

## **Notes from the Parish Council meeting on 9 January 2012**

5 members of the public attended the meeting.

### **Parish Plan**

Following the next meeting in January it is hoped that the implementation group will shortly be recommending certain of the Plan projects to the Parish Council for early action.

### **Village Events**

In the light of the success of the Christmas Tree initiative it was decided that three village events should be promoted in 2012:

- On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, a street party and other events to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee
- On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July, the Beenham Olympic Festival
- On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December, the lighting of the Beenham Christmas Tree and carol singing after the Christingle Service

More details will follow, but put these dates in your diary now.

It was also decided to seek quotations for two seats, probably to be placed on the green near the School and in Stoneyfield, which could serve as a perpetual reminder of the Jubilee.

### **Broadband**

We are now waiting to hear whether WBC have obtained sufficient support from other parishes to make the proposed upgrade across the district feasible. However, regardless of whether this particular project progresses, it is important that we gather as much information as possible about individual current broadband usage and speeds in order to gain some priority. If you can help with input please contact Alex Cother or Steve Liversidge, or visit the Beenham Parish Broadband page on Facebook where updates will be posted. There is a link to this page on the beenhamonline web page as well.

### **Planning Matters**

#### **Decisions from West Berkshire (the planning authority)**

11/02064/HOUSE	Grange Cottage, new garage	<b>Approved</b>
11/02242/HOUSE	48 Mallard Way extension	<b>Approved</b>
11/02325/FUL	Land east of Old Forge House- kerb and access widening	<b>Approved</b>

Two members of the Council will attend the NALC seminar on Localism and the new Planning System

The revised noise mitigation proposals for the A4 Breakers yard are still awaited. Unless these are received before the month end WBC will decide the application on the basis of the information they have.

## **Highway Matters**

- WBC are hoping to produce revised plans for the proposed refuge on the A4 between Grange lane and Station Road.
- The bridges on the A340 and Station Road are to be rebuilt in order to accommodate electrification of the railway line. We will be given advance notice of times when the roads will be closed.
- It was agreed that a proposal would be put together to improve the parking and pedestrian access near the corner of Back Lane, for discussion with WBC.
- Lorry movements through the village are still causing problems. It is possible that highway authorities now have more power to designate roads as unsuitable for heavy vehicles and this will be looked into. Satnav systems would also be looked at.

## **Environmental Matters**

- The minor works to the playground following the ROSPA report will be carried out shortly.
- Replacement of the football nets at a cost of £71 was approved.
- A dog bin is to be placed at the junction of Bourne Lane and the path into Greyfriars Wood.
- 3 new litter bins are to be ordered, to replace those suffering from serious rust damage.
- The tables and seats on the Rec need stripping and resealing. Quotes will be obtained.
- The seat in the churchyard also needs attention and will be dealt with.

## **Financial matters**

The precept was set at £15,000, the same level as for the previous three years.

**The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 6 February at 7.30pm in the Community Room.**

### **Your Parish Councillors are:**

Dick Russell, St Mary's Farmhouse (Chairman)	Tel: 9712269
Alison Whittenbury, Stocks Farm	Tel: 9712599
Philip Leitjen, 1 Awberry Fields	Tel: 9714020
Sonia Buchanan, 17 Back Lane	Tel: 9710203
Alex Cother, 1 Mallard Way	Tel: 9714697
John Thurley, 25 Back Lane	Tel: 9712554

(Note: There is a vacancy on the Council. Anyone interested should please speak to the Clerk or any Councillor)

### **Parish Clerk:**

Bill Goudge, Nova, Coppid Hill, Barkham Road, Wokingham	Tel: 9773553
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