

Beenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 6th January 2020 at 7pm in the Community Room, Beenham.

Present: Councillor Graham Bowsher, Chairman (GRB)
Councillors Graham Bragg (GB), Andy Livens (AL), Peter McEwen (PM) and Frank Wood (FW).

In attendance: The Clerk, Jennie Currie (JC)
6 members of the public

20/001 Public Forum

Concern: At the December meeting there were a number of injections from the public gallery.

Response: The Chairman confirmed that outside the Public Forum members of the public could speak when requested.

Concern: Had the Council acted properly with regard to the grant to Beenham 2020?

Response: Representatives from Beenham 2020 explained how the Victory Hall would be monitoring the finances. The Chairman highlighted that this item was on the agenda for this meeting.

Concern: The footpath (BEEN/2/1) across the Recreation Ground heading to Clay Lane was very muddy as it joined Clay Lane. Could a footpath be laid?

Action: To be added to a future agenda.

JC

20/002 Apologies for absence

Apologies for lateness were received from District Councillor Dominic Boeck.

20/003 Declaration of interests from Councillors

No declarations of interests were received.

20/004 Minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd December

RESOLVED That subject to adding Councillor Bragg's apologies that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record.

20/005 Matters arising from the minutes and not referred to elsewhere

There were no matters arising.

20/006 Resignation of Councillor Johnson

The Chairman thanked Councillor Johnson for her dedication, hard work and recognised the positive impact she had had on the community during her time as a Councillor. Councillor McEwen added his personal thanks.

The Clerk explained that the notice of vacancy had been sent to West Berkshire District Council (WBDC). Councillors advised that the notice had not been put on the noticeboards. The Clerk would reissue the notice this week and put it on the noticeboards.

JC

Councillor Johnson's areas of responsibility would be reviewed at a future meeting.

District Councillor Dominic Boeck joined the meeting at 7.20pm.

20/007 Co-option

Members noted that nobody had expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor.

20/008 Planning

i. Applications for consideration

RESOLVED That the following observations be presented:

19/02887/HOUSE 8 Heron Way, Aldermaston NO OBJECTIONS

19/02959/HOUSE Hillside Cottage, Bourne Lane, Beenham NO OBJECTIONS

The Chairman permitted a resident to make a presentation to object to application 19/02952/FULD.

19/02952/FULD Kintarn, Clay Hill, Beenham OBJECT

- Due to over development of the site and out of keeping with the rural lane.

19/03131/RESMAJ Porsche, Duncans Drive, Beenham NO OBJECTIONS

19/03096/FUL Northway Porsche, Grange Place, Grange Lane, Beenham NO OBJECTIONS

ii. Additional Planning correspondence

Members noted additional correspondence received for applications:

19/03002/AGRIC Field Barn Farm, Beenham Hill, Beenham

19/02048/FULEXT Land Adjacent to Hotel, Bath Road, Padworth

19/02140/FULMAJ Westminster House, Bath Road, Padworth

Councillor McEwen reported that he had sent the report regarding the Council's concerns about the Beenham A4 junction to planning. Councillor Boeck said he would take up the matter with WBDC Officers.

Members noted that the following applications had been decided:

19/02536/HOUSE 2 Rose Cottages, Clay Lane, Beenham GRANTED

20/009 Request from Padworth Parish Council to share cost of Beenham Turn bus shelter

The Clerk had not received any further communication from Padworth Parish Council.

20/010 Community Room and School Hall

i. School Hall lights

Councillor McEwen had met with the Headteacher who was happy for the project to go ahead. A SPAR application would need to be made, the original quote was being revised and a second electrician would be quoting. PM

ii. Proposed works in Community Room

Councillor McEwen reported that the doors had been repaired and outside tap installed. The back door would need replacing. The room would be painted on 20th and 21st February. Representatives from the Preschool and WI had agreed on the fabric for the curtains, a formal quote would be obtained. PM

20/011 Parish Council Assets / Projects

i. Play area fence repairs

No further update.

ii. Devolution of the grass areas

There were no further updates. Councillor Boeck would follow this up and the Clerk would ensure that the WBDC Officer had her contact details. JC

20/012 Correspondence since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere

No correspondence had been received.

20/013 Reports

i. From the West Berkshire District Councillor

Councillor Boeck had sent a written report to the Chairman and Clerk. He had been involved in the General Election campaign for the Newbury MP. He highlighted the Mineral/Waste Plan and Local Plan with particular concerns to development along the A4 near the AONB. The District Council were reviewing the plastic recycling schemes as currently only materials that have a resale value are collected.

Councillor McEwen asked when the updated Housing Allocation Survey would be published. Councillor Boeck explained that this would be connected to the finalisation of the Local Plan.

ii. From Parish Councillors

No items to report.

iii. From the Clerk

The Clerk reported that the grit bins had been refilled on 2nd December. She reminded Councillor Livens that she needed his details to add him as a signatory to the Council's bank accounts. It had been brought to the Clerk's attention that all Councillors should have Council email address and not use personal accounts for Council business.

AL / JC

The Clerk had contacted the website provider/webmaster. He would arrange for new accounts to be created and passwords issued to Members.

District Councillor Dominic Boeck left the meeting.

20/014 Finance

i. Grant request from Victory Hall for Beenham 2020 events

RESOLVED that the Victory Hall would be given a grant of £1,000 to be spent on Beenham 2020 events.

ii. Budget for 2020-21

RESOLVED that subject to the Precept being increased to £18,300 the Budget would be set as presented.

iii. Precept for 2020-21

RESOLVED that the Precept for 2020-21 would be set at £18,300.

iv. Receipts and Payments

A summary of receipts and payments follows:

Receipts for November 2019

Beenham Allotment Association			£1.00
Deposit Account interest			£0.97
Preschool			£985.00
Community lettings			£78.00
Community lettings			£7.50
Community lettings			£13.00
Good Exchange GRANT			£1,750.00
Total Incoming			£2,835.47

Payments to be authorised at January 2020 meeting

Beenham Primary School	2457	74	£2,887.99
HMRC	2458	75	£56.20
Beenham WI	2459	79	£430.00
Total cheques			£3,374.19

Payments preauthorised for the previous month

Opus Energy	Direct debit	76	£11.10
Cleaner's salary December	Standing order	77	£253.10
Clerk's salary December	Standing order	78	£246.84
Clerk's home office allowance December	Standing order	mins	£18.00
Total Outgoing			£529.04
Total cheques and preauthorised payments			£3,903.23

BALANCE AT BANK		
Treasurers Account Balance at	29-Nov-19	26,636.87
Deposit Account Balance at	29-Nov-19	21,409.36
Total Balance		£48,046.23

RESOLVED That the cheque to Beenham Primary School would be signed but held until the Clerk had heard from either the Head of Finance or Head of Legal at WBDC.

RESOLVED That excluding the cheque to Beenham Primary School the payments listed above would be authorised and cheques issued.

v. Accounts Budget and Analysis reports

RESOLVED That the reports be approved.

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held at 7pm, on Monday 3rd February 2020. There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.39pm.

Signed _____ Date _____