

Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

MINUTES of a meeting of Little Berkhamsted Parish Council held on Wednesday 15 January 2014 at 8.00pm in Little Berkhamsted Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs C Nunn (Chairman), E Hunter, R Pegg, W Walshe, R Chaplin
In attendance: the clerk, T Brindley.

68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The council accepted apologies for absence from Cllr M Bailey.

69. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Members were reminded that any declarations of interest should be made immediately preceding the item to be discussed.

70. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 20th November be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

71. ACTIONS AND ONGOING MATTERS

71.1. All covered within the meeting agenda.

72. FINANCE

72.1. The financial statement to 31st December 2013 was received and noted.

72.2. It was **RESOLVED** that three payments made since the last meeting and four payments now due, be approved. See attached list.

72.3. Cllr Chaplin asked for an additional line in the Financial Report to show the net receipts, and that the variances for the receipts (income) be changed to show +ve as favourable.

73. BUDGET

73.1. Members discussed the budget and made some minor adjustments.

- The Hall budget, while underspent this year, was set at the same 2013/4 level as there was known work required.
- An amount of £1000 was assigned to painting of external woodwork of the village hall (£500 from regular budget).
- £1000 was assigned to cleaning the War Memorial.
- £3000 was assigned for tree work on the recreation ground.
- An assumption of grants income to the value of £2000.

73.2. Members **APPROVED** the revised budget for 2014/15 (See attached)

73.3. Members discussed the need for a review of the cottage rent.

74. PRECEPT

74.1. It was **RESOLVED** to set a precepted income of £7,462 which, when combined with £238 in Council Tax Support Grant would give an income of £7,700.

75. HALL, COTTAGE AND OPEN SPACES

75.1. The clerk was authorized to place an order for a replacement Cottage front door with PJS Building Services.

75.2. A report on work required to trees around the recreation ground had been received and will be

circulated to members by the clerk. It was agreed that the work be carried out in the 2014/15 Civic year. The cost of work would exceed the council's procurement threshold and a minimum of three tenders would be required.

75.3. It was noted that, as the work was within the conservation area, permission from the East Herts Council Arboricultural Officer would be required.

75.4. Fusion Landscaping had submitted a grass cutting quote for 2014/15 which was the same as for 2013/14. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote.

76. HIGHWAYS

76.1. County Cllr Ken Crofton has allocated money from his 2014/15 Highways Locality budget to white lining and repair of the road surface around the War Memorial junction. Work to commence in April.

76.2. Raj Goutam (Ringway) had advised that gulleys on Robins Nest Hill will be repaired this year.

76.3. Members noted that flooding on the Lower Hatfield Rd had made it impassable in recent weeks.

77. RECREATION COMMITTEE

77.1. Cllr Hunter presented a report from the Recreation Committee including the events programme for 2014.

78. PLANNING

78.1. The planning report was noted.

78.2. 3/13/2281 and 3/13/2282 Ashfield House, Howe Green. Members had no objections.

78.3. Members discussed the application for a 2 year extension of operations at Bunkers and Water Hall quarry. Cllr Nunn agreed to draft a response for submission to the County Council.

78.4. East Herts District Plan. It was noted that the East Herts Draft District Plan was to be discussed by the EHDC District Plan Panel on Thursday 16th January, and if the Draft is approved at a full EHDC Council meeting at the end of January, it will be issued for a twelve week consultation period in mid-February.. Members noted there was no material change affecting Little Berkhamsted, which will remain a Category 3 (now renamed Group 3) village, where new development will be only be permitted in very exceptional circumstances. The Draft Plan will be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the council on 19 March.

78.5. The EHAPTC was due to meet with Cllr Carver on 22nd January. Cllr Nunn will attend.

79. MINERALS AND LANDFILL

79.1. The County Council Development Control committee was likely to decide the Broad Green application alongside the application for a 2 year extension at Bunkers and Water Hall in February 2014.

80. MATTERS TO NOTE

Cllr Chaplin asked that Parish Plans be discussed at a future meeting. It was agreed to discuss the subject in the next civic year.

81. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been forward to members.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 09.50 pm.

Signed

Date

Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

Payments schedule for Jan Meeting

Payments made in November and December

				<u>CQ</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
02/11/2013	Flying Moth	Broadband	*#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
20/11/2013	Paul Curson	Litter picking	*#	1074	31.50	0.00	31.50
20/11/2013	T Brindley	Expenses	*#	1075	37.11	1.84	38.95
20/11/2013	B Scott-Smith	Friendly club	*#	1076	50.00	0.00	50.00
20/11/2013	Fusion	Grass cutting	*#	1077	136.00	27.20	163.20
20/11/2013	S Hedley	Play Area	*#	1078	150.00	0.00	150.00
02/12/2013	Flying moth	Broadband	#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
10/12/2013	Paul Curson	Litter Pick	#	1079	28.00	0.00	28.00
22/12/2013	Tonks	Payroll	#	DD	731.19	3.90	735.09
Total					1283.80	32.94	1316.74

Payments due since 31st December

Date				<u>CQ</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
02/01/2014	Flying Moth	Broadband	#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
15/01/2014	Paul Curson	Litter picking		1080	42.00	0.00	42.00
15/01/2014	T Brindley	Expenses		1081	37.11	1.84	38.95
15/01/2014	L Gifkins	Tree Survey		1082	240.00	48.00	288.00
Total					378.89	50.89	429.78

* = approved at previous meeting # = already paid