologies for this meeting.

127 **Planning.**

- i. Applications for consideration: 16/03633/HOUSE: no objections
16/03313/FULMAJ: no objections
- ii. Additional planning correspondence: 16/03063/PACOU: noted
16/02985/MDOPO: noted

128 **Highways.**

- i. **Notification of Roadworks: M4 Junctions 12 to 13: Redhill:** Noted
- ii. **The revised 41 & 44 Local Bus Timetable for Beenham** Publication of the revised bus timetable will accompany the parish notes.

129 **Environment.**

- i. **Broken dog waste bin, Bourne Lane. Update from Mrs Harman.**
The 'new' bin is installed and operational.
- ii. **Playground bird fouling preventative equipment. Update from Mr Leijten**
Equipment has been received and will be installed shortly, weather permitting. Mr Cother offered his assistance.
- iii. **2017/18 Grass Cutting Contract. Update from Mrs Rumens**
Two quotes were reviewed and it was decided to pursue a contract with AD Clark.

PL
AC
LR

Councillors' comments.

130 On Back Lane, a tree, originally planted by the Parish Council has been knocked down by a car. There has been a request that it be replaced, it would require adequate protection.

The WI have reported that village litter bins are being used inappropriately. Mrs Rumens to investigate the installation of formal signage.

LR

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

- i. **Correspondence regarding previous clerk's outstanding invoice**
It was agreed to pay £50 as Beenham's contribution towards this.
- ii. **Marie Curie Request - Free Will Writing Campaign.** Forward to Mrs Liming
- iii. **Email from West Berkshire Council: Electoral Review of West Berkshire: Warding Arrangements:** Mrs Rumens to request an electronic copy of the poster
- iv. **Email from West Berkshire Council: Library Service Review:** Discussed above
- v. **Email from West Berkshire Council: District Parish Conference - Tues 21 March 2017**
Mrs Rumens to confirm attendance from herself, Mr Cother and Mrs Johnson.
- vi. **Email from West Berkshire Council: Consultation to agree School Term Dates for 2018/19:** Noted
- vii. **Letter from West Berkshire Council: Cold weather leaflets for distribution:** Some for distribution in Six Bells and Mrs Harman to pass some to Mrs Liming
- viii. **Letter from West Berkshire Council: WBC Winter Energy Switching Scheme:** Noted.

LR
LR
LR
LR
LR

132 **Date of the next meeting, Monday 6th March, 7:00pm.**

Mrs Johnson gave her apologies in advance.

Signed



29/03/17