

BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 01st Oct 2018

Mr G. Bowsher (GRB) Chair
Mrs J. Johnson (JJ)
Mr G. Bragg (GB)
Mr Peter McEwen (PM)

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

Members of the public 8

066 Public Forum.

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

Robin Edwards who had previously prepared a comprehensive report on neighbourhood development plan was at hand to explain aspects of the report. It was deemed that the resources needed (both in time and money) outweighed any benefits for the parish. It would be preferable to actively engage with the consultation process for the emerging Local Plan for West Berkshire. It was also decided to discuss this matter further in the next meeting.

067 Apologies for absence.

Apologies Councillor Harman (GH) and Mr. G Sterling (GS)

068 Minutes of the last ordinary parish meeting held on Monday 3rd Sep 2018

Minutes were signed by the chairman.

069 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors

No interests were recorded.

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

- i) 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.
- ii) The chairmen on behalf of the parish council thanked Beenham WI (BWI) for the continued efforts for the village and the parish council agreed to donate £400.00 to BWI.
- iii) As per notes above in item 066 neighbour development plan will be discussed again in the next meeting.

071 Highways

- i) Councillor Bragg reported that he had contacted WBC. The following matters were raised.
 - a) Parking on footpaths forcing pedestrians into the road (Stoneyfield, Back Lane, Picklepythe Lane)
 - b) Dangerous parking at road junctions (The Strouds, Back Lane/Stoneyfields)
 - c) Excess speeds at corners in Back Lane and at top of hill, citing accidents
 - d) Grass needing cutting urgently on A4 central reservation at bottom of Beenham Hill
 - e) White lines in desperate need of repainting, particularly at Beenham Hatch (The Avenue)
 - f) Encroachment onto highway outside 'Farthings' (the old shop)While items such as painting the white lines were actioned upon, other items are being considered by WBC. Councillor Bragg will monitor the situation and chase WBC where necessary.

072 Finance

The clerk gave an update on current finances as follows

i) Receipts.

Beenham Pre-School	Lettings -	£492.00
Other Community Room	Lettings -	£465.50
Total Receipts		£957.50

ii) Payments

Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary (255.70) S/O	£248.63
HRMC	PAYE Tax	£84.00
Marion James	Surgery Run (July)	£55.00
Bradfield Printing	Parish Notes	£30.00
Business Waste	Collection of Community Hall Waste	£31.20
Seif Morbi	Office Allowance	£18.00
Seif Morbi	Clerk's Pay	£189.38
Mrs J Homick	Cleaning Materials	£10.83
SBS Ltd	Boiler Services	£60.00
Total Outgoing		£727.04

BALANCE AT BANK.		
Current Account Balance at 28 th Aug 2018		£4,029.97
Deposit Account Balance at 09 th Aug 2018		£21,395.89
Total Balance		£25,425.86

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

Councillor McEwen will present a 6 month budget review at the next meeting.

073 Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor

Councillor Chopping was not at the meeting.

074 Planning.

i) Applications for consideration:

The Barn, Hillfoot Cottage, Beenham Hill. Objection. The revised proposal is much bigger than the original application, and is no longer a replacement of an existing barn.

7, Mallard Way, Aldermaston Wharf. No comment.

Wayround, The Stocks. PC noted that the application was for a self-contained annex, but they had no objection.

075 PC Projects

i) Community Hall / School Hall –

Beenham Pre-school have requested permission to leave their equipment in the Community Room on nights when the Room is not booked by others. They have agreed to pay an additional amount for this. Parish Council have proposed a trial period of 3 months, for 2 nights each week.

The school have installed a new Wi-Fi system, including a router in the Community Room. However, following a review of the license for the wi-fi it seems likely that wi-fi will only be available to the Pre-school and the PC (i.e. not public access).

School Hall Lighting

Many of the fluorescent tubes in the School Hall need replacement, and lighting levels are currently low. The school does not have a budget for this work. The PC will discuss this matter with WBC, and will also consider the option of replacement with LED lights.

Centenary of the End of WW1

Parish Council agreed to purchase a "Silent Silhouette", which is available from the British Legion, as a symbol to say Thank You to the generation that lived through the Great War. It will be erected somewhere in the village.

Parish Council also thanked parishioner Chris Curry for all his efforts on the biography of the 27 men from our parish. Details of these men have been published in various monthly parish notes.

Some other events are being organised by BVE and the Church: watch out for details.

ii) Footpaths

PC has a small budget to improve the footpaths each year. Councillor McEwen will discuss this matters further after receiving quotes for the works.

075 Councillors' comments

PM – Aircraft noise issue – no joy from CAA

GB – None

JJ – None

GRB –The chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 21:20

076 Date of the next meeting: 07:00pm Monday 05th November 2018