Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

Date: Tuesday 1st April 2025 Time: 7.30pm
Place: Brimpton Village Hall
Attending: Mr John Hicks (Chairman)
Mr Phil Bassil
Mr Charles Brims
Mr John Dolphin
Mrs Wendy Matthews
Mr Nick Matthews
In Attendance: Christine McGarvie (Clerk)
District Cllr Dominic Boeck
8 members of the public

32/25 Open Forum
32.1 A resident asked about the proposed location for a new post for the Speed Indicator Device outside the Hall. Clerk to liaise with resident.

33/25 Apologies for absence
None

34/25 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda
None

35/25 Minutes of the previous meeting
35.1 The minutes from the meeting of 4th March 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

35.2 Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting not otherwise on the agenda (including review of Action Tracker)
A representative of the Brimpton Common Residents' group (BCRG) gave an update on the outcome of the recent planning appeal. The appeal was dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Inspector agreed with the case put forward by the Residents' group. The owners have been given 12 months to remove the mobile home from the site.

The BCRG thanked the Parish Council for their support and the Parish Council thanked the group for all their efforts in objecting to the planning application. The applicant has 6 weeks to apply for a judicial review. After this period the Group will consider applying for the costs as awarded by the Planning Inspector.

Action Tracker Updates
19.3/25 Speed Monitoring - Clerk obtained approval to put SID in Brimpton Road , Manor View and gathered evidence of significant speeding. The report was sent to West Berkshire Council and they are looking at the data. Report also sent to the Police.
Clerk has assessed whether the SID could be used in the Hall Car Park and has determined the best location for a permanent post. Clerk to ask for permission from WBC and then seek quotes to have a post installed.

36/24.3 School warning signs – One of the signs has been taken away for repair and WBC has confirmed that it will be put back. Mrs Matthews pointed out that it was the school sign near the end of Hatch Lane which was flashing incorrectly before. Mrs Matthews to check whether it is still wrong and let the Clerk know.

Action: WM/Clerk

53.3/23 Solar Farm Planting– Clerk to request another update for the Solar Farm company as the additional planting has not been done.

Action:Clerk

29.3/23 Queen's Memorial stone– Mr Bassil to consider what kind of event should be organised, as the uptake was low for the previously planned event.

36/25. To discuss response from Thames Water regarding issues with pumping station

Thames Water have responded to the Freedom of Information request but they do not have flow monitoring in place on the site so information is limited. The Sewage Pumping station has two pumps but struggles when there is a high-water table and heavy rain which then leads to the need to take excess water away by tanker.

Information on future plans to resolve the issue were not forthcoming. Thames Water directed the Parish Council to a plan for Woolhampton but it is unclear how this would help the situation in Brimpton.

Olivia Bailey, MP for Reading West & Mid Berkshire, has written to Thames Water to ask what the long-term plan is to resolve the issue. She has also offered to attend a Parish Council meeting in July or August.

It was agreed that Mr Bassil would review the response from Thames Water again and draft a reply to be sent by the Clerk.

Action: PB/Clerk

37/25 To receive an update on the VE commemoration event plans

Mr Matthews reported that the organising group has met to plan the event, which will include lighting the beacon, at the Village Hall on the 8th May. A fish and chip supper has been booked. There will be live music and ticket sales will start on 4th April. Tickets must be purchased before 1st May.

Bunting and flags will be put up in the village. An Events Licence has been obtained from West Berkshire Council.

38/25. Planning and Development

38.1 To consider new planning applications received and provide updates on any already considered

There were no new applications. See Appendix C for updates on outstanding applications.

39/25 Parish Environment

39.1 To consider quotes for refurbishment of the War memorial Surround

Mr Dolphin has met with one contractor. Item deferred to May meeting as quotes have not been received yet.

40/25. Finance

40.1 To approve payments & approve reconciliation against bank statements

See payment list in Appendix A All payments were agreed.

40.2 To consider grant request from the Parochial Church Council for grass cutting

The grant request from the PCC for £2000 towards grass cutting at the Churchyard was considered and unanimously approved. Clerk to arrange for the funds to be transferred to the PCC.

Action:Clerk

The Churchwarden gave an update on the Church Spire Repair project. They have been able to obtain a grant which will allow some repairs to be carried out at the same time as the survey is done by the steeplejack. They are awaiting responses to the tender but hope to be able to progress the project soon.

41/25. To review any consultation documents

Draft West Berkshire Council Taxi Policy – the Parish Council had no comment on this policy.

42/25 Reports

42.1 District Councillor's Report

A Special Meeting of the WBC Executive was held to consider the proposal to merge West Berkshire Council with South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse Councils to form a new unitary authority.

Cllr Boeck will send his report via email after the meeting and Clerk will upload it to the Parish Council website.

Action:Clerk

42.2 Chairman's Report

Mr Hicks reported that the District & Parish Conference at end of month will include a discussion of plans for a new unitary authority. He and Mr Matthews will attend the Conference.

42.3 Clerk's Report

Clerk is preparing the end of year accounts for 24/25 for the Internal Audit. As expenditure was over £25k an External Audit will also be necessary.

42.4 Village Hall Report

Mr Dolphin reported that the new Solar Panels will be installed at the Village Hall next month.
The Hall Committee has changed electricity supplier from SSE to Octopus which has reduced bills significantly.

42.5 AWE LLC – nothing to report.

31/25 The date of the Annual Parish Council meeting was agreed as 6th May 2025 at Brimpton Village Hall. The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 13th May.

Signed: …… Date:……
(Chairman)

Appendix A

Meeting Report 1st April 2025

Community Account

Statement balance 24/03/2025	Cashbook balance as at 24/03/2025	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£6,390.18	**£6,390.18**	**£5,928.58**

Payments made since last meeting

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
DD	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary February	311.60
EP	Aldermaston Parish Council	half cost of SID batteries	43.64
DD	Barclaycard	365 subscription(£70.83 plus VAT)	84.99
TOTAL			**£440.23**

New items for payment

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
DD	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary April	311.60
DD	Barclaycard	Tadley Cita Grant	150.00
			£461.60

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
			£0.00

Payments not presented as of 24/03/2025

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not cleared as of 24/03/2025			
Receipt date	**Payer**	**Details**	**TOTAL COST**

Savings Account balance 24/03/2025	£32,843.52	
CIL	**£8,417.81**	**From Washoe Lodge must be spent by 2029.**

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 26th March 2025

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council		
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO	
Date	26th March 2025		
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council	
Balance per bank statements as at 24th March 2025		£	£
	Community Account	6,390.18	
	Saving account	32,843.52	
			39,233.70
Less any un-presented payments at 24th March 2025			
			0.00
Add any uncleared receipts			
Net Bank balances as at 24th March 2025			£39,233.70

CASH BOOK

Opening balance as per cashbook 1st April 2024	15,778.62
Add: Receipts in the year	16,137.73
Less:Payments in the year	25,526.17
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th March 2025	£6,390.18
Opening balance savings account 1st April 2024	32,363.31
Add: Receipts in the year	£480.21
Less:Payments in the year	0
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th March 2025	£32,843.52
Overall closing balance	£39,233.70
diff	£0.00

Appendix C

Brimpton Parish Council Meeting - 1st April 2025

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	None	

Planning Application Decisions made

1	**APP/W0340/C/24/3351139 - 23/00682/15UNAU -** Land south of Brimpton Lane and west of Blacknest Lane, Appeal against enforcement notice	Dismissed
2	**APP/W0340/W/24/3346878 - Land Approximately 150 Metres South Of Brimpton Lane and West Of Blacknest Lane, Brimpton Common.** Change of use of land to Gypsy/Traveller site comprising the siting of 1 mobile home and 1 touring caravan plus 1 dayroom.	Dismissed

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1.	**25/00330/HOUSE** – Faircross, Brimpton Common. Proposed new porch with roof lantern and internal alterations, sliding doors to rear, conversion of oil room to utility and removal of door.	14th April 25
2	**25/00075/FUL- 5 The Willows** Section 73: Variation of Condition No. 9 (Up-dating Reports) of Approved Application 22/00303/FULD : Demolition of the existing dwelling and detached garage and replacement with a 2 storey, part single storey, 5 bedroomed dwelling with a basement plus a detached single storey garage and associated works (amendment to 21/02055/FULD)	13th March 25
3	**23/02548/FUL - La Capanna (Formerly Known As The Pineapple) Little Knowl Hill Brimpton Common** Change of use to car sales (Sui Generis) with retention of living accommodation on first floor - Out of Parish in Ashford Hill Parish BDBC	Still not decided – New plan for hard surfacing submitted 16/1/25
4	**22/00414/OOD – Land at Hockford Lane , Brimpton Common.** Consultation BDBC: Ref 24/00035/FUL - Erection of Agricultural Barn and 1 x Large pen and 3 x Small pens.	Still not decided New response from HCC Highways 16/1/25