

BRIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 December 2016 @ 7.30

Present: Mr C Brims (Chairman), Mr P Bassil, Mrs M Cowdery, Mr D Cowdery, Mr J Hicks, Mr R Smallwood, the Clerk Mrs B Harding and 15 members of the public

Apologies: District Councillor Dominic Boeck

Declarations of Interest: the Chairman declared his interest as Chairman of the Brimpton Recreation Ground committee.

1 Minutes of the previous meeting approved and signed

Sean Bates of Feltham Construction addressed the meeting on their application to develop the site of Blacknest Farm on Brimpton Common. The Parish Council have objected to this application and members of the public voiced their concerns about the encroachment onto agricultural land, the potential impact upon the already failing drainage system, the unsuitable nature of the narrow lane serving this area and the possibility of future further development. Explanation was given that this application is an initial outline one to receive feedback and is an attempt to comply with the current requirement to provide new housing development in the area. At this point Sean Bates and his two partners left the meeting.

2 Matters Arising:

Enforcement Issues – no progress

Roads –PB reported that a further site visit is planned by WBC and John Bowdon has been asked to arrange the provision of tarmac

Bus shelter – Clerk has contacted the builder and been advised that work will start on 3.1.17

Church Lane roadsign – sign now in place.

War memorial – Councillors agreed to the estimate of approximately £1100 to carry out the remedial work to the area around the war memorial – PB to arrange.

3 District Councillor's Report – none

4 WBC Budget Consultation

JH had prepared a discussion paper which the Councillors accepted as their response to the budget cuts proposed by WBC. It is anticipated that budget cuts will continue to be part of WBC policy and the Parish Council must remain vigilant to the needs of the parishioners. JH to forward response to WBC.

5 Library Consultation – JH's paper was discussed and accepted but during the precept discussion in January Councillors must consider whether in future they would consider making a contribution to the library service each year. JH to forward an initial response to WBC of reluctance to make a contribution.

6 Clerk's Report

Financial Report: c/a £22,056.45* d/ac £11,762.52

*incl £6800 for bus shelter

Bills to be paid: £50.70 BALC training & £2.70 booklet
£274.32 M Cowdery Christmas party presents
£3477.00 Brimpton Recreation Ground

Planning Applications:

New: 16/02916 Blacknest Farm 5 houses (see above)
16/03030 Solar Park time extension
Current: 16/00946 Kennetholme/Grundon amendment of conditions
Decisions: 16/02357 LakesideGardenCentre invalid application

Solar Park application – clerk to forward Parish objections to this application to extend the life of the solar park from 25 to 30 years.

Correspondence: Brimpton School thank you letter
WBC change of Monitoring Officer to Sarah Clarke
WBC speed limit review – residents of Bimpton Common living on the B3051 were anxious to reduce the speed limit on this road and the Chairman explained the new system of Review; Mrs Jenny Verity will co-ordinate and submit an application to reduce the speed limit to meet the 1 June 2017 deadline.
Volunteer Centre – Village Agent vacancy
Code of Conduct – WBC revision
WBC minibus consultation & sandbag consultation
Additional bank signatory – following a decision by the Parish Council to have an additional signatory, Clerk has been endeavouring to have John Hicks name added to the signatories but so far without success.
Barclays have promised to look into this and clerk will progress.

7 **Brimpton School Report** – JH reported a very successful year for Brimpton School with a current number of 50 children attending the school; he also outlined some of the activities being undertaken.

8 **Village Hall Report** - wine tasting event had to be cancelled due to lack of tickets sold but the Children's Christmas party was very successful.

9 Any Other Business

Broadband – RS reported on the schedule to start provision of this facility in January 2017, to be completed by April.

Clerk distributed a discussion document for the Precept.

PB noted that Ramblers had trimmed the hedgerow on some of the Parish walks.

It was confirmed that the 2 May meeting will comprise all 3 meetings – the Annual Parish meeting, the AGM and the Parish Council meeting.

Brenda Scott will forward estimates for work to the churchyard for consideration at the Precept discussion in January.

Date of next meeting: 3 January 2017

Meeting closed at 21.00