

Beenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7pm in the Community Room, Beenham.

Present: Councillor Graham Bowsher, Chairman (GRB)
Councillors Graham Bragg (GB), Jackie Johnson (JJ), Peter McEwen (PM) and Frank Wood (FW).

In attendance: 5 members of the public

19/077 Public Forum

Concern: Dog fouling on private property and dog fouling in general in the village. Also concern that some litter bins are used for dog waste and are not always emptied promptly.

Action: The emptying of waste bins can be reported by the public to West Berkshire District Council (WDBC) via their website. It was accepted that dog fouling continues to be a concern.

Concern: Asphalt on Beenham Hill has a gully on one side which is difficult when drivers coming up the hill have to avoid wide vehicles coming down the hill. This has been reported previously.

Action: WDBC would be contacted.

GRB

Concern: The road name sign for Clay Lane has been knocked over.

Action: WDBC would be contacted.

GRB

Request: For Beenham Pre School to use one of the Community Room windows for the Advent Window initiative. This initiative is proving popular in the community. **Agreed.**

19/078 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andy Livens (AL) and the Clerk (JC).

19/079 Declaration of interests from Councillors

FW declared an interest in the Beenham 2020 initiative.

GRB declared an interest in planning application 19/02572/AGRIC.

19/080 Minutes of the last meeting held on 7th October

RESOLVED That the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record.

19/081 Matters arising from the minutes and not referred to elsewhere

There were no other matters arising.

19/082 Planning

i. Applications for consideration

RESOLVED That the following observations be presented:

19/02536/HOUSE 2 Rose Cottages, Clay Lane Beenham NO OBJECTIONS

Members noted application 19/02572/AGRIC Field Barn Farm, Beenham

ii. Additional Planning correspondence

Members noted that the following applications had been decided:

19/01603/HOUSE Dale House, Clay Lane, Beenham GRANTED

19/02035/HOUSE Wayround, Beenham GRANTED

iii. Consultation on 5G mobile provision

Members noted the consultation.

19/083 Beenham 2020 Events

RESOLVED That the Recreation Ground would be used for a Family Picnic on 8th May 2020. The Council was given an outline of a proposed calendar of events for celebrating Beenham 2020. A request was made to the Parish Council for funding of £1,000. While the Council was willing to give support, there are outstanding questions regarding which organisation will be responsible and accountable. The Chairman welcomed the proposals and awaits further clarity.

19/084 Meeting Dates 2020

RESOLVED That the dates proposed would be agreed with the exception of the May meeting which should be held on 4th May 2020 (the May Bank Holiday is later than usual next year).

19/085 Community Room and School Hall

i. Quote for redecoration

The quote had been provided and the work could be done in February 2020.

ii. Quote for cleaning and alteration of curtains

No decision was made on the curtains. New curtains would potentially cost in the region of £1,000.

19/086 Parish Council Assets / Projects

i. Play area fence repairs

The contractor has been asked to treat the fence.

ii. Bus shelter repair

The bus shelter had been repaired.

iii. Devolution of the grass areas

The matter was still being considered by WBDC. WBDC would need authorisation from the District Councillor to approve transfer of Freehold.

iv. Community Notice Board repair or replacement

The notice board would be repaired to enable the door to open more easily.

19/087 Correspondence since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere

No correspondence had been received.

19/088 Reports

i. From the West Berkshire District Councillor

Councillor Boeck was not present at the meeting.

ii. From Parish Councillors

Councillor Wood reported that he had asked the Victory Hall committee about insurance since the door was installed to link the Hall with Beenham Club. He was concerned with the reply. It was reported that the Victory Hall committee have notified the insurers.

Councillor Johnson reported that WBDC Highways had checked the bank along Back Lane and reported that there was no problem. Daffodil bulbs have again been provided to the Parish Council by Grundons; they will be planted around the parish. A parishioner had requested last year that the small tree along Back Lane should be replaced; it was decided that a new tree will not be planted.

iii. From the Clerk

The Clerk was not present at the meeting.

19/089 Finance

i. Beenham Primary School invoice for shared use

A few queries had been raised in advance of the meeting. It was agreed to follow up with the Clerk on the current progress. JJ

RESOLVED that when the shared cost has been agreed, a letter should be sent to WBC to confirm that the Parish Council should pay this amount to Beenham Primary School directly, rather than to WBDC as the contract states.

ii. Q2 Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED that the Bank Reconciliation for quarter 2 was accurate.

iii. Receipts and Payments

A summary of receipts and payments follows:

Receipts for September 2019

Interest		£0.91
Community Facilities	Lettings	£19.50
Community Facilities	Lettings	£19.50
Community Facilities	Lettings	£19.00
Preschool	Lettings	£40.50
HMRC	VAT Refund	£1,187.73
Community Facilities	Lettings	£39.00
WBDC	Precept	£9,150.00
Community Facilities	Lettings	£78.00
Total Incoming		£10,554.14

Payments to be authorised at November 2019 meeting

Axxell Limited	2446	£150.00
A D Clark	2447	£117.00
HMRC	2448	£56.20
Bradfield Printing	2449	£30.00
Opus Energy	Direct Debit	£11.10
Total cheques		£364.30

Payments preauthorised for the previous month

Cleaner's salary October	Standing order	£253.10
Clerk's salary October	Standing order	£246.84
Clerk's home office allowance October	Standing order	£18.00
Total Outgoing		£517.94
Total cheques and preauthorised payments		£882.24

BALANCE AT BANK

Treasurers Account Balance at	01-Oct-19	23,084.21
Deposit Account Balance at	30-Sep-19	21,407.51
Total Balance		£44,491.72

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

iv. Accounts Budget and analysis reports

There would be budget available to spend on Footpaths in this financial year and on some improvements to the Community Room.

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held at 7pm, on Monday 2nd December 2019. There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed  Date 2/12/19