

BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 4th December

Mr G. Bowsher (GRB) Chair
Mrs J. Johnson
Mrs G. Harman
Mrs S Jones
Mr G. Bragg (GEB)
Mr P. McEwen Taking the minutes

Members of the public 1

96 Public Forum.

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

It was pointed out that comments on proposed changes to parliamentary boundaries close in one week. It was asked if this could be posted on Facebook.

97 Apologies for absence. Received from Mr Chopping

98 Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2017

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

99 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors

No interests were recorded.

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

i) Parish Council Policies Update – Nothing to report this month

ii) Parish Plan Updates – Nothing to report this month

iii) Rural Exemption Sites – Deferred to next meeting

iv) Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries Review – Following a discussion it was agreed that Mr McEwen would post comments on the commission website. It seemed illogical that Aldermaston Wharf might be in two (or three) constituency, but nobody from the Wharf had commented to the Parish Council.

101 Finance

Mr McEwen is handling the finances until a new Clerk is appointed. The Finance Report dated 27 November 2017 was tabled.

i) Receipts. Payments from Pre-school have now been received.

ii) Payments

Jackie Johnson	Paint for Community Room Fence	£11.00	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Nisbets	6 folding tables for the Community Room	£705.52	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
AD Clark Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting	See below*	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Axxell	Website hosting and domain name registration	£150.00	Local Government Act 1972, s.142
Bradfield Printing Ltd	Parish Notes	£57.60	Local Government Act 1972, s.142
HMRC	Taxes	£54.60	
Jackie Homick	Salary discrepancy	£50.45	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Jackie Homick	Back Pay	£35.35	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Lucy Rumens	Overtime	£127.43	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Lucy Rumens	Mileage	£9.40	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Mrs Lucy Rumens	Salary	£216.00 SO	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary	£235.20 SO	Local Government Act 1972 s112
Caloo Ltd	Outdoor Gym Equipment Chest Press & Parallel Bars	£4787.40	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Zurich Municipal	Amendment to policy for rec	£94.57	
Jackie Homick	Cleaning materials	£10.97	

* A discussion ensued about the Grass Cutting Contract and the recent invoice relating to this. It was concluded that the total payment should not exceed the lump sum stated in the contract. Mrs Harman would speak to AD Clark and ask for the invoice to be resubmitted.

iii) Statement of Receipts & Payments.

iv) Other matters

a) Community Room Issues:

i) Registration of Community Room as an Emergency Shelter

It was agreed that no action would be taken until a firm request was received.

ii) Current maintenance issues

The fence has been painted. It was agreed that a contractor should be asked to clear the gutters and to repair a broken door.

The heating in the hall is causing problems. The new system has not been adequately commissioned and training has not been given. It was agreed that WBC and the supplier would be contacted.

iii) Replacing the tables. The tables have been ordered, and will be delivered when payment is made.

b) Draft Budget for 2018/19

PM tabled a draft budget for next year, and invited comments from councillors. The precept for next year should be agreed at the next meeting.

A councillor said that the precept for 2017/18 had been increased by £1,200 to include a contribution to WBC for libraries. This contribution has not yet been made, as clarification has

been sought from WBC. If the payment is not to be made, then it was suggested that the precept should be reduced accordingly.

c) Discuss and vote on a request for donation to Newbury Weekly News Over 80's Christmas Parcel Fund

After discussion and a vote it was agreed that the council would not contribute to this fund, which was primarily aimed at businesses.

101 Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor

Mr Chopping had sent his apologies.

102 Planning.

i) Applications for consideration:

17/03088/FULMAJ	Land at The Vinyard, Beenham Hill Change of use of land to equestrian	No objection for land, but change of use should not extend to the house and buildings.
17/03065/FULD	Rising Sun Inn, Bath Road (in Woolhampton Parish) Erection of 5 houses	No objection

ii) Additional planning correspondence:

Decision notice 17/02706/HOUSE, 17/01609/CERTE, 17/01613/CERTE, 17/01687/CERTE, 17/02659/HOUSE & Appeal Ref: APP/W0340/W/17/3179985 - Noted

103 Highways.

Parish Grit Bins

It was agreed that each councillor would inspect one or two bins, and report back on the need for replenishment.

104 Environment

i) Damage to Rec Boundary.

Two wooden posts on roadside at the rec have been uprooted. It was agreed that Stuart Brown should be asked to reinstate.

ii) Recreation Ground Footpaths, bid for funding.

Mr Bowsher and Mr Bragg to follow this up with Mr Chopping.

iii) Trees maintenance required on the Rec.

The trees in question are under a tree protection order. Mrs Harman has the form, and will submit an application.

105 Councillors' comments.

The Conditions of Employment for the cleaner are being prepared.

Mr Bragg agreed to action an advert for the vacancy for a councillor.

The playground equipment was now complete, and a summary of the costs and funding was available. It was proposed to hold an opening ceremony on 13 January.

A bag of daffodil bulbs has been offered by Grundons. It was agreed that this year the bag would be given to Aldermaston Wharf.

The council thanked everyone involved in the Christmas Tree: in particular Beenham Investment Group for providing the tree; Adam Bowsher and Harry Larkcom for erecting it; and Beenham Village Events for the lighting ceremony.

106 Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

- i. Police and Crime Commissioner 'Let's Hate Hate' campaign
- ii. West Berkshire Council Letter: Beenham - CIL Settlement Letter
- iii. West Berkshire Council Email: Increased risk of burglary
- iv. Letter: Notification of external auditor appointments for the 2017-18 financial year
- v. West Berkshire Council Email: Thinking Together event - Action for Mental Health
- vi. Email: Aldermaston Wharf Public Toilets
- vii. West Berkshire Council Email: Public Protection Community Fund now open!
- viii. Email from West Berkshire Council: West Berkshire Library Service / Update for parishes
- ix. Email from West Berkshire Council: FW: Falls Prevention material & Stay Well This Winter material
- x. The Future of Pangbourne Police Station

107 Date of the next meeting: Monday 8th January 2018