

NOTES FROM THE BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS
HELD ON 4th JULY 2022

MOBILE PHONE NETWORK

A Parishioner raised the poor mobile phone network in Beenham. He said that he had contacted our MP (Sir John Redwood): his office had advised that he could do nothing directly but if people did contact him he would see what could be done. If you wish to submit your comments to your MP then email john.redwood.mp@parliament.uk

This matter has previously been raised with WBC and our District Councillor (Dominic Boeck). You may wish to copy your email to Dominic.Boeck@westberks.gov.uk , and to the Parish Clerk.

PLANNING

There have been no planning applications this month.

WBC LOCAL PLAN

West Berkshire Council has announced a further delay to the publication of a revised Local Plan for development of the West Berkshire. This will reduce the time available for public consultation on such issues as the proposed mega development at NE Thatcham, as the date for submission on the Plan to Government remains as December 2022. For details see <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKWESTBC/bulletins/31b97ce> .

The District Councillor has been asked to explain this further delay.

BEENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL SECURITY ASSESSMENT

The Parish Council (PC) has been consulted by the Primary School about a security assessment that has been carried out by WBC of the school site. The assessment is to ensure that the school site is secure for both access and egress. The assessment proposed some changes to the gates and fencing to bring the site in line with current standards.

The PC welcomed the Assessment, and recognised the need to provide a safe environment for the school whilst maintaining public access to Community Facilities. The PC will work with the School to implement the proposed changes.

SPEEDING ON COD'S HILL

Correspondence has been received concerning speeding on Cod's Hill, almost leading to accidents with horses and pedestrians. It was requested that the speed limit that applies in Upper Woolhampton should be extended down Cod's Hill.

This road forms the boundary with Woolhampton Parish (although Douai is entirely within Woolhampton). The PC felt it was more appropriate that this matter should be dealt with by Woolhampton PC. Beenham PC has an ongoing project to review speeding in Beenham, which may include changes to the speed limits.

ROAD CLOSURE

The road between Douai and Kiff Green (Upper Woolhampton) will be closed from 13 July to 28 September, for work by Thames Water. The diversion will come through Beenham.

REC EQUIPMENT REFURBISHMENT

The safety surfacing has now been laid for the Zip Wire and Gym Equipment, so the work is complete.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES CHARGES

The charges for hire of the Community Room and School Hall have now been simplified into a single charge for residents and non-residents (without any increase in the rates).

- Community Room is £6/hour weekdays and £7 weekends
- School Hall is £6.50/hour weekdays and £7.50 weekends.

These rates are lower than many similar facilities. The School Hall is particular suitable for larger groups such a dance or drama. Ball games are not allowed, but there is a badminton court for use by private individuals or groups.

FINANCE

Beenham School PTFA are planning an Outdoor Classroom in the ground of the school, and requested a contribution from the PC.

The PC confirmed that they would be willing to contribute £1,000, subject to confirmation that all approvals have been obtained and finance is available for the full cost.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Community Room on Monday 1st August, starting at 7.00pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Full details of the Councillors (including email addresses) are on the website at beenham-pc.gov.uk/councillors/ .

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

Your Parish Councillors are:

Graham Bowsher (Chairman)	Tel. 07557967575
Peter McEwen	Tel: 077177 18608
Graham Bragg	Tel: 0118 9713688
Tanya Bunce	Tel: 07962 985 592
Dieter Hinke	Tel: 07488 258374

District Councillor; Dominic Boeck Dominic.Boeck@westberks.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Jennie Currie
Tel: 01635 580190
Email: clerk@beenham-pc.gov.uk

CR Bookings: Paula Read
Tel: 07793116937
Email: info@beenhampreschool.org

New Parish Council website: www.beenham-pc.gov.uk
Beenham Community Website: <https://www.beenhamonline.org/>