

Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

MINUTES of a meeting of Little Berkhamsted Parish Council
held on Wednesday 18th November 2015 at 8.00pm in Little Berkhamsted Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Ellis Downes (in the Chair), Mrs Elaine Hunter (Vice-Chair), Ms Leanne Davey, Jim Holt, Derek Standbrook, Richard Chaplain and Wayne Morris

In attendance: 6 members of the public
Bob Fenton – Access Team Leader HCC
Linda Haysey – County Councillor

50. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – The Clerk Nina Villas was caught up in traffic and was unable to get to the meeting. Vice Chair Elaine Hunter was asked to take the minutes of the meeting.

51. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – None.

52. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2015 were approved. The minutes to be signed at the next meeting. These were proposed by Derek Standbrook and seconded by Jim Holt.

53. **MATTERS ARISING** - There were no matters arising that were not covered on the Agenda.

54. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - Linda Haysey County Councillor reported that an Enforcement action had been served on The Danes concerning Fireplaces. Derek Standbrook reported on a meeting he had attended concerning BTs broadband. Little Berkhamsted is in Phase 4 which is due 30/06/2018.

55. **PRESENTATION BY HCC ON FOOTPATHS** - Bob Fenton from HCC was asked to attend the meeting to give an insight into the Rights of Way. He gave a comprehensive report concerning footpaths, bridleways etc. He suggested that the Parish worked out an Improvement Plan for the right of ways around the village. Fly tipping in Little Berkhamsted Lane – Linda Haysey said she would look into it for us.

56. **TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMANS REPORT** – Ellis Downes reported on his meeting with Graham Lennox concerning the Apple Daycare Nursery. He has tried to get a meeting with Sam Baker, Graham Lennox and himself – which will be 19th November too late to give a report at this meeting. Linda Haysey has asked for an enforcement order on the Pavilion for change of use for Planning – she did this as she had concerns about the Nursery. The chairman had been informed about some boulders that had been instated on the verge in Little Berkhamsted Lane to stop the traffic mounting the verge – it was felt that they could be dangerous. The Clerk to contact Herts Highways to see if it is legal. An advert had been published for a Parish Clerk, there has been an informal application last week, but they still haven't applied for the job. There is to be joint meeting between Bayford and Little Berkhamsted concerning Waterhall. The work has now been completed on the Village Hall and the bill has been paid. The Recreation Committee have agreed to pay 50% of the costs.

57. **FINANCE** - It was resolved that:

- a) The Council approve the financial statement to 30/10/2015
- b) The Council approve the payment now due.
- c) Due to the Clerk being absent this item (External Auditors Report) had to be deferred.

58. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** -

Dene Orchard – objection for reasons discussed at the meeting.

Bee Farm – There was considerable discussion on Swallowfields retrospective planning application and a letter of objection will be sent to the Planning Office.

59. **HALL, COTTAGE AND OPEN SPACES** - Richard Chaplain asked if the trees that hang over the neighbouring garden could be cut back.

60. **HIGHWAYS MATTERS** – The Clerk to contact the Quarry about the reinstating of the cleaning at the bottom of Robins Nest Hill as per their agreement.

61. **RECREATION COMMITTEE** – a report was given by Wayne Morris. The Recreation Committee to ask Nina for a copy of the minutes of the Parish Council. It was also reported that exercise equipment would be purchase for the recreation field. Linda Haysey reported that grants might be available. New chairs and chains to be purchased for the little swings in the play area. The goals to be re-erected in the Recreation field. The 950th Anniversary was discussed and it was suggested that perhaps an exhibition in the hall could be held with the help of the owners of The Folly. A grand for this could be available. Linda Haysey informed the meeting of a Village Hall Conference to be held on Thursday 2nd December.

62. **MINERALS AND LANDFILL** – None

63. **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS** – None

64. **CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED AND NOT PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED** – None

65. **MATTERS TO NOTE OR BE CONSIDERED AT FUTURE MEETINGS** - It was felt that the website needs updating, that a reprint of the history of Little Berkhamsted could be completed in time for the 950th Anniversary and a discussion as to how to contact residents about things happening in the Parish.

Next Wednesday 24th November an Informal Residents Meeting to be held on the Village Hall at 8pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 19th January 2016.