

Little Berkhamsted Parish Council

MINUTES of a meeting of Little Berkhamsted Parish Council
held on

Wednesday 29th June 2016 at 8.00pm in Little Berkhamsted Village Hall

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

In attendance: 5 members of the public
Linda Middleton Parish Clerk

21. **To receive apologies for absence** – Sandi Ash apologised that she was unable to attend.
22. **To note declarations of interest in line with the code of conduct** –Leanne Davey declared a conflict of interest in relation to the planning application for Dhoon and took no part in the discussion or voting.
23. **To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting 19th May 2016** - The minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2016 were approved and signed, proposed by Councillor Elaine Hunter and seconded by Councillor Jim Holt.
24. **To consider matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda** – there was a discussion about insurance cover and the Clerk was requested to obtain a quote to increase the insurance cover on the War Memorial and other items. The Clerk suggested that it would the cost of replacing equipment should be ascertained and factored into future budget preparation. The Clerk was asked to contact the parish Clerk at Bayford to ask for information about volunteer litter picking events as Bayford had carried out litter picks in the past.
25. **Public participation** – a member of the public stated that she would like some information about Apple Daycare's use of the Cricket Pavilion and it was agreed that this would be covered when their planning application was covered later in the agenda.
26. **To receive the Chairman's report** – the Chairman advised he had received some negative comments following the Parish Council's decision not to contribute funding to the Church Tower Project. There was some further discussion but as there had been no provision made in the budget and the Parish Council had been warned that grant funding from the New Homes Bonus was likely to cease, councillors reluctantly agreed that their decision should stand. The Chairman will be writing to explain the decision
27. **Finance:**
 - a) To approve the bank reconciliation and financial statement
The Clerk outlined the current financial position.
 - b) To approve payments now due and note receipts received
Approval of the accounts and payments was proposed by Jim Holt and seconded by Wayne Morris.
28. **Planning applications:**
 - a) To receive an update on EHDC decisions since last meeting – the update had been circulated with the agenda.

- b) To note any responses made to applications received since the last meeting – refusal of application for 18 Goddards Close.
- c) To consider a response on applications received but not yet responded to – members considered three applications:

Dhoon	3/16/1163/FUL	31/05/2016	Use of part of ground floor for the purposes of childcare on a domestic premises for up to 42 children and erection of single storey rear extension
Epping Green Stud Farm	3/16/1222/HH	02/06/2016	Proposed first floor front extension.
1 Henderson Place	3/16/1243/HH	08/06/2016	Proposed single storey side extension

Councillors decided that they did not wish to raise any objections to the applications relating to Epping Green Stud Farm or 1 Henderson Place. Mr and Mrs Baker, who run Apple Daycare and are the owners of Dhoon attended the meeting and provided information in relation to their planning application. They responded to questions from councillors and the public. It was intended to provide day care for a further 10 children (up to 42). In response to a question about traffic problems, the applicants advised the meeting that Herts Highways had no objections on highway grounds to the application. There was also some discussion about hours of operation at the Cricket Club and it was confirmed by Mr and Mrs Baker that they provided after school care at the Cricket Club and had not run holiday clubs there since February. They confirmed that their use of the Cricket Club ended at 5pm. It was suggested that a meeting between the Cricket Club, Parish Councillors and Mr and Mrs Baker should be arranged. Following the discussion, it was decided on the Chairman's casting vote that the Parish Council would not object to the application.

- 29. **To receive an update on hall, cottage and open spaces** – plans for a path round the recreation field are currently on hold whilst the drainage issues are being considered. A meeting will be held between members of the Cricket Club, recreation committee and Parish Councillors to discuss a way forward.
- 30. **To receive an update on highways matters** – it was noted that some potholes have been filled in recently and some new potholes were reported - Jim Holt will follow up these reports. The Horses Crossing sign has still not been removed from the village sign.
- 31. **To receive a report from Little Berkhamsted Recreation Committee** – the Committee had met on the 2nd June and it was reported that they had looked at traffic calming initiatives used by other parishes, work was continuing on efforts to obtain a defibrillator for Little Berkhamsted, repairs on the swings were continuing and that three social events were planned- Parish picnic on Sunday 3rd July, a coach trip to the coast on 9th July and a Christmas Ball on 2nd December. A booking form was to be introduced for people wishing to book the Village Hall, quotes were being sought for hall repairs, the Committee were looking at replacing the chairs in the hall and the Parish Council was advised that a temporary cleaner would be appointed to cover Sandi Ash's duties.

32. **To receive an update on minerals and landfill activities** – none reported.
33. **To answer previously submitted questions from councillors** – none submitted
34. **To note any correspondence received and not previously circulated** – none reported.
35. **To consider matters to be discussed at future meetings** – no matters raised

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday
21st September 2016.**

DRAFT