

## BARKHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes** of meeting of the Barkham Parish Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 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. S. Goldring, Mr. C. Heyliger, Louise Morris (WBC Youth Worker), eight members of the public and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Mr. D. Oxbrough (on holiday)

### **Declarations of Interests**

None

09/348 **Minutes** of meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009 were approved and signed as a true record.

### **09/349 Co-Option of new Councillors**

Clare Dando

Proposed: Mrs Stubbs

Seconded: Mr Heath

Gordon Burges

Proposed Mr Heath

Seconded: Mrs Stubbs

Unfortunately Mrs Dando and Mr Burges were unable to attend the meeting, the Clerk will invite them to come to the next meeting in November early in order to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and then participate in the Council meeting.

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

### **09/350 Report from the Villages Youth Project Worker – Louise Morris**

Louise reported that the youth club was still thriving, the older children have moved on but there are younger ones joining and bringing their friends with an attendance of 20 – 30 per week. Over the last few weeks they have been cooking and making smoothies. November is anti bullying week which the young people will participate in, plus planning parties for Halloween and Xmas. The Youth Forums have been restarted and the young people are being encouraged to attend and voice their opinions. With half term approaching there will be a big promotion on youth activities with a new designed leaflet which will be distributed.

### **09/351 Planning**

The planning application which has been brought to the attention of the full Council is:-

F/2009/1947	Barkham Manor Farm, Barkham Road	Delegated
	Proposed erection of two agricultural buildings, units 1 & 3 (part retrospective).	Opposed

Clerk to write to WBC opposing this application and to request that Mrs Stubbs has it Listed for discussion at the Development Control Meeting at WBC. Unit 1 is to be used for a tractor and hay store and Unit 3 for a workshop, storage of machinery and equipment; the previous application was for a slaughter house and butchery. This is the second of two applications seeking to rely on the determination of Permitted Agricultural development in 1908. BPC questions whether these two applications together are covered by that determination. The previous application was for a slaughter house and butchery. Dr Loader has been asked to consult BALC with reference to permitted development regulations where the land is divorced from the farm.

Mr Heath reported that he had recently attended the Parish Planning Liaison Meeting and suggested that if a meeting could be arranged with Mark Cupit (Head of Planning at WBC) this would be a valuable session. Clerk to arrange. He also reported that WBC had been most helpful with questions concerning the Barkham Village Design Statement and confirmed that no changes were necessary.

**Arborfield Garrison SDL**

Mr Heath has been circulating responses to the questionnaire and is currently collating a reply. Concern lies with the two proposed entrances on to Langley Common Road / Barkham Road, our concern is that they will become feeder routes. Langley Common Road is an unclassified road which has grown over the years from a country lane but has never been re-engineered to modern standards; it lacks both the width and substructure to support the additional volumes of traffic likely to be generated by the SDL. Further, the sightlines to the right from an access near Langley House would be very limited. We believe that there should be at most one access point on to Langley Common Road: indeed it would be preferable if the main access point was directly on to the A327 in the vicinity of the existing Langley Common roundabout. He urged people to view the exhibition currently on display at WBC. Mr Heath will complete the response which must be delivered to WBC by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October. The report from the Inspector is due out soon.

**09/352 Highways**

An updated progress report has been received from Councillor Keith Baker, Executive Member for Highways and Transport:-

**PRIORITY 1 – Pavement, Bus Stop repositioning at Barkham Street / Church Lane Junction – UNDER WAY**

Following meeting with Parish Council on 14<sup>th</sup> July everyone is in agreement that this should go ahead. Key to this being started is a safety audit which Julia Tredwell is currently chasing. Clerk to find out where the bus stop on the opposite of the road will be positioned.

**PRIORITY 2 – Hayes Lane / Coombes Lane Footpath – NEED INVESTIGATION**

This was looked at last year but fell due to lack of funds. A recent development has meant that some S106 money is now available. Officers will now look at the requests from an initial technical perspective. At the same time Julia Tredwell will look to see if there is any prospect of S106 money being available to fund the requests. If there is unlikely to be any money then the detailed technical evaluation will NOT be carried out and the request will fall until money is available.

The Clerk had delivered a letter to the eight houses along Bearwood Road explaining the Parish Council's plans to extend the footpath from Hayes Lane to Coombes Lane, the work being funded from S106 monies from the two new houses which have been built adjacent to Hayes Lane. Three of the residents have replied stating that they do not want the footpath. It was decided that the footpath would be an improvement and of great benefit to all who wished to walk up to The Coombes. Clerk to confirm to WBC that BPC wish to proceed with the path.

A report has been received from WBC detailing proposals to improve the bus stop on Langley Common Road, the works have been designed to improve the waiting environment. The eastbound bus stop on Langley Common Road is served by the 144 service every 30 minutes providing access to Finchampstead, Barkham and Wokingham. Requests have been made to WBC by Arborfield Parish Council and residents for a bus shelter similar to that already provided in a westbound direction. It is proposed that a bus shelter which does not include adverts or in shelter lighting is provided at the stop with a metal perch seat, the shelter will be placed on a new hard standing set back from the pavement. At the same time a new perch seat will be added to the shelter on the opposite side of the road. The cost of these works will be £4,100 funded from S106 monies awarded to Arborfield. BPC agree to the bus shelter but would suggest that the shelter has no sides and no front in order that visibility is not impaired. It was further decided that this work should not be given priority over the two items above and should not be paid for from Barkham S106 money.

**09/353 Litter**

There were no areas of litter that required clearing.

**09/354 To Discuss the report from Mr Carter regarding the proposed Youth Shelter in The Junipers Open Space**

A public meeting took place on 16th September, chaired by Mr. D. Carter as requested by the residents. A letter had been delivered to every house in Barkham with a photograph of the proposed shelter. This was an open discussion in which many comments were made both for and against the shelter. The young people have been awarded £10,000 which they have until 31.3.10 to spend. Mrs Stubbs has since been notified of a "Playbuilder Fund" from WBC where Barkham may be awarded a sum of money to improve the facilities at

The Junipers Park. This is WBC driven with consultation with the Parish Council. It was decided to arrange a meeting with WBC to discuss exactly when and how much funding will be available, and to establish if this could incorporate a youth shelter in the scheme. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Mr Cristo at WBC for Mrs Stubbs and the Clerk to attend.

**09/355 Finance**

Inland Revenue – Tax & N.I. for Aug, Sept & October	207	£65.25
WBC – 1 refuse lorry at The Junipers for September	208	£173.65 (£151.00 exc VAT)
Inland Revenue – 5 months pay adjustment	209	£7.80
Pension Fund – 5 months pay adjustment	210	£6.35
J.P. Neuhofer – 5 months pay adjustment	211	£18.00
Neat Ideas – stationery	212	£63.74 (£55.43 exc VAT)
The Royal British Legion – grant	213	£100.00
SLCC – purchase of Local Council Administration book	214	£55.60
Standing Order for Clerk’s salary for October		£576.62
Standing Order to Royal Bor. Windsor – Pension Fund for Clerk for month of October (Employee & employer contribution)		£129.11

The Council agreed to instructions that have now been received for the pay awards for the Clerk from NALC SCP 27 has increased to £11.549 (previously £11.435) per hour from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. Adjustments will be made to account for this with the Inland Revenue, the Pension Fund and to the Clerk. The two standing orders will be amended with effect from 1.10.09. Standing order to the Clerk for her salary will be amended to £576.62 and the Pension Fund will be amended to £129.11.

To date 883 books have been sold, an income of £4616.24, thus leaving 117 unsold, and the Council is now in credit to the amount of £650.67.

**09/356 Borough Councillor's Report**

Mrs Stubbs reported that she had been very busy with planning matters in Barkham with particular attention to the Scrapyard, Highlands Ave where an application has been submitted to increase the number of lorries entering and leaving Highlands Ave with scrap metal and portaloo's, hence creating more traffic on Bearwood Road. Also the planning applications at Barkham Manor Farm which Mrs Stubbs has Listed for discussion at the Development Control Meetings at WBC. She suggested inviting Mark Cupit (Head of Planning at WBC) and John Steepe (Enforcement Officer at WBC) to attend the meeting of BPC in December. Clerk to invite them.

**09/357 Correspondence**

- a. Thames Valley Police – invitation to Town and Parish Councillors Meeting to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> October at The Oakwood Centre, Woodley at 7.00 p.m. No one was able to attend as this clashed with BPC meeting.
- b. NHS Appeal Against Berkshire West PCT Determination of Rurality in respect of Swallowfield – hearing is to be held on 9.11.09 at The Mill House, Swallowfield.
- c. NHS Appeal Against Berkshire West PCT Decision with regard to the rurality of Finchampstead – the decision 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.
- d. The Royal British Legion – invitation to attend the Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 10.15 a.m. A donation of £100 has been sent and a wreath ordered for Mrs Stubbs to lay.
- e. Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association – invitation to participate in National Tree Week on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December between 11.00 am and 12 noon. The idea is to plant a million trees during that hour across the country. Clerk to contact the team at Dinton Pastures and ask if there is anywhere in Barkham where BPC could plant a tree.
- f. WBC – Presentation of the most unusual item found during the litter pick was awarded to Barkham (set of mugs complete with tea bags) will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 11.45 by the Mayor. Barkham have chosen the composter which we will donate to The Coombes School. The Clerk has invited a representative from The Coombes School to attend the presentation also.

**Distribution**

WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 31.8.09 – 4.9.09.  
WBC Making Improvements To Your Borough.  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Planning Committee on 16.9.09.  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 17.9.09.  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Executive on 24.9.09.  
WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 7.9.09 – 11.9.09.  
WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 14.9.09 – 18.9.09.  
WBC Villages Youth Project Quarterly Report.  
WBC Planning Applications Input & Decisions Issued for the period 21.9.09 – 25.9.09.  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee on 5.10.09.  
WBC Staff Bulletin Issue 20.  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Finance Overview & Scrutiny Panel 7.10.09.  
WBC Notes of Campaign Against Litter held on 28.9.09.  
Thames Valley Police – Your Neighbourhood.  
Royal Berkshire fire Authority – five year integrated risk management plan 2010/11 – 2015/16  
WBC Agenda for Meeting of the Planning Committee 14.10.09.  
WBC Town and Parish News September 2009.  
Post Office – Barkham Refurbishment.

**09/358 Councillors Forum**

Mr Derek South from the Samaritans will give BPC a short presentation about the work of the Samaritans at the beginning of the next meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Next meeting of full Council will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 8 p.m.

Next meeting of Planning Committee will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.30 p.m.