

Notes from Beenham Parish Council Meeting : Monday 3rd March

Public Forum

-It was reported that water running down Beenham Hill is accumulating at the bottom of the hill, and asked who is responsible for clearing. Advised to report to WBC Streetwise.

-A follow up to the grass verge cutting problem from last Summer was provided. At a WBC meeting the response time of 7 weeks was raised as unacceptable. WBC Head of Highways said the response should have been within 10 days as this is a safety issue.

-A parishioner offered his services to cut the football pitch grass on the Rec in between the contractor cuts as the time between was too long. He also offered to repair the goal areas. The PC will take this up for consideration including costs.

-It was reported that the footpath between Clay Lane and Douai was overgrown. This is the responsibility of WBC and they should be contacted.

Co-option of PC vacancy

-A new applicant is expected to apply shortly. To be discussed when that happens.

Councillors

-Clay Lane flooding. No response from WBC yet.

-Sale of Sovereign Housing properties. This matter was raised in a Parliamentary debate by our MP as being unacceptable and that the PC should be notified of any further intentions to sell, as it could help the need for affordable housing in Beenham.

-Gritting of Stoneyfield. WBC have responded as follows...

“Stoneyfield features on our secondary gritting network and so will only receive treatment when road surface temperatures remain below zero for an unbroken period of 72hrs or more. This threshold hasn't yet been met at any point so far in the current winter season, and so therefore Stoneyfield will not have been gritted”.

-Risk assessment. It was agreed to review the current risk assessment.

-Affordable Housing Initiative. WBC Planning attended a site survey to consider the possible 3 sites for the development of up to 10 affordable homes. One site was viewed as being preferred.

Planning Matters

-24/02808/FULMAJ: Grundon, Pips Way. Outside storage facility. This appears to be the latest in a series of applications for incremental development. The PC wishes Grundon to provide a master plan of development for the context of their whole plan.

-Planning decisions.

-24/01935/FUL: Unit 11A Beenham Industrial Estate. Granted.

-24/02415/LBC and 24/02414/HOUSE: St Mary's Farm Beenham. Granted.

-24/02385/COND: Beenham Landfill site: Approved.

-Closure of Ashampton Road, Bradfield. The closure is now in place, but is believed to allow access after 5.00pm at present.

Reports

-Parking at Aldermaston Wharf. More problems were reported after some anti social behaviour occurred during the warm up races for Newbury Canoe Club. PC to write to NCC regarding claims of abusive behaviour.

-Proposed 20mph speed limit in the vicinity of Beenham School. WBC is in favour of grouping villages together for 20mph zones to be approved once the 2025/6 budgets have been confirmed.

-Community Police liason will be available for parishioners to discuss any issues they may have. This will be outside The Victory Hall on April 6th at 11.00 am. Please attend if you wish to share any problems.

-Mobile Library. It was confirmed that WBC will discontinue this service in April.

Grants

-The request from the WI for funding of training courses on the defibrillator and CPR was agreed at £200 per course for up to 5 courses.

-Beenham School PTFA has requested £3000 for funding of an outdoor learning area. This was agreed in principle once quotes and matched funding had been provided to the PC.

Grant policy

-A draft policy for the assesment and conditions of grant requests was presented for consideration by the PC. Subject to minor amendments this was agreed.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday April 7th 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:

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

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

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