

Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

Date: Tuesday 7th February 2023 Time: 7.30pm
Place: Brimpton Village Hall
Attending: Mr John Hicks (Chairman)
 Mr Phil Bassil
 Mr Charles Brims
 Mrs Mary Cowdery
 Mr John Dolphin
 Mr Nicholas Matthews

In Attendance: Christine McGarvie (Clerk)
 District Cllr Dominic Boeck
 9 members of the public
 Andrew Perkins – Chief Executive, Wasing Estate

1/23 Open Forum

1.1 Mr Bassil raised concerns about the tankers which are parking and reversing into the sewage pit area near to Willow Wands to pump out excess flood water. The verges have been damaged by the tankers and the they are often parked dangerously on the corner or with full headlights on. Clerk to contact Thames Water to ask for the verges to be restored and drivers to be told to park more considerately. **Action: Clerk**

1.2 Andrew Perkins from the Wasing Estate announced that Wasing will be holding a series of Summer concerts at 'The Mount, the name given to the amphitheatre area. The first night will be on 21st June and residents will be invited to attend this first evening. There will be a further 5 nights over two weekends being organised through a promoter Senbla.

The Estate is working on plans to minimise noise and traffic impacts to residents.

They are planning to hold an open evening in March which will allow residents to view the facilities and hear about plans for the Estate.

Mr Dolphin asked about whether the Estate would be open to making changes to footpaths on their land. Mr Perkins said they would be open to such a discussion.

2/23 Apologies for absence

None

3/23 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda

Mr Bassil declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in his own planning application and will leave the room when this is discussed.

Mr Dolphin declared a personal interest in item 9.2 as Chairman of the Village Hall.

4/23. Minutes of the previous meeting

4.1 It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2022 were a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4.2 Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda (including review of Action Tracker)

133.2/22 Mr Dolphin is still waiting for quotes from contractors for levelling the land at the back of the hall.

100.2/22 The new noticeboards for Brimpton Common are forecast for delivery in August 23

70/21 It was agreed to close this item as there are no actions that the Parish Council can take at this time.

Flooding at Able Bridge – Mrs Cowdery reported that West Berkshire Council need to clear the gulleys at Able Bridge and she will follow up with West Berkshire Council.

Action: MC

Mr Dolphin asked that the purchase of batteries for the Solar panels at the Village Hall be added to the Action Tracker.

Action: Clerk

5/23 To discuss parish communication methods

The Parishes Magazine which was being delivered to all households by the Benefice was stopped suddenly and there is concern that some residents, who have no access to a computer, will no longer receive parish news.

A resident has agreed to revive the magazine and will aim to cover production costs with advertising revenue. The new magazine may cover more than one parish to make production more economic.

It was agreed in principle that if the organisers of the magazine were to approach the Parish Council with a grant request it would be considered favourably.

It is hoped that the first magazine will be available in April.

6/23. To discuss events for the King's Coronation weekend

A working group of residents has met and decided to run two events.

There will be a beacon lighting event on Friday 5th May with a fish and chip supper. Tickets are already on sale.

On Sunday 7th May there will be a Community Lunch at the hall. Residents will be invited to bring their own food and it will be held outside if the weather is good. Entertainment will be provided for children and people will need to reserve a place at the event but there will be no charge.

Residents will be invited to decorate their houses for the Coronation weekend and the Parish Council will also be providing commemorative coronations mugs for children and young people who live in the parish.

7/23 Parish Environment

7.1 To provide an update on the use of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) in the Parish

The SID is currently being used in Beenham Parish but it will be back in Brimpton towards the end of February.

WBC Traffic and Road Safety Team carried out a Community Speed Watch session in Wasing Road but only captured one vehicle speeding between 8am and 9am. They are going to try again when the mornings are lighter.

Mrs Cowdery reported that a resident of Brimpton Common has been successful in having speed checks carried out in the Hampshire section of the B3051. The initial monitoring did not reveal much speeding, possibly due to road conditions, but they will be carrying out another monitoring session.

7.2 Mrs Cowdery raised the issue of litter throughout the village. Clerk to raise a case with West Berkshire Council and ask them if they can clear the rubbish along Brimpton Lane and Brimpton Road.

Action:Clerk

8/23 Planning and Development

8.1 To consider new planning applications received and provide updates on any already considered

22/00015/FUL – 2 Church Lane, Brimpton Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling.

Mr Hicks explained that the Parish Council's Standing Orders state that Mr Bassil must leave the room during the vote and discussion of his own planning application for 2 Church Lane. Mr Hicks stated that he considered this to be unfair but that the order would be followed.

Before leaving the room Mr. Bassil and residents were given the opportunity to make statements about the application which were heard without interruption or questions.

Mr Bassil explained that in 2008 a planning application to extend the existing bungalow and make it into a 1.5 storey house was already approved. Work on the garage and store had been completed under this application. Mr Bassil has found that it will be cheaper to rebuild rather than extend the existing bungalow. The new design will be of a similar height to that already approved but a smaller footprint.

It will be less visually impacting than the previous application and is over 20m away from the neighbours. There has been concern raised that the style of the new house is not in keeping with others in the conservation area but there are many different types and ages of houses in the area and the new house is not in the Conservation Area.

The access road is owned by the applicant as part of the property.

A member of the public said that they will submitting an objection to WBC and a copy had been sent to the Parish Council before the meeting.

Another member of the public raised a concern about loss of privacy in their property and that the access route is not sufficient to support further development.

The Chairman clarified that the access road is in the Conservation Area but the house is not.

Mr Bassil left the room and the Parish Council then discussed the application.

Mr Hicks declared that he had a personal interest in the application as he is a near neighbour and can see the property from his house.

The Parish Council considered the application and the objections raised by residents. As there is already approval for a 1.5 storey building the conclusion was reached that the principle of replacing the bungalow with a house had already been approved in 2008. This decision was therefore whether to support the new design. The Parish Council decided there were no planning reasons to object to the application. and resolved to respond with no objections.

8.2 LA2003 - New Licence Application - Wasing Park, Aldermaston

Mr Perkins was invited to give more information about the new licence application. He explained that Wasing already have a licence for over 170 weddings a year and a licence for 25 events a year at The Mount. This new licence application seeks to consolidate the licences into one licence.

They already have approval for a temporary car park on site.

The new licence requests 50 events a year and would remove the need for Temporary Licences which don't have the same requirements for noise plans, environmental health, Health & safety etc. Wasing will still have to submit an Event Management Plan 3 months before each event and liaise with the local community safety group made up of representatives from the emergency services.

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no comments.

9/23 Finance

9.1 To approve payments and approve reconciliation against bank statements

The payments and bank reconciliation were approved.

9.2 To consider the increase in hall rental charges

Due to rising costs the Hall Committee are proposing to increase the rent charged to the Parish Council to £200 per year for 12 x 2 hour meetings. This was accepted by the Parish Council.

10/23 Consultation documents requiring consideration

Consultation on the West Berkshire Local Plan review 2022-2039 proposed submission.

Mr Hicks reported that having reviewed the Local Plan there are no changes which will impact Brimpton directly.

It was agreed that Clerk should respond to West Berkshire Council that having considered the plan the Parish Council have no comment.

11/23 Reports

11.1 District Cllr's Report

District Cllr Boeck sent a monthly report via email.

At the elections in May there will be new voter identification requirements. Voters will need to provide a form of photo identification for example a passport or driving licence. For residents who do not currently have this form of identification they will need to contact West Berkshire Council to obtain a Voter Authority Certificate or alternatively register to vote by post.

There will also be Parish Elections on 4th May.

Cllr Boeck reported that the judicial review regarding the Monks Lane sports complex found in West Berkshire Council's favour and the development will now be proceeding.

11.2 Chairman's Report

Mr Hicks reported that he met with the company that is developing the Traveller's Friend site on Crookham Common Road. The development was delayed due to issues with the contractors but work will now start in April. The plan is to build accommodation for people with learning difficulties. They have no plans to build in the field behind the site. They will be having an open evening in the future to which councillors will be invited.

Mr Hicks, Mr Matthews and Mr Bassil attended the West Berkshire District and Parish conference held on 31st January. There was a presentation on the WBC budget for 23/24 and it was explained that it will be difficult year with significant budgetary pressures. The Neighbourhood Policing team gave a presentation. A senior planning officer gave a presentation and explained that they still do not know how the National Planning policy will be changed by the Government. Improvements are being made in the planning department however these are hampered by the need to recruit more officers.

11.3 Report from Village Hall Committee

The hall continues to be well used and finances are stable, despite the high electricity bills.

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Barber will visit the hall on 21st February but it is not yet known if this will be a meeting open to the public.

The CCTV system is fully operational and recently captured a lorry damaging the new fence at the back of the hall. The owners of the lorry have been contacted and agreed to pay for the damage.

The CCTV system is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office.

11.4 Report from Parish Council representative on the AWE LLC

There will be a planned site safety exercise on 24th April.

12/23 To Agree Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 7th March 2023 and to agree date of the Annual Meeting in May

Mr Matthews gave his apologies for the meeting on 7th March.

It is still unclear when the May Annual meeting will be able to be held. The election will take place on 4th May and the new councillors will take office on either the 8th or 9th May depending on when the count is completed and whether the election is contested. The Clerk has asked the Elections Office at West Berkshire Council for their guidance. The Annual meeting must be held within 14 days of the new councillors taking office.

It was suggested that the Church or School could be used if the hall is booked on 16th May. It was also suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Assembly could be held on the same evening if necessary.

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

Appendix A

Meeting Report 7th February 2023

Community Account

Statement balance 24/1/2023	Cashbook balance as at 24/1/2023	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£28,188.16	£28,188.16	£27,834.16

Payments made since last meeting

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	OJM Farm Contractors	Removal of hedge and new fence village hall	6651.43
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	back pay April to Nov 22 (10 months)	160.00
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	November Salary	259.00
DD	Barclaycard	Grant to Parenting special children	100.00
EP	Digital House Md LTd	Website security (VAT £15)	90.00
EP	Mrs C McGarvie	December salary	279.00
TOTAL			£7,539.43

New items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
EP	Brimpton VH	Hall Rental July to Dec 22	75.00
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	February	279.00
TOTAL			£354.00

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/12/2022	Brimpton Recreation Ground Cl	Grant for works at hall and legal fees	6492.86
05/12/2022	Barclays	interest	17.80
			£6,510.66

Payments not presented as of 24/1/2023

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not cleared as of 24/1/2023

Receipt date	Payer	Details	TOTAL COST
			0

Savings Account balance 24/1/2023	£31,938.67
CIL	£11,420.35
INRG solar donation	£20,000.00
	£31,420.35

must be spent by May 2026

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 31st January 2023

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council	
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO
Date	31st January 2023	
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council

Balance per bank statements as at 24th January 2023	£	
Community Account		28,188.16
Saving account		31,938.67

Less any un-presented payments at 24th January 2023

Add any uncleared receipts

Net Bank balances as at 24th January 2023

CASH BOOK

Opening balance as per cashbook 1st April 2022	35,309.84
Add: Receipts in the year	9,288.83
Less: Payments in the year	16,410.51
Closing balance as per cash book as at 31st January 2023	<u>£28,188.16</u>

Opening balance savings account 1st April 2022	31,908.63
Add: Receipts in the year	£30.04
Less: Payments in the year	0
Closing balance as per cash book as at 31st January 2023	<u>£31,938.67</u>

Overall closing balance	<u>£60,126.83</u>
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diff	£0.00
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Appendix C

Brimpton Parish Council Meeting – 7th February 2023

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	23/00015/FUL – 2 Church Lane, Brimpton Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling	2 nd March 23
2	LA2003 - New Licence Application - Wasing Park, Aldermaston	24 th February 23

Planning Application Decisions made

1	22/02252/CERTE – Oak Tree Farm, Brimpton Common The use of buildings as a self-contained dwelling	Approved
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Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	22/02683/FUL – Hyde End Farm, Hyde End Lane Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house	2 nd March 23
1	22/01895/FULD – Washoe Lodge – S73 variation of condition 2. Erection of 4 detached dwellings	30 th Sept deadline