

# BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 03<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2018

Mr G. Bowsher (GRB) Chair  
Mrs J. Johnson (JJ)  
Mrs G. Harman (GH)  
Mr Peter McEwen (PM)

Mr. K. Chopping (KC) District Councillor

Mr. S. Morbi (SM) Clerk to Beenham Parish Council

Members of the public 6

## **053 Public Forum.**

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

Emptying of litter bins was raised again and the parish council have decided to pay WBC to have these emptied.

Speeding was raised by parishioner and while the parish council did not think flashing signs would make much difference, the parish council will again speak to WBC to see what can be done.

## **054 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies Councillor Bragg (GB) and Mr. G Sterling (GS)

## **055 Minutes of the last ordinary parish meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018**

Minutes were signed by the chairman.

## **056 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors**

No interests were recorded.

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

- i) Councillor Harman had received a proposal from WBC stating they would collect various Non-Domestic waste at a cost. The parish council decided that it was most probably the best was forward and asked councillor Harman to arrange the contract with WBC.
- ii) A vacancy for the parish councillor still exists and if any parishioner is interested please contact Beenham parish clerk or one of the councillors. This item to remain as an agenda item until such time the vacancy has been filled.

## **058 Highways**

- i) Councillor Bragg to report progress at the next meeting.

## **059 Finance**

The clerk gave an update on current finances as follows

### i) Receipts.

Beenham Pre-School	Lettings -	£560.00
Other Community Room	Lettings -	£91.50
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£651.50</b>

### ii) Payments

Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary (250.83) S/O	£248.63
HRMC	PAYE Tax	£82.80
AD Clark	Grass Cutting	£220.00
Business Waste	Waste Collection	£31.20
Bradfield Printing	Parish Notes	£30.00
AES	Tree cutting	£681.60
CCB	Membership	£30.00
T Stares	Internal Audit	£225.00
Seif Morbi	Home Office Allowance	£18.00
Seif Morbi	Clerk's Pay	£189.38
<b>Total Outgoing</b>		<b>£1727.01</b>

<b>BALANCE AT BANK.</b>		
Current Account Balance at 01 Aug 2018		£4,060.68
Deposit Account Balance at 01 Aug 2018		£21,394.98
<b>Total Balance</b>		<b>£25,455.66</b>

The clerk confirmed that the latest bank statement had not been received at the time of the meeting.

### 060 Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor

Councillor Chopping confirmed that he contacted various departments, concerning complaints received from parishioners regarding aircraft aerobatics and the nuisance it is causing. However, it seems there is little that can be done accept to record times / dates / durations etc and report the matter direct to Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) via their website at [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk)

WDC reports that £50.00 take up on green waste collection has been very good.

### 061 Planning.

#### i) Applications for consideration:

Representative from Copas Brothers (Farms) Ltd was present to give the parish council details on their proposals regarding planning application 18/01733/PACOU – Beenham Grange. Change of use from office space to 11 flats for rent (5 x 1 Bed, 6 x 2 Beds) Parish council discussed and voted not to object to the application, but expressed their concern at the risks faced by those who may wish to walk to the train station or bus stops on A4 due lack of a safe footpath.

Planning application 18/02001 - Chowdry Farm Grange Lane. The parish council voted

to object to this application as it viewed the building was too big for the size of the field.

Planning application 18/02053 – Beenham Car Sales - application to extend hours of working. The parish council voted not to object this application.

## **062 PC Projects**

### **i) Community Hall / School Hall –**

Beenham Pre-school use the Community Room every week-day in term time, until 2:45pm. They currently have to clear away each afternoon, but they have asked if they can leave their equipment out overnight if the room was not booked. The room would be cleared every Friday. The PC was sympathetic to the Pre-school request, but were concerned that it may discourage other potential users. The Pre-school said they could not afford to pay the full rate for the periods that the room was unoccupied, but will advise what rate they would be willing to pay after checking with their finance officer.

The school are planning to install a new Wi-Fi system, and this will be extended so that Wi-Fi internet should be available the hall and Community Room (if all goes to plan). There will be an initial installation cost of approximately £90.00 for the community room which the parish council agreed to pay.

Discussions are continuing with the school to improve the lighting in the hall.

### **ii) Footpaths**

PC has a small budget to improve the footpaths each year. It can't all be done at once, but we would like to make list of the most urgent works. The main work for this year will be to resurface the path on the Rec next to the road, and to drain the flooded area by the tables. Other priority works are:

- 1 High Woods – resurface the muddy areas
- 2 Path from High Wood to Greyfield – drain the swamp (this looks like a big job).
- 3 Path from Wicken's Corner to the Church – repair retaining wall on downslope.
- 4 Path from Beenham House to Southend – provide dry crossing at dip.
- 5 Beenham Grange to A4 – provide a footpath on verge.

Any comments or additional works are welcome ([peter.mcewen2@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.mcewen2@btinternet.com)), but please be realistic. We would all like a footpath on Beenham Hill, but this is unlikely for a very long time.

## **063 Standing Orders / Financial Authority**

### **064 Councillors' comments**

PM – No issues

GH – Loose concrete around some play equipment need looking into.  
There will be no invoice for grass cutting for the month of Aug.

JJ – Inquired if letter to community room cleaner had been sent.

GRB – Confirmed litter picking was currently on hold. The chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting.

## **065 Date of the next meeting: 07:00pm Monday 01<sup>st</sup> October 2018**