

Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Date: Tuesday 2nd March 2021 Time: 7.30pm

Place: Zoom video conference due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions.

Attending call: Mr John Hicks (Chairman)

Mr Phil Bassil

Mr Charles Brims

Mrs Mary Cowdery

Mr John Dolphin

Mr Peter Main

In Attendance: Christine McGarvie (Clerk)

David Backhouse – Dalcour Maclaren

Chris Boden – Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks

Patrick Todd – Wasing Estate

5 Members of the public

21/21 Open Forum – SSEN /Dalcour Maclaren. Thatcham to Ashford Hill 132kv electrical cable installation

Chris Boden and David Backhouse answered questions that had been sent to them in advance of the meeting.

What is the scope and purpose of the project?

Chris Boden explained that the purpose of the project is a network reinforcement. At the moment there is a three ended circuit which runs from Thatcham substation to Andover and then to Bramley. Two additional circuits will be installed extending the Bramley circuit all the way to Thatcham. The 132000-volt network is the backbone of the network. It is for general load growth and not associated to any development. It is needed to ensure that SSEN stay within the conditions of their OFGEM licence.

The project will involve installing 5.5km of cable. There are a number of temporary access tracks needed during the construction and they will retain rights to use some of these for maintenance in the future.

How will access to Hyde End Lane be maintained whilst the cable laying is underway in that area?

This will be dealt with by the construction team. They will only need to cross the lane in one place and it should be able to be done quite quickly. Access arrangements will be made with the residents and they will continue to liaise with them to ensure there is as little impact as possible.

How are the footpaths and bridleways going to be affected during cable installation?

There are a number of footpaths and a byway which will be affected by the work. There will be temporary closures of footpaths where necessary and if possible, diversions will be put in place. A month's notice will be given before any footpath closures.

What are the time scales for the work?

SSEN are now aiming to start work at the beginning of 2022. Work will start in Thatcham during the third quarter of 2021 but the main work on the cable installation will not start until February 2022.

Mr. Dolphin raised a concern about access to Ashford Hill via Hockford Lane and Woodhouse lane as it is unsuitable for large vehicles. David Backhouse explained that they will be accessing the road from the southern end to avoid the weight limited bridge and steep bank.

A question was asked about hours of working. It was explained that there may be a requirement to work outside of normal working hours in order to get the work done as quickly as possible.

Mr. Bassil asked whether the likely increased demand for electricity with the move to electric vehicles has been factored into this work. Chris Boden explained that they are not allowed to speculatively bolster their network as a condition of their licence. The investment in this project is £11 to £12 million project and is to cater for future load growth over the next 10 years.

The installation will take around 3 months from digging until reinstatement of the ground. There will be some additional work in 8 locations for one month after this.

There is a compensation scheme for agricultural losses to farmers. SSEN said that the contractors will have experience of reinstatement work and in his experience crops often grow better afterwards.

SSEN will create a public website for the project nearer to the start date so that all information is easily accessible by residents.

22/21 Apologies for absence

None received.

23/21 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda

None received.

24/21 Minutes of the previous meeting

24.1 It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2021 were a true and accurate record. The Chairman will sign these at a future date.

24.2 Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda including review of the Action Tracker.

9.1/21 and 9.2/21 The road closed sign has still not been removed from Hyde End Lane and the barriers are still at the side of Brimpton Road. Clerk to chase again.

Action : Clerk

101.3/20 Maintenance of verge along Brimpton Lane in Brimpton Common. Mr. Main reported that they may have cut the verge in Blacknest Lane again by mistake. Clerk to contact West Berkshire Highways maintenance.

Action : Clerk

69.2/20 Sovereign have started work on tidying the Enborne Way allotment area.

142.13/19 Mr. Brims reported that the white lines have been painted along the sides of Wasing Road.

25/21 Parish Environment

25.1 To provide an update on the joint purchase of a Speed Indicator device with Aldermaston Parish Council

Aldermaston Parish Council have ordered the Speed Indicator Device and delivery is expected in the next 10-12 days. The licence to use the equipment on the highway has been requested from West Berkshire Council and they are waiting for the necessary documents from the legal department.

Each parish will need to apply for their own licence. All the sites where the SID is going to be used will need to be approved by West Berkshire Council.

Mr. Main is no longer able to take on responsibility for this initiative.

25.2 Litter along the verge of the B3051

Clerk received a complaint from a member of the public about the litter along the verge of the B3051. Clerk has raised a case with West Berkshire Council and they have said that a litter pick will be carried out in the next few weeks.

26/21 Planning and Development

26.1 To consider new planning applications and provide updates on any already considered. See appendix C below.

21/00171/HOUSE and 21/00172/LBC2 – Old Thatch, Crookham Common Road. Demolition of early 1960s extension and new garden room at rear of cottage

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections.

APP/W0340/W/20/3256559 – Blacknest Farm. Development of 4 dwellings through conversion of existing buildings. 20/00581/FULD. The Parish Council responded with no objections to the original application and resolved not to comment further.

26.2. To consider West Berkshire Council's response to the second stage complaint regarding the Washoe Lodge planning application decision report

The response to the Parish Council's stage 2 complaint has been received.

The Parish Council consider the response to be inadequate.

It was agreed that Mr. Hicks would draft a response to be reviewed by councillors before being sent to West Berkshire's Chief Executive and also to the Planning portfolio holder.

27/21 Finance

27.1 To approve payments and approve reconciliation against bank statements

The payments and bank reconciliation for March were agreed. Clerk to action the payments.

Action:Clerk

27.2 To consider a grant request from Tadley Citizens Advice

It was agreed that a grant of £100 would be given to Tadley Citizens Advice and this would be paid via The Good Exchange so that it will be matched by Greenham Trust.

27.3 To consider the grant request from the PCC for cutting the grass in the churchyard

It was agreed that the request for £2000 would be granted and paid in the April.

28/21 Consultation documents requiring consideration

28.1 West Berkshire Emergency Active Travel consultations

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not comment on this consultation.

29/21 Reports

29.1 Clerk's report

There has been no information on whether virtual meetings can continue after the legislation expires on 7th May. It is hoped that the government will clarify the situation soon and in the meantime, Clerk will wait for advice from NALC about when face to face meetings can safely resume.

29.2 Report from Village Hall Committee

The hall committee are looking for new members.

29.3 Report from Parish Council representatives on external bodies.

Mr. Bassil reported that AWE is sending out weekly updates giving the numbers of staff who are off work with infectious diseases. The numbers have been reducing over the last few weeks.

30/21 Public Forum

30.1 Mr. Dolphin asked about the Government’s proposed fund to help communities to buy their local pub. This scheme has only just been announced so the full details are not known.

30.2 Mrs Cowdery has received a complaint from a resident about changes to the permitted footpaths on Wasing Estate. It was agreed that the Parish Council could not do anything about this because they are permitted footpaths.

30.3 Mr. Bassil raised a concern about continued flooding on Brimpton Road, near to the property Willow Wands. Clerk to raise a case with West Berkshire Council and ask them to investigate the poor drainage.

Action : Clerk

31/21 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th April 2021

Signed: Date:.....
(Chairman)

Appendix A

Meeting Report 2nd March 2021

Community Account

Statement balance 24/2/2021	Cashbook balance as at 25/2/2021	Cashbook balance after new pay- ments made
£33,517.43	£33,517.43	£33,096.53

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	January salary	240.00
			£240.00

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	March salary	240.00
100473	Mrs C McGarvie	Homeworking allowance, zoom, folder	180.90
TOTAL			£420.90

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT

Payments not presented as of 25/2/2021

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			£0.00

Receipts not cleared as of 25/2/2021

Receipt date	Payer	Details	TOTAL COST
			0

Clerk's expense claim	
Homeworking allowance April 2020 to March 2021	100
Zoom subscription Sept to March 21. 7 months at £14.39 divided by 3	33.58
ink £99.99 divided by 3	33.33
Spring back folder	13.99
	£ 180.90
Savings Account balance 25/2/2021	£31,904.63

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 25th February

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council	
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO
Date	25th February 2021	
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council

Balance per bank statements as at 24th February 2021	£	£
Community Account		33,517.43
Saving account		31,904.63
		<u>65,422.06</u>

Less any un-presented payments at 25th February 2021

0.00

Add any uncleared receipts

Net Bank balances as at 25th February 2021	<u><u>£65,422.06</u></u>
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CASH BOOK

Opening balance as per cashbook 1st April 2020	27,885.22
Add: Receipts in the year	12,297.20
Less: Payments in the year	<u>6,664.99</u>
Closing balance as per cash book as at 25th February 2021	<u><u>£33,517.43</u></u>

Opening balance savings account 1st April 2020	31,890.86
Add: Receipts in the year	£13.77
Less: Payments in the year	<u>0</u>
Closing balance as per cash book as at 25th February 2021	<u><u>£31,904.63</u></u>

Overall closing balance	<u><u>£65,422.06</u></u>
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diff	£0.00
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Appendix C

Brimpton Parish Council Meeting – 2nd March 2021

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	21/00171/HOUSE and 21/00172/LBC2 – Old Thatch, Crookham Common Road. Demolition of early 1960s extension and new garden room at rear of cottage	Deadline 4 th March
2	APP/W0340/W/20/3256559 – Blacknest Farm. Development of 4 dwellings through conversion of existing buildings. 20/00581/FULD. PC responded with no objections	Any additional comments by 4 th March

Planning Application Decisions made

1	APP/W0340/W/20/3259595 – Shalford Farm planning appeal 20/00737/COMIND. PC responded with no objections to application 20/00737/COMIND.	Appeal dismissed
2	20/02473/FUL – Blacknest Farm, Brimpton Common – External alterations to Buildings H1 and H2	Approved

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	20/03037/HOUSE – Blacknest Bungalow. Erection of extension to side, extension/bay to rear, porch and bay window to front and replacement windows/doors	Deadline 23 rd Feb
2	APP/W0340/D/21/3266756 – 5 The Willows. Proposed side extension with external heat pumps	