

Beenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 1st July 2019 at 7pm in the Community Room, Beenham.

Present: Councillor Graham Bowsher, Chairman (GRB)
Councillors Graham Bragg (GB), Jackie Johnson (JJ) and Frank Wood (FW)
In attendance: Jennie Currie, Parish Clerk (JC)
4 members of the public

19/031 Public Forum

Item: Speeding through Beenham, recent incidents involving horse riders on Back Lane heading to Southend Road.

Response: To be taken up with WBDC (West Berkshire District Council) as it is a Highways matter.

Question: Who paid for the repair to the bus shelter following the incident of accidental damage?

Answer: The Parish Council as agreed at the meeting on Monday 1st April 2019, item 141.

Item: Thanks to the Chairman for opening the fete.

Response: Councillor Bowsher thanked Beenham Village Events for organising the day and highlighted the wide range of activities taking place in the village.

19/032 Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

19/033 Declarations of interests from Councillors

Councillor Bowsher expressed a pecuniary interest in planning application 19/01274/REM.

19/034 Minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd June 2019

Councillor Bragg raised the issue of Peter McEwen having not signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office as a Councillor before the meeting on 13th May and how at that meeting the Parish Council failed to resolve to give an extension to the deadline. Therefore, Peter McEwen was not a Councillor at the meeting held on 3rd June 2019.

RESOLVED That having recognised that Peter McEwen was not officially a Councillor that any reference to him being a Councillor be removed from the minutes.

RESOLVED That Peter McEwen be co-opted to Beenham Parish Council.

19/035 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no other matters arising.

19/036 Co-option of Councillors due to 2 vacancies

i. Co-option of new Councillor

Andy Livens had expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor. He was proposed by Councillor Bowsher and seconded by Councillor Bragg.

RESOLVED That Andy Livens be co-opted to Beenham Parish Council.

ii. Procedure for filling casual vacancies

Councillor Bragg presented a Procedure for filling casual vacancies. Councillor Bowsher thanked him for preparing the procedure. Members requested time to consider the procedure. The matter would be deferred to the next meeting.

19/037 Planning

i. Applications for consideration

Councillor Bowsher having declared an interest in application 19/01274/REM took no part in the discussion for that application.

RESOLVED that the following observations be presented:

19/01274/REM	Lower Meadows, Grange Lane	OBJECT
19/01113/HOUSE	4 Mallard Way	NO OBJECTIONS
19/01403/HOUSE & 19/01404/LBC2	The Old Dairy, Webbs Lane	NO OBJECTIONS
19/01410/FULD & 19/01411/LBC2	Appletree Cottage, Beenham Hill	OBJECT
19/01603/HOUSE	Dale House, Clay Lane	NO OBJECTIONS

ii. Wessex Downs Golf Course – Planning inquiry 30th July 2019

RESOLVED That the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council would reply to WBDC to repeat its previous comments from July 2017 regarding applications 17/01609/CERTE and 17/01613/CERTE, and additionally to state that the Parish Council has been lobbied by various Parishioners local to the Golf Course who are concerned by the development and refute the developers claims of continuous use. The Parish Council wishes to support their concerns. **JC**

iii. Additional planning correspondence

Members noted that the following application had been decided:

19/00657/HOUSE Cold Blow, Back Lane GRANTED

19/038 Community Room & School Hall

i. Update of heating work for the Community Room

Confirmation had been received that the heating coil would be replaced and paid for by WBDC.

ii. Maintenance of the Community Room

The decoration of the Community Room would be discussed after the heating work had been completed.

iii. School hall lighting project

Councillor Johnson would probably not have any further updates until October.

19/039 Parish Council Assets/Projects

i. Play area repairs – swing and fence

Councillor Johnson had a final quote for the swings from Sutcliffe Play. **JJ**

RESOLVED that the swings would be ordered by Councillor Johnson and installed by Stuart Brown. The fence would benefit from being treated with preservative.

RESOLVED to purchase wooden preservative. **JJ/PM**

ii. Telephone box

Councillor Johnson had ordered the paint and needed to be reimbursed.

iii. Devolution of grass areas

A quote of £20 per cut had been received for the area outside of the school. Councillor Wood had not contacted WBDC about devolving this area. The matter would be deferred to the next meeting. **FW**

iv. Request to use the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED That Beenham Village Events were granted permission to use the Recreation Ground on Friday 19th July 2019 for Band on the Rec.

19/039 Parish Council Assets/Projects continued

v. Allotment lease renewal

A letter from the Secretary and the Chairman of the Beenham Allotment Association had been received. The Association requested that the lease granted to them be extended/renew. The Clerk confirmed that the lease started on 1st January 2011 so the 10 year period would not expire this year as indicated in the letter. Councillor Bowsher added that the lease was a rolling lease so would automatically continue. Councillor Johnson highlighted that the Council should be allocating funds to purchase the site if the opportunity arose. The Clerk would write to the Association. **JC**

19/040 Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere

i. Beenham A4 junction

A parishioner wrote to the Council to inform them that they had presented a petition to WBDC requesting a roundabout to be installed at the Beenham A4 junction. Members noted the petition.

ii. Car park

A parishioner requested that some of the land next to the school be turned into a car park. They reported that during the recent fair and school sports day there had been inconsiderate parking on Back Lane.

Members requested that the Clerk request further information and the matter to be discussed at a future meeting. **JC**

19/041 Comments/Reports

i. From the West Berkshire District Councillor

Councillor Boeck had submitted his apologies for the meeting and a report. Councillor Bowsher read the report which covered WBDC declaring a climate emergency; Safeguarding children; Children in care; the new Theale Primary School; and a planning application at Blacknest Farm, Brimpton Common.

ii. From Parish Councillors

Councillor Johnson requested that when the heater is repaired could controls be put in to allow users of the room to adjust the heating.

Councillor Wood reported on the quarterly Victory Hall Trustees meeting. The external doors would be replaced and a new heating system would be installed. The Saturday night music performances continued to be well received. The adjacent Club, as a tenant of the hall, had also been undertaking works and a connecting door will be installed between the two buildings. This was being funded by both organisations.

iii. From the Clerk

The Clerk had received confirmation that the School Governing Body did not require a representative from the Parish Council. Councillor Bragg questioned whether the Council could appoint an observer rather than a Governor, he would take up this matter. **GB**

19/042 Finance

i. Adoption of the internal auditor's report

RESOLVED That the internal auditor's report for 2018-29 be adopted.

19/042 Finance continued

ii. Receipts & Payments

A summary of receipts and payments follows:

Receipts for May 2019

Preschool - April usage	Lettings	£476.50
Community Facilities	Lettings	£39.00
Community Facilities	Lettings	£39.00
Community Facilities	Lettings	£82.50
Interest		£0.88
Total Incoming		£637.88

Payments to be authorised at July 2019 meeting

A D Clarke inv 300 - May grass cutting	2426	£234.00
Internal Auditor	2427	£200.00
HMRC	2428	£56.20
Bradfield Printing - Parish Notes	2429	£30.00
Opus Energy	Direct Debit	£11.47
Total cheques		£531.67

Payments preauthorised for the previous month

Cleaner's salary June	Standing order	£253.10
Clerk's salary June	Standing order	£246.84
Clerk's home office allowance June	Standing order	£18.00
Total Outgoing		£517.94

Total cheques and preauthorised payments		£1,049.61
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BALANCE AT BANK		
Treasurers Account Balance at	30th May 2019	16,601.47
Deposit Account Balance at	30th May 2019	21,403.90
Total Balance		£38,005.37

RESOLVED That the payments listed above would be authorised and cheques issued.

iii. Accounts budget report

Members noted the report.

iv. Account analysis report

Councillor Johnson highlighted that the Padworth Newsletter contribution should be coded to communications rather than simply a grant.

Members noted the report.

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held at 7pm, on Monday 5th August 2019. There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed  Date 2/9/19

