

# Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

MINUTES of a meeting of Little Berkhamsted Parish Council held on  
Wednesday 19 March 2014 at 8.00pm in Little Berkhamsted Village Hall

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PRESENT: Cllrs C Nunn (Chairman), M Bailey, E Hunter, W Walshe, R Chaplin,  
R Pegg (9.25pm)  
In attendance: One member of the public and the clerk, T Brindley.

## 82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

## 83. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

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

83.2. The chairman advised he would be tabling an additional confidential item regarding the cottage rent review.

## 84. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> January be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

## 85. ACTIONS AND ONGOING MATTERS

85.1. The clerk advised that he still had not received the new electoral roll but that he had been promised it this week. Copies will be provided to all councillors for their confidential information.

## 86. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7<sup>th</sup> May

86.1. Members noted that representatives from BT and the Connect Counties Broadband Project had accepted an invitation to attend. Reports will be delivered on Parish Council and Recreation Committee activities.

## 87. FINANCE

87.1. The financial statement to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 was received and noted.

87.2. It was **RESOLVED** that five payments made since the last meeting and six payments now due, be approved. See attached list.

## 88. HALL, COTTAGE AND OPEN SPACES

88.1. The clerk reported that the replacement front door for the cottage had been ordered and PJS Building Services would be installing during March.

88.2. The clerk reported he had received verbal confirmation that EHDC would be granting conservation area approval for tree work at the recreation ground.

88.3. Cllr Chaplin reported that the ground under the gate at the far end of the recreation ground into the bridle path to Little Berkhamsted Lane was very boggy and suggested some hardcore be placed there. The clerk was asked to seek advice from Fusion Landscaping.

88.4. Members noted an increase in incidents of dog fouling on the grass verge in Church Road and in the play area.

## 89. HIGHWAYS

89.1. Members noted that the road markings in Robins Nest Hill and at the War Memorial junction with Church Road have now been repainted.

89.2. Resurfacing of Church Road from the shop to the junction (financed from County Councillor Ken Crofton's Highways Locality Budget) is understood to be planned for April 2014 or soon thereafter.

## 90. RECREATION COMMITTEE

- 90.1. Cllr Hunter presented a report from the Recreation Committee.
- 90.2. The Village Fete and Craft Fair will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July.
- 90.3. The new notice board to be placed at the entrance to the Recreation Ground had been ordered on the parish council's account and it was confirmed that the recreation committee would give the council a grant for the net cost.

## 91. PLANNING

- 91.1. The planning report was noted.
- 91.2. 3/14/0389 Ashfield House, Howe Green resubmitted application for replacement garage. Members had no objection.
- 91.3. Bedwell Quarry.. The EHDC Development Management Committee had approved enforcement action at its February meeting following its refusal in November 2013 of an application for use of land at Bedwell Quarry for parking of HGVs.
- 91.4. Swallowfield Bee Farm. The clerk was asked to obtain an update from EHDC enforcement officer on action taken to enforce the requirement for the occupants to leave the site.
- 91.5. The HCC Development Control Committee hearing in February of the applications for a new quarry at Broad Green and extensions of the permitted periods of operations at other sites on the Water Hall Complex had been delayed at the applicant's request. The applications would now be considered at the Committee's meeting on 26 March. The HCC planning officer was recommending refusal of the Broad Green application and shorter extensions of working periods at the other sites than had been applied for.
- 91.6. The East Herts Draft District Plan had been issued and the council received three printed copies, one each of which was held by the chairman, vice-chairman and clerk. The Draft Plan and all related documents are on the East Herts Council website.
- 91.7. The chairman reported that a public meeting on the Draft District Plan to be addressed by EHDC officers would be held in Fanshaws Room, Brickendon, on 3 April starting at 7.30 pm. Notices inviting residents to go to the meeting had been put on the parish notice boards and councillors were encouraged to attend.

## 92. MINERALS AND LANDFILL

- 92.1. See minutes 90.3 and 90.5.

## 93. MATTERS TO NOTE

Cllr Walshe advised the council that there were new occupants at South Lodge, Howe Green. The chairman advised that, in accordance with his normal practice, he would write a letter of welcome to the new residents, enclosing information about the parish.

## 94. CORRESPONDENCE

All relevant correspondence had been forwarded to members.

## 95. TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

- 95.1. In accordance with Standing Order 68 whereby "*... in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.*" it was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public.

## 96. COTTAGE RENT

- 96.1. It was agreed to increase the cottage rent in line with inflation.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 09.30 pm.

Signed

Date

## Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

### Payments made in January and February

02/01/2014	Flying moth	Broadband	*#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
15/01/2014	Paul Curson	Litter Pick	*#	1080	42.00	0.00	42.00
15/01/2014	T Brindley	Expenses	*#	1081	36.89	2.89	39.78
15/01/2014	L Gifkins	Tree Survey	*#	1082	240.00	48.00	288.00
01/02/2014	Paul Curson	Litter Pick	#	1083	35.00	0.00	35.00
02/02/2014	Flying moth	Broadband	#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
27/02/2014	Paul Curson	Litter Pick	#	1084	35.00	0.00	35.00
28/02/2014	Fusion	Tree pruning	#	1085	100.00	20.00	120.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>608.89</b>	<b>70.89</b>	<b>679.78</b>

### Payments due since 28th February

<u>Date</u>			<u>CQ</u>		<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
01/03/2014	Flying Moth	Broadband	#	so	60.00	0.00	60.00
12/03/2014	EHDC	Dog Bins		1086	154.50	30.90	185.40
19/03/2014	Tonks	Salary		dd	711.69	0	711.69
19/03/2014	Tonks	Admin		dd	19.50	3.90	23.40
19/03/2014	T Brindley	Expenses		1087	59.65	3.27	62.92
19/03/2014	P Curson	Litter Pick		1088	21.00	0.00	21.00
19/03/2014	S Ash	Telephone		1089	51.00	0.00	51.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>1077.34</b>	<b>38.07</b>	<b>1115.41</b>

\* = approved at previous meeting      # = already paid