

Notes from Beenham Parish Council meeting 5th January 2026

Public Forum

- The WI reported that during their recent litter picking activity, they recovered 15 empty 1litre bottles of vodka in a small area. Was this evidence of someone with an alcohol problem drink driving? It was decided that TVP should be notified with a view to them monitoring the area.
- It was noted that another potential affordable house in Beenham had been sold by SVG (Sovereign Housing). The PC responded that they had already written to SVG to raise this contentious issue yet again.

Councillors

- Further discussion was held regarding the vandalism incident at the school. A quote had been received for the installation of a 5 camera day/night surveillance system. It was agreed to discuss progress of this at the next meeting after a field meeting with the school/PC to see the practical options.
- The affordable housing initiative update was further discussed. The PC is still talking to potential landowners.

Planning Matters

- 25/02742/HOUSE. Woodside, Clay Lane, Beenham, RG7 5PG. 2 storey side extension and 2 dormers for loft extension. The PC had no objection and left it to neighbours for comment if necessary.
- 25/02784/HOUSE. Highdown, Webbs Lane, Beenham, RG7 5LH. 1st floor roof extension to allow for additional bedroom accommodation and balcony. The PC had no objection and left it to neighbours for comment if necessary.
- Planning decisions
- Granted. 25/02231/FULMAJ. Land to the East along Pips Way.

Parish Councillors

- Litter bins/grass cutting tender. It was agreed to seek tenders for these services to ensure we are getting competitive rates. (post meeting note...this may also be for the maintenance of the salt bins).
- 20 mph speed limit through Beenham. WBC has a programme of introducing a 20mph speed limit where appropriate in all villages (after local consultation). This will take several years, and Beenham is in the plan for 2027~2028. The PC is continuing to determine what restrictions parishioners would like, and to liaise with WBC.

Financial Matters.

- Two Grant requests have been received.
 - WI: £400 for litter picking. Approved
 - St Marys Church: £800 for grass cutting. Approved.
- 2026/27 PC precept. It was agreed to increase the proposed precept to £21320 which is an approximately 10% increase since the last review in 2023.

The next meeting will be held on Monday February 2nd at 7.00pm in the Community Room.

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

Your Parish Councillors are:

Graham Bowsher (Chairman) Tel. 07557967575

Peter McEwen Tel: 077177 18608

Graham Bragg Tel: 0118 9713688

Alex Cother Tel: 07764 637190

Peter Hamblin Tel: 0118 9712959

David Hancock Tel: 07471 148256

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

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

Parish Clerk: Lauren West Tel: 07919 916125 Email: clerk@beenham-pc.gov.uk

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

Parish Council website: www.beenham-pc.gov.uk

Beenham Community Website: <https://www.beenhamonline.org/>