

BARKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of meeting of the Barkham Parish Council held on 9th June 2009
in Barkham Village Hall at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mrs P. Stubbs (in the Chair), Mr F. A. Scott, Dr. R. Loader, Mr L. Heath, Mr. R. Newman, Mr. C. Heyliger, Miss L. Morris (Youth Worker from WBC), twelve members of the public and the Clerk.

Apologies: Mr. D. Oxbrough (business trip), Mr. S. Goldring (work commitments)

Declarations of Interests

Mr C. Heyliger declared an interest in relation to the planning application for Coppid Hill House.

09/306 **Minutes** of meeting held on 12th May 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

Meeting adjourned in order that any members of the public could address the Council on any matters or concerns relating to Barkham

09/307 **Report from the Villages Youth Project Worker – Louise Morris**
Report attached.

09/308 **Planning**

The only Planning application which was referred to the full Council was:

F/2009/0690	Coppid Hill House, Barkham Road	Delegated
	Proposed change of use of existing agricultural land to equestrian use.	Opposed

Clerk to write to WBC opposing this application, work has already started as the applicant is already allowing horses to be kept in the fields and an area of hard standing has been built and the parking of at least 6 cars have been observed at any one time. As this application is for their own use there should be no need for the provision of parking. Clerk to contact Enforcement at WBC. This land is designated as agricultural land and should remain as such, the fact that the owner has neglected the land is not an argument to obtain planning permission. The application states that there has been a neighbour consultation when it would appear that there has not, and there are 2 veteran trees on the adjacent site which will require a full tree survey. This also raises the fear of creeping development, especially as it is apparent that the Agent is a Property Developer. An area of land would be lost and the function of the green wedge compromised of detriment to the immediate and wider local character. The Parish Council are strongly opposed to this application and recommend that this area of land should be returned to its original state as Agricultural Land and Enforcement should proceed.

The turkey farm at Barkham Manor was displaying an A board advertising the turkeys for sale, this was positioned on the grass verge, BPC had already contacted Highways Dept at WBC who were unable to help as it was not causing an obstruction. However, they do not have planning permission for a retail activity or permission to slaughter the turkeys. Clerk to write to the Planning Dept. at WBC bringing these points to their attention. Also the question was raised as to whether Trading Standards should be involved with the slaughter of the turkeys.

09/309 **Highways**

The pot hole opposite 9 The Woodlands has now been repaired.

It has been noted that the signage for the 6' 6" width restriction at Barkham Street is lacking, if approaching from the East (Finchampstead) there are 3 signs warning of the width restriction. If approaching from the South (Arborfield) there is one sign but it is currently obscured by a holly tree. If approaching from the North (Wokingham) there are no signs at all to warn drivers of large vehicles. The signs are positioned 50m into Barkham Street when it is already too late for a large vehicle to correct the situation. Clerk to report this Highways at WBC. Also the speed activated sign at Barkham Bridge travelling towards Wokingham is obscured by vegetation, Clerk to request this is also cut back.

The section of the Bearwood Road either side of Highlands Ave has been patched and repaired so many times that it is now in desperate need of resurfacing, this is as a result of all the heavy lorries turning out of Highlands Ave. Clerk to contact WBC to request that resurfacing is carried out.

It has been suggested that as visibility is poor when exiting from Church Lane into Barkham Street a convex mirror be placed opposite Church Lane. Also the hedge surrounding the field owned Philip Seal which adjoins Barkham Street has grown in height and depth, again visibility is obscured. Clerk to write to Mr Seal asking him to trim the hedge.

Recent repairs in Langley Common Road close to the junction with Biggs Lane are already starting to break up, Clerk to contact WBC to request that they are repaired properly.

09/310 Litter

The Borough wide Cleanup will take place in late March next year, in order that the grass and nettles will not have grown so tall.

09/311 Provision Of Youth Shelter

The S106 monies promised from WBC was a verbal agreement, as yet no further information is available. It was decided to hold a public consultation at the village hall to be chaired by Mr Carter (Chairman of the Barkham Village Residents Association). Mrs Stubbs will write a letter to all Barkham residents inviting them to this meeting, this to be distributed to all residents.

09/312 Finance

Arborfield School – grant	186	£650.00
(£350 towards the chemicals for the upkeep of the pool and a one off donation of £300 towards the construction of an area for leaving outdoor shoes).		
WBC Villages Youth Project – grant	187	£4242.20
Keep Mobile – grant	188	£500.00
Barkham Village Residents Association – grant	189	£650.00
St. James Parish Church – grant	190	£500.00
Barkham Village Hall – grant	191	£3000.00
WBC – 1 refuse lorry at The Junipers for May	192	£173.65 (£151.00 exc VAT)

Standing Order for Clerk's salary for June

£572.64

Standing Order to Royal Bor. Windsor – Pension Fund for Clerk for month of June (Employee & employer contribution)

£127.84

To date 872 books have been sold, an income of £4559.24, thus leaving 128 unsold, and the Council is now in credit to the amount of £593.57.

09/313 Borough Councillor's Report

Mrs Stubbs reported that The Scrapyard, Highlands Ave. have submitted planning applications to legalise the portaloos and emptying of wet waste, and to extend the site in order that more lorries can deliver scrap metal. BPC have never received the plans as an Adjoining Parish Consultation. Clerk to contact WBC, BPC are opposed to this which will result in even more lorries turning in and out of Highlands Ave.

09/314 Correspondence

- a. REME – invitation to an Open Day on 4th July. Arborfield Parish Council have asked if BPC would like to join with them and have a table with Parish Council information displayed. Mr Scott and Dr Loader to attend. It was also agreed that it would be beneficial to join with Arborfield to have a table displaying the work of the Parish Council, History Books, Village Design Statement and a map showing the new boundary amendments.
- b. WBC invitation to workshops North and South Wokingham – Friday June 19th, Arborfield and South of the M4 – Saturday June 20th. Mr Newman to attend on 20.6.09.
- c. BALC – request for suggested training courses. BPC submitted requests for new councillor training, planning applications, Parish Plans and roads, footpaths, drainage and parking.
- d. Citizens Advise Bureau – invitation to AGM on 31.7.09. Mr Heath to attend.
- e. NHS Thames Valley Primary Care Agency – Determination of Rurality Under Regulation 31 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005 in respect of Finchampstead. The decision made is that Finchampstead is “Urban” in nature within a one mile radius of California Crossroads. This is the same as the previous classification in 1993.
- f. NHS Thames Valley Primary Care Agency – Determination of Rurality Under Regulation 31 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005 in respect of Swallowfield. The decision made is that

Swallowfield is "Rural" in nature. The boundary encompasses the villages of Swallowfield, Farley Hill, Riseley and Spencers Wood.

Distribution

WBC Agenda for A Meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee on 20.5.09.

WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 4.5.09 – 8.5.09.

WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Planning Committee 27.5.09.

WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Executive on 28.5.09.

WBC Staff Bulletin Issue 10.

WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 11.5.09 – 15.5.09.

WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 18.5.09 – 22.5.09.

BALC – Information leaflet.

WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 25.5.09 – 29.5.09.

WBC Staff Bulletin Issue 11.

WBC Minutes of Southern Parishes Area Youth Committee Meeting held 25.2.09 + Quarterly Report.

The Omnibus Newsletter – Issue 2.

WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Personnel Board on 11.6.09.

WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee 15.6.09.

09/315 Councillors Forum

No Councillors had any other matters to report.

Meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Next meeting of full Council will be held on 14th July at 8 p.m.

Next meeting of Planning Committee will be held on 23rd June 2009 at 7.30 p.m.