

NOTES FROM THE BEENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS
HELD ON 1st AUGUST 2022

STORAGE SPACE SOUGHT

Beenham Village Events urgently need a new home for their tents and other equipment. Can you help with a corner of a (lockable) garage or shed?

PLANNING

The PC considered the following planning applications this month.

21/01668/HOUSE *Canal Lodge, Bath Road, Padworth. Extension.* PC had no objection.

22/01831/SCREEN *Landfill Area Northeast of Beenham Industrial Area. Preliminary application relating to a possible 10MW Solar Farm.* Grundon Waste Management Ltd have submitted a "Request For An Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinion Of A Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Array And Battery Storage". This is preliminary request for WBC to advise what studies would need to be done before a planning application could be submitted.

The PC would welcome your views on this possible large development, covering the landfill site between Marley Tiles and Beenham Hill.

ROAD CLOSURES

In the past few months there have been several closures of the road through Beenham – either planned or emergency. The problems of poor communication with WBC, and inaccurate signage (eg signs saying Road Closed when work has not started) were raised with the District Councillor.

One emergency closure by the Police was due to a fallen branch resting on cables: but some drivers ignored the notices. The branch was kindly cleared by a local business, as WBC did not respond.

PARKING IN MALLARD WAY

Residents have raised concerns about on-road parking in Mallard Way. The District Councillor said that this matter was being considered by WBC Highways.

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE

Several residents have contacted our MP (Sir John Redwood) to ask for his assistance in improving the mobile phone coverage in Beenham. His response was that this is not a matter within the power of an MP, but he will be raise the matter with WBC.

Our District Councillor said that he has raised the matter (again) with the council, but the issue is largely in the hands of the network operators.

We were referred to two local organisations: they seem more concerned with high speed broadband than basic mobile network, but it is always worth making our views known.

<https://www.thamesvalleyberkshire.co.uk/digital-infrastructure-group>

<http://www.superfastberkshire.org.uk/>

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The existing lease and license agreements for the Community Room and School Hall were reviewed. No changes were proposed at the present time.

Drafts of revised Terms and Conditions of hire have been prepared to include reference to safeguarding. These drafts will be considered by the PC.

The budget for the Community Facilities was reviewed. In recent years the income and expenditure balanced, but recent rises in energy and other costs may mean that the hire rates will need to be increased from next April. The main users of the facilities will be consulted before a decision is taken.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Community Room on Monday 5th September, 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

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New Parish Council website:

www.beenham-pc.gov.uk

Beenham Community Website:

<https://www.beenhamonline.org/>