

Notes from Beenham Parish Council meeting: Monday February 3rd 2025

Public Forum

-The WI outlined their request for a grant of £1050 to pay for training on CPR and use of the defibrillator for Beenham residents. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

-It was confirmed that the current acting School Headteacher, Sophie McBean, has been appointed as Headteacher from April.

Co-option of applicants to fill the Parish Council vacancy.

-It was agreed to consider co-option to fill the single vacancy. As there has been interest from an additional applicant, it was agreed to delay the process of co-option to allow the application process to proceed.

Councillors

-Flooding of Clay Lane. No response from WBC

-Sovereign Housing disposal of properties. There has been no response to the PC request for clarification of the policy for disposals and possible notification of upcoming affordable housing sales.

-Bus Service. The PC is hoping for a meeting with WBC this month. It was noted that bus stops, such as in Stoneyfield, have no information posted on the new service.

-20 mph speed limit in vicinity of the school. WBC is to study the results of the new 20 mph scheme in Theale. They will come back to the PC when ready to do so.

-Gritting in Stoneyfield. It was discussed as to whether WBC could extend gritting in bad weather to Stoneyfield. Gritting normally applies to through roads, but as Stoneyfield is a bus route the PC will request WBC to clarify its qualification for gritting.

-Risk assessment. As there is no further information, this will be discussed at the next meeting.

-Broken posts bordering the recreation ground. PC approved the repair of the broken posts to stop vehicle access to the Rec.

-Affordable Housing initiative. WBC Planning were due to visit and assess potential sites for the initiative, but this was postponed. It is now tentatively expected to happen on Thursday 13th February.

Planning Applications

-25/00086/HOUSE. The Barn, 4 Hillfoot Cottage: Erection of storage shed. No objection. Neighbours should consider their own views.

-Closure of Ashampstead Road, Bradfield. The WBC order on the closure is due to take effect from 24th February. WBC has not replied to the PC letter regarding this, so the Parish Council will write again requesting an urgent reply to its concerns.

District Councillor report

-It was reported that WBC is extending kerbside recycling to include items that were previously not accepted..as listed in the WBC notification.

Financial Grants

-The grant of £400 to the WI for litter picking was approved.

-The grant of £800 for the grass cutting at the Church was approved.

-The contribution to WBC for support of the library service was approved at the lower rate of £500 to reflect the WBC decision to remove the mobile library service.

-The grant of £632 to BVE for website maintenance and other costs was approved.

- Grant policy. A draft policy document outlining the conditions and terms of grant requests, eligibility and processes, in the interest of transparency was discussed. This will be further considered at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday March 3rd in the Community Room at 7.00pm.

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

Your Parish Councillors are:

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