

NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 1st APRIL 2019

Parish Clerk

We welcome Jennie Currie as our new Parish Clerk. Jennie lives in Newbury and was previously Deputy Town Clerk at Thatcham Town Council before starting her own business. She will mainly be working on Mondays and can be contacted by emailing theclerk@beenhamonline.org or by calling 01635 580 190.

Keith Chopping

Keith has been our District Councillor for many years, but is not standing at the forthcoming election. The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked him for all he has done for Beenham.

Comments from Parishioners

- The condition of the footpath from the church to Wickens Corner was raised again. This has been reported to WBC.
- The problem of dog mess was raised.
- PC was thanked for improving the footpath across the Rec.

Councillor's Responsibilities

The following responsibilities were agreed:

1. Roads, Traffic, Public Transport	Graham Bragg
2. Parish Notes	Peter McEwen
3. Web site	Jackie Johnson
4. Finance	Jackie Johnson
5. Footpaths	Peter McEwen
6. Recreation Ground & outdoor spaces	Andy Livens
7. Community Room	Peter McEwen
8. School Liaison (incl. CR leases)	Graham Bragg
9. Planning/Housing	Graham Bowsher/Andy Livens
10. Victory Hall liaison	Frank Wood
11. BVE liaison	Peter McEwen
12. Police liaison	Andy Livens
13. Data Protection Officer	Jackie Johnson
14. Parish Plan	Frank Wood

All official communications should be sent to the Parish Clerk, but you can also contact the relevant councillor direct.

Canal Bridge at Aldermaston Wharf

PC commented to WBC on the study that they had carried out on a new Canal Bridge at Aldermaston Wharf. WBC have responded to say that, after receiving several comments, the study will be widened to cover more aspects than the present study.

Planning

- Barn at Hillfoot Court – Variation of Approved Plan – No objection
- 41 Mallard Way – Rear extension – No objection
- Cold Blow, Back Lane – Side extension – No objection.

An appeal has been lodged by Wessex Downs Golf Club against a refusal by WBC to confirm lawful use of a caravan for residential purposes (and also storage of materials on the site). Any representations must be submitted by 1 May. Further details are available from the PC or WBC.

Housing Needs Survey

A Working Group has been looking at the options for affordable housing in Beenham. A Housing Needs Survey is required for any consideration of a Rural Exception Site. A survey was carried out in 2013, but this may need to be updated. PC will speak to WBC about this.

Highways

PC was not informed about the road closure on 28 March. Keith Chopping said he would take this up with WBC. It was noted that some potholes were filled, but others were left and the deep gulleys on the side of the road in two places were not filled.

Finance

Payments were agreed for:

- Grant of £300 to BVE for an “attraction” at the Summer Fayre.
- Grant of £200 to Padworth Newsletter.
- Thatcham Glass - £280 for repair of Bus Shelter
- Binding for PC minutes.

Terry Stares will be asked if he will be the Internal Auditor for this year (*he said yes*).

Community Facilities

- **Hire Charges-** Revised hire charges have been discussed with Pre-school. The revised charges will be sent to other regular users for comment before consideration at the next PC meeting.
- **Sign-** A sign will be erected on the gable end of the Community Room during the holidays.
- **Heating-** WBC are investigating what can be done to improve the heating in the Community Room.
- **Community Room make-over** – We are planning to brighten up the Community Room. If you have any ideas, or would like help, please let us know.

Padworth Recycling Centre

The Padworth Recycling Centre is now open every day from 8am to 6pm. These summer hours will run until 30 September. The centre accepts household waste as well as most types of recycling (but remember to take your permit).

For more details go to westberks.gov.uk/recyclingcentres.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 13 May 2019, starting at 7.00pm in the Community Room. It will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of the Council. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 17 April.

Your Parish Councillors are:

Graham Bowsher, Field Barn Farm	Tel. 07557967575	Chairman
Graham Bragg, Puffins,	Tel: 971 3688	
Jackie Johnson, Southdowns	Tel. 07922068646	
Andy Livens, Farm Cottage,	Tel: 07958 472 644	
Peter McEwen, The Old Vicarage	Tel: 077177 18608	
Frank Wood, Ferndown	Tel: 07488268735	

Parish Clerk: Jennie Currie Tel: 01635 580190

CR Bookings: Paula Read Tel: 07793116937

CR Payments: Peter McEwen

All correspondence to the council should be addressed to the Parish Clerk.

Email: theclerk@beenhamonline.org

Maypole Dancing

Saturday 4th May, 2-4pm on the Rec

Spring has arrived so come along, bring a picnic and join in the fun.

Maypole dancing (all ages) will be led by an experienced teacher of traditional dance.

Country dancing by the Brownies.

Pimms and cake will be available

PTFA Car Boot Sale

Saturday 11th May, 8.30 -1.30 at the School

Get there early to snap up the bargains!

BBQ – Hot & Cold Refreshments

To book your pitch email chairbeenham@hotmail.com

Other Local Events

- April 28th – Greyfield Wood Open Day 2-5pm
- May 6th – Bradfield Mayfair 12.30-4.30 at Southend Bradfield
- June 22nd – Beenham Summer Fayre – put it in you diary now
- July 19th – Band on the Rec – always a great night