

# BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 05<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018

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

Mr. K. Chopping (KC) District Councillor  
Mr. S. Morbi (SM) Clerk to Beenham Parish Council

Members of the public 6

### 077 Public Forum.

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

A parishioner inquired if the council will replant the tree at Back Lane that had been knocked down by a vehicle. Councillors confirmed that the tree will be replanted.  
Parishioner also expressed her concern at speeding in Back Lane. Driving fast round the various tight bends. Various options have been discussed and KC will also raise the matter with highways authority at WBC. KC advised all that speed bumps are no longer popular with the highway's authority.  
A parishioner with past experience as a councillor mentioned the advantages of Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and he volunteered his services if required. The parish council acknowledged that there were advantages for NDP but it was deemed to be too onerous in time and resources and it was more advantages to engage with WBC in the forthcoming local plan.

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### 078 Apologies for absence.

Apologies from Councillor Harman (GH). Councillor Sterling (GS) had earlier sent his resignation from the parish council due other commitments.

### 079 Minutes of the last ordinary parish meeting held on Monday 01<sup>st</sup> Oct 2018

Minutes were signed by the chairman.

### 080 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors

No interests were recorded.

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

- i) We now have two vacancies for parish councillors. Any parishioners 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. Note
- ii) Parishioner Robin Edwards had previously prepared an extensive report on NDP. The parish council expressed their gratitude for his time and effort. The parish council voted 4-0 not to develop NDP, but to accept the suggestion to engage with WBC in the emerging Local Plan for West Berkshire. PM  

The proposal for councillor McEwen to lead a working group of councillors and volunteers who will put their findings to the parish council for decision was also voted 4-0. The parish council in turn will lobby WBC on behalf of the Parish. PM
- iii) Surgery Run continuing and no further discussion was required. Note
- iv) Grundon have donated daffodil bulbs to the parish and various areas around the village have been chosen for planting these with couple of councillors volunteering to help. Note

## 082 Highways

- i) Parking around Stoneyfield was raised again and the chairman will talk to garage owners regarding this issue. It is believed this should be resolved soon as the garage is looking at alternatives.
- ii) Councillor Bragg chasing highways authorities on various items, i.e. speeding, signage etc.
- iii) A4 junction – KC to put forward the petition at the WBC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

GRB

GB

KC

## 083 Finance

The clerk gave an update on current finances as follows

### i) Receipts (received in September).

Beenham Pre-School	Lettings -	£0.00
Other Community Room	Lettings -	£73.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£73.00</b>

### ii) Payments for Oct

Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary (255.70) S/O	£248.63
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Shortfall on standing order	£25.14
HRMC	PAYE Tax	£84.00
Marion James	Surgery Run (July - Sept)	£57.50
BWI	Grant	£400.00
Bradfield Printing	Parish Notes	£84.00
Business Waste	Collection of Community Hall Waste	£31.20
Seif Morbi	Office Allowance	£18.00
Seif Morbi	Mileage	£5.40
Seif Morbi	Clerk's Pay	£189.38
AD Clark	Grass Cutting	£110.00
Chris Curry	WW1 Silhouette	£150.00
Mrs T & Miss Palmer	Allotment Rent	£225.00
<b>Total Outgoing</b>		<b>£1,628.25</b>

<b>BALANCE AT BANK.</b>		
Current Account Balance at 01 Oct 2018		£2,055.60
Deposit Account Balance at 10 Sep 2018		£21,396.83
<b>Total Balance</b>		<b>£23,452.43</b>

The clerk confirmed that the latest bank statement had not been received at the time of the meeting.	Note
Councillor McEwen presented a 6-month budget review. Currently on most items the council is on budget except for community hall due to late receipt of invoice from previous year. Comments were noted that the clerk had not fully updated the spreadsheet.	PM
The clerk confirmed that this would be done before the next meeting. Councillor McEwen to check details.	SM
The clerk confirmed VAT reclaim will be made in the next few days.	SM/PM

**084 Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor**

Councillor Chopping explained to the parish council that any “members bid” for specific funding will not be considered by the “Members Bid Committee” until next year at the earliest and only if funding is available.	Note
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**085 Planning.**

**i) Applications for consideration:**

There were 4 planning applications to be considered.  
 18/02795 Unit 8,Grange Lane – Replacement coach repair workshop building – No Objection  
 18/01800 Old cottage – Method statement submitted – No Objection  
 18/02696 4 Mallard Way Aldermaston Wharf – Loft conversion – No Objection  
 18/02289 Six Bells – Change of use for part of the public house – Objection was raised by a parishioner via an email sent to clerk which was read by the chairman. Concern was raised by councillors regarding parking facilities but overall the Parish Council had – No Objections. It must also be noted that councillor Harman was not present at the meeting.

**086 PC Projects**

**i) Community Hall / School Hall –**

WBC have stated that devolution for freehold of the community room will not be possible at present time, however renegotiation of current lease may be considered.	Note
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Council discussed the possibility of a sign for community room. Councillor to get quotes. Lights in the school hall have been replaced where necessary. Council have agreed to pay half the cost.	JJ
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Council to look into possibility of raising funds from “Good Exchange” for further improvements for the school hall.	JJ
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**ii) Footpaths**

PM to discuss proposals at the next meeting	PM
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**087 Councillors’ comments**

PM – WW1 Solder “Silent Silhouette” has been erected outside the school. Parish Council expressed their thanks to Chris Curry for organising this.	Note
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GB – Expressed his concern at the lack of urgency from Thames Water regarding complaints about low pressure.	Note
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JJ – Confirmed tree to be planted in Back Lane. Phone Box to be painted and resignation of councillor Sterling means a position of DPO has become vacant.	Note
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GRB – The chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 21:40	
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**088 Date of the next meeting: 07:00pm Monday 07<sup>th</sup> January 2019**