

Notes from the Parish Council meeting on 6 February 2017

Recreation Ground Youth facilities

There will be an Open Meeting on The Rec on Saturday 25 March between 1pm and 3pm to give more details about the proposed installation of youth facilities on The Rec. The equipment was identified following a survey of the young people in the village so please come along to give your support and ideas.

Transport for Beenham village

The revised 41 and 44 local bus schedule is now operational. The distribution of the new timetable, with the notes, is sponsored by the Parish Council, assisted by the hard work of the people who distribute the Church magazine. The Beenham village Carebus service on a Friday is still proving popular and will continue to run while there is sufficient demand from villagers.

Parish Plan Refresh

A new "Pop Up Tea Room" was held in Beenham Club and was enjoyed by a wide group of people. These afternoon teas will take place on the last Tuesday of the month from 2-4pm, providing the opportunity for people to get together and share local information and advice.

There has been considerable progress in refreshing the Parish Plan. The surveys that were undertaken during 2016 gave good results and have highlighted additional areas of interest. Further views will be sought in order to consolidate and build on the information received so far. In particular views are wanted from parishioners who were not involved in the original areas of investigation.

West Berkshire Council

Beenham Parish Council has been asked to contribute towards the cost of running the district's libraries. In principle the Parish Council is prepared to make a contribution, subject to assurance that Beenham parishioners would benefit. WBC has offered to send a representative to attend a Parish Council meeting to outline their plans and to answer questions.

Planning Matters

16/03633: 1 Fairview, The Green, 1st floor extension, garden shed; no objections.

16/03313: Land Adjacent to Kennet and Avon Canal Wharf Side Padworth , variation of fencing, landscaping etc.; no objections.

Community Room

Pre-school and Wolves Club have advised that the conifers in the play area associated with the community room are restricting the use of this area. The Parish Council has agreed that they are now too large and will take steps to get the conifers removed. This will enable the remaining broad leaf trees to create a pleasant canopy in the play area.

A review will be made of the charges for the Community Room and the School Hall. These charges have remained unchanged since January 2010 while costs have been rising. Any recommendations of changes will be made at a future Parish Council meeting.

Around the parish

Parking has again been reported on the corner of The Strouds, making it difficult for drivers and pedestrians. Please be considerate when parking so that our roads stay as safe as possible.

A small tree on Back Lane, originally planted by the Parish Council, has been knocked down. A replacement has been requested, this time with increased protection from vehicles.

It has been reported that parish litter bins, both in the village and at The Wharf are being used inappropriately. Parishioners are asked to use dog bins for dog litter and to refrain from using the public litter bins for domestic rubbish. Everyone's assistance in this matter would be appreciated.

Having looked at the paths on the Rec it has been identified that drainage needs to be addressed before resurfacing is undertaken. Quotes for the work have been requested.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 6th March 2017 starting at 7.00pm in the Community Room. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Your Parish Councillors are:

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