

BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on Monday 07th Jan 2019

Mr G. Bowsher (GRB) Mr G. Bragg (GB) Mr Peter McEwen (PM)	Chair	
Mr. K. Chopping (KC) Mr. S. Morbi (SM)	District Councillor Clerk to Beenham Parish Council	
Members of the public	8	
101 Public Forum. A fifteen-minute period for members of the public to raise matters of concern.		
<p>Parishioner inquired about the WBC planning meeting as to whether it was a public meeting. KC stated that it was not a public meeting and the only item on the agenda which is for a different parish. KC stated as there are more than 10 objections are submitted and the planning officer is considering approval, it would automatically be put to the committee. However, if the officer is considering refusal than it will not come up to the committee. PM stated that he had spoken to the planning officer and while she could not comment approval or refusal, she confirmed that there were various objections including highways, draining etc.</p>		Note
<p>Parishioner raised concerns on speeding and individuals driving on the wrong side of the road. GB reported that he has raised concerns with highways authority. GB had asked for a site meeting to discuss various issues in various areas and it transpires that someone came and had a look at one particular area and went back writing a letter indicating no major issues of concern. Councillor Bragg to follow this up with West Berkshire councillor Chopping offering to take it further if needed.</p>		Note
<p>Parishioner advised the parish council that they had raised £2010.80 for the Poppy Appeal. The chairman on behalf of the council thanked him for their magnificent efforts. All present gave a spontaneous applause.</p>		Note
102 Apologies for absence. Jackie Johnson		
103 Minutes of the last ordinary parish meeting held on Monday 3 December 2018 Minutes were signed by the chairman.		
104 Register of Interests from Parish Councillors No interests were recorded.		
105 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.		
i)	We still have vacancies for parish councillors. The clerk stated that elections for councillors are due in May 2019. The chairman asked parishioners to come forward if they were interested in serving their community.	Note
ii)	Parish clerk vacancy had been advertised, however not much interest has been forthcoming. This vacancy will be advertised again. The search for a new clerk goes on.	Note
iii)	Parish council have agreed to pre-school's request for extended hours. PC also agreed to allow Paula Read to act as the booking clerk for the community room and the school hall out of school hours. Councillor McEwen to liaise with Mrs Read.	Note

iv)	PM to source grass cutting for 2019.		PM
106 Highways			
i)	Councillor Bragg had various items to raise with the highways authorities which are still ongoing as the expected site meeting did not take place as expected.		GB
ii)	Councillor Chopping confirmed the A4 junction petition will be discussed at the next WBC meeting on 8 th March.		
107 Finance			
The clerk gave an update on current finances as follows			
i) Receipts (received in November).			
Beenham Pre-School	Lettings	£605.00	
Community Room	Lettings	£126.75	
HMRC	VAT Refund	£5,189.54	
Total Incoming		£5,921.29	
ii) Payments to be authorised for January			
Mrs Jacqueline Homick	Salary (255.70) S/O	£248.63	
HRMC	PAYE Tax	£84.00	
AD Clark	Grass Cutting	£110.00	
Bradfield Printing	Parish Notes	£84.00	
Business Waste	Collection of Community Hall Waste	£31.20	
Business Waste	Overweight charge	£4.03	
Seif Morbi	Office Allowance (Dec)	£18.00	
Seif Morbi	Clerk's Pay	£189.38	
Carebus	Donation	£200.00	
Total Outgoing		£969.24	
BALANCE AT BANK.			
Current Account Balance at 30 Nov 2018		£15,953.78	
Deposit Account Balance at 09 Nov 2018		£21,398.59	
Total Balance		£37,352.37	

<p>Councillor McEwen inquired about donation for library. However, no request has been forthcoming to-date. Budget and precept to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>108 Comments from the West Berkshire Councillor Councillor Chopping inquired if anyone had looked at the WBC budget consultation. Expect council tax rises for the next financial year. Business rates at present goes to treasury; however, in future local council will get back a little bit more (by £1,750,000) than previously.</p>	<p>Note</p>
<p>109 Planning.</p>	
<p>i) Applications for consideration: There were 2 applications for discussion. PC had no objections on either of the applications.</p>	<p>GRB</p>
<p>110 PC Projects</p>	
<p>i) Community Hall / School Hall –</p> <p>As discussed earlier, Paula Read will act as booking clerk while maintenance and other issues will be the responsibility of councillor McEwen. PM to look at heating in the community room.</p> <p>ii) Footpaths As agreed, councillor McEwen has given the “OK” for works on footpath by the road near the REC, while others are being looked into. Some belong to WBC and some are owned by church and some by individuals. The clerk advised that if footpaths are being worked on by parish council contractor, then it is imperative that its done with health and safety in mind.</p>	
<p>111 Councillors’ comments</p> <p>GB – Inquired as to why draft minutes could not be published prior to them being signed off. Chairman agreed this could go on the agenda for discussion.</p> <p>PM – Said the parish council should thank various parties for their efforts in Christmas tree, lighting, poppy appeal and other events in the village. The chairmen obliged.</p> <p>GRB – The chairman thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 20:45</p>	
<p>112 Date of the next meeting: 07:00pm Monday 04th February 2019</p>	