

# LITTLE BERKHAMSTED PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of meeting held at 8pm on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in the Village Hall, Little Berkhamsted.

**Present;**

Cllr Downes (Chair), Cllr Hunter (Vice-Chair), Cllr Standbrook, Cllr Chaplin, Cllr Morris

**In attendance:**

Laura Brooks-Payne (Parish Clerk), District Cllr Linda Haysey and 7 members of the public.

**1. To receive apologies for absence:**

District Councillor Ken Crofton and Cllr Jim Holt

**2. To receive declaration of interest and dispensation:**

None

**3. To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017:** Approved as correct, proposed by Cllr Standbrook, seconded by Cllr Downes.

**4. To receive comments from residents and attendees:**

None.

**5. To receive the Chairman's Report:**

Cllr Downes reported that there are no further progress on the issues with Apple Day Care as he has not managed to get hold of the appropriate post holders at the Cricket club as yet.

**ACTION:** Cllr Downes will continue to follow this up.

**6. To receive the planning report:**

The latest planning applications document for the village had been circulated to councillors by the clerk and briefly read through. (Attached at the end of this document). There was discussion in reference to planning application 3/17/2651 at Epping Green Farm. It had been reported by councillors and residents that there is a new hard standing area which regularly holds up to 30 cars now, having slowly increased in numbers over the last 6 months. Cllr Haysey advised the PC that the case officer had visited the site on 5<sup>th</sup> January and that there was some scepticism on the future use of the potential new building structure. Cllr Downes advised residents that the PC had put in a comment to object to the development having had the information put before them.

**7. To receive a report on the meeting with the District Council and Mrs Vavarides**

Cllr Haysey reported that she had a meeting the previous week at EHDC council offices with the Head of Planning for EHDC, herself, Cllr Hunter and Mrs Varvarides. Mrs Varvarides has expressed an interest to develop her land for up to 80 houses within the

parish. The meeting was held to explain to Mrs Vavarides that the proposed development opposes most of EHDC's policies. Cllr Downes also reported that Mrs Vavarides had contacted the PC to enable her to gain contact information for residents which of course Cllr Downes strongly declined.

**8. To report on maintenance and repairs to the village hall;**

Cllr Standbrook reported that the chimney repairs had been carried out and the clerk had received an invoice for £744.00 for the works. Cllr Standbrook advised that when the PC have the repair work carried out on the village hall ceiling, users will need to be re-located for approximately one week.

**9. To receive a report on open spaces:**

TREES

Cllr Standbrook reported that he had previously obtained one quotation for pollarding the trees lining the pavement and playground.

**ACTION:** Cllr Standbrook will seek two additional quotations.

**10. To receive a report on Highway Matters;**

In Cllr Holt's absence, Cllr Downes reported that since the last meeting, Cllr Holt had met with the County Council to determine suitable SID (Speed indicator devices) locations.

**11. To discuss Little Berkhamsted Village Identity and branding**

Cllr Morris reported that the signs entering the village from all directions were looking tired and worn and that we have no 'brand identity' or logo for the village. Cllr Morris introduced Dominic ??? who is a resident in the village and a Design and Brand Consultant. Dominic gave a short presentation which proposed designing a brand and logo for the village which could be used on communications too. Dominic explained that he would do this work at cost for the PC because he is a resident and would like the village to become more noticeable. Cllr Chaplin agreed with Dominic and supported the idea as did all councillors. Cllr Downes explained that the possible branding could also improve the speeding problems through the village and would bring the community together. Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Morris will join a sub-committee along with Dominic to get the project started.

**ACTION:** Cllr Downes asked Dominic to put together some ideas and costs for the PC to consider.

**12. To receive a report from Little Berkhamsted Recreation Committee:**

Cllr Hunter reported that no recreation meeting had been held since the last PC meeting but stated that the pantomime 'Toad in Toad hall' had been a great success with Cllr Morris taking the lead.

**13. To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:**

The clerk went through the last two months payments, nothing unusual to report. Approved unanimously, Cllr Standbrook proposed and Cllr Chaplin seconded.

PRECEPT

The clerk had prepared a draft budget and precept. The councillors went through this in depth detailing expenditure for this year up to the current date. It was agreed that the PC will request £9300.00 for total precept for the year 2018-19, a 5% increase in the amount received last year. Cllr Hunter proposed and Cllr Downes seconded.

14. **Matters for future consideration and confirmation of the date of the parish council meeting:**

Cllr Hunter asked for the meeting dates to be circulated to councillors.  
Next Meeting date confirmed as 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

15. **To receive correspondence:**

None.

16. **To close the meeting:** meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Laura Brooks-Payne, Clerk  
15<sup>th</sup> January 2018