Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

Date: Tuesday 4th February 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
11 members of the public

11/25 Open Forum

11.1 Mrs Scott, Church Warden, gave an update on the Church Spire Condition Survey. The PCC thanked the Parish Council for the grant which was approved at the January meeting. They have appointed an architect and the closing date for tenders for the condition survey, including a steeplejack, was last Friday. The Government have extended the scheme which allows the PCC to reclaim VAT paid on the work for another year.

11.2 Mr Dolphin reported that the edging stones around the War Memorial have been damaged and one is missing. It was agreed that Councillors would have a look and Clerk would put the issue on the agenda for the next meeting to decide whether to repair or remove them all.

Action: All/Clerk

12/25 Apologies for absence
None

13/25 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda
None

14/25 Minutes of the previous meeting
14.1 The minutes from the meeting of 7th January 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

14.2 Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting not otherwise on the agenda (including review of Action Tracker)

Action Tracker Updates
127.3/24. Tankers in Brimpton Road – There has been more damage to the Triangle at the top of Brimpton Road caused by tankers turning round. Clerk has emailed Thames Water but received no response. Clerk to chase again and raise the issue of the damage at the Triangle.
Mrs Matthews pointed out that tankers are continuing to go through Brimpton and along Wasing Road, to and from Woolhampton.

Cllr Dominic Boeck will raise the issue with West Berkshire District Council at the next Executive committee on 13th February.
Mr. Hicks has raised the issue with MP Olivia Bailey. She has agreed to visit the site and raise with Thames Water.

Action: Clerk

59.1/24 Lack of Cats Eyes in Brimpton Lane – Clerk to chase again and send the correspondence from West Berkshire Council to District Cllr Boeck to follow up.

Action: Clerk

15/25 To update on planning enforcement issues in Brimpton Common

Mr Brims spoke on behalf of the Parish Council at the Appeal hearing on the first morning. Brimpton Common Residents Group (BCRG) have been well represented at the Appeal throughout the process.

AWE presented a strong case as well.

The main issue is that there is a shortage of Traveller pitches (by 1) in the District so there is a presumption in favour of new Traveller sites.

Evidence has been given by West Berkshire Council on Emergency Planning and Ecology. There was a round table discussion on the Landscape . Michael Butler the Senior Planning Officer has given his evidence to the appeal.

BCRG have presented evidence on the adverse impact to residents due to the unauthorised development of the site.

The closing submissions of the Appeal will be presented this Friday 7th February and then it will be up to the Inspector to make a decision. There is no timeline for when the decision will be announced.

Mr Hicks reported that an email has been sent out by the original land agents inviting the plot holders at the Blackness Triangle to purchase the access to their plots before it goes to auction.

16/25 Planning and Development

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

25/00075/FUL- 5 The Willows Section 73: Variation of Condition No. 9 (Updating 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)

The Parish Council resolved not to comment on this application as it is only a variation of condition.

A resident shared plans for a plot in Hockford Lane where he wants to build some animal shelters. This land is in Basingstoke and Deane and has not yet been submitted to the planning department.

17/25 Finance

17.1 To approve payments & approve reconciliation against bank statements

All payments in Appendix A were approved by the Parish Council. Mr Hicks to approve the payment online.

17.2 To consider approving shared cost of new batteries for SID.

The batteries for the shared SID need to be replaced. A pair will cost £104 but cost will be shared with Aldermaston Parish Council. It was agreed to spend up to £52 (half the cost) on the new batteries. Clerk to liaise with Aldermaston Parish Council.

Action: Clerk

17.3 To consider a grant request from Tadley Citizens Advice

It was agreed to grant £150 to Tadley Citizens Advice in the next financial year. Clerk to arrange for payment to be made via the Good Exchange in April.

Action: Clerk

18/25 To review any consultation documents

West Berkshire Council is consulting on whether Parish Councils should have the option to send warning letters to residents about overhanging vegetation. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for discussion at the March meeting.

Action: Clerk

19/25 Reports

19.1 District Councillor's Report

District Cllr Boeck has sent a report via email.

West Berkshire Council are extending the current recycling service to include more hard plastic such as food trays and yoghurt pots.

West Berkshire Council are currently consulting residents on the impact of the shortage of pharmacies in the region.

19.2 Chairman's Report

Mr Hicks has spoken to Hungerford and Downloads Neighbourhood Policing team and they are considering how they can keep local communities better informed after major incidents in the Parish.

Mr Hicks reported that the recent fundraising events raised £4020 for St. Michaels Hospice and thanked everyone who supported the events.

19.3 Clerk's Report

Speed monitoring – Clerk met with the new officer in charge of Speedwatch at West Berkshire Council. He recommended that the Parish Council tries mounting the shared SID on the existing highway post near Manor View but advised that it may interfere with the current VAS sign. He also suggested that the Parish Council could consider installing new highway posts on Crookham Common Road or Brimpton Road specifically for the SID. The cost would be around £600 per post. It was agreed that the Clerk should request a more definite quote for a post near to the Village Hall.

Action: Clerk

19.4 Village Hall Report

Mr Dolphin reported that the internal decoration of the hall is almost complete.

The order has been placed for repairing the outside rendering.

The Committee are waiting for West Berkshire Council to decide on a grant request to help fund the upgrade of the solar panels to a 22-panel system.

20/25 The date of Next Meeting was agreed as 4th March 2025 at Brimpton Village Hall.

Signed: …… Date:……
(Chairman)

Appendix A

Meeting Report 4th February 2025

Community Account

Statement balance 24/01/2025	Cashbook balance as at 24/01/2025	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£13,214.48	**£13,214.48**	**£6,830.41**

Payments made since last meeting

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary December	311.60
EP	RC Saunders Ltd	repair to war memorial sur-round (£32 VAT)	192.00
EP	Digital House MD Ltd	Annual renewal of website SSL certificate (£15 VAT)	90.00
EP	Brimpton Village Hall	6 months hire to Dec24	100.00
TOTAL			**£693.60**

New items for payment

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST	
EP	Brimpton PCC	Grant	6000.00	approved at January meeting
DD	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary February	311.60	
EP	Mr P Bassil	Xmas lights and battery	72.47	
			£6,384.07	

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
			£0.00

Payments not presented as of 24/01/2025

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not cleared as of 24/01/2025			
Receipt date	**Payer**	**Details**	**TOTAL COST**

Savings Account balance 24/01/2025	£32,727.76	
CIL	**£8,417.81**	**£6000 to the PCC for Spire survey. Rest from Washoe Lodge must be spent by 2029.**

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 30th January2025

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council		
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO	
Date	30th January 2025		
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council	
Balance per bank statements as at 24th January 2025		£	£
	Community Account	13,214.48	
	Saving account	32,727.76	
			45,942.24
Less any un-presented payments at 24th January 2025			
			0.00
Add any uncleared receipts			
Net Bank balances as at 24th January 2025			£45,942.24

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	18,701.87
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th January 2025	£13,214.48
Opening balance savings account 1st April 2024	32,363.31
Add: Receipts in the year	£364.45
Less:Payments in the year	0
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th January 2025	£32,727.76
Overall closing balance	£45,942.24
diff	£0.00

Appendix C

Brimpton Parish Council Meeting - 4th February 2025

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	**25/00075/FUL- 5 The Willows** Section 73: Variation of Condition No. 9 (Updating 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)	Deadline 12th Feb 25

Planning Application Decisions made

1	**24/02113/HOUSE and 24/02114/LBC** – Brimpton House, Church Lane. Minor alterations at first and second floor levels	Approved
2	**APP/W0340/W/24/3347670 – Oaktree Farm, Brimpton Common.** Erection f residential annex including change of use from equestrian to residential 23/02759/FUL	Appeal approved. Permission granted

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

1	**24/02678/HOUSE and 24/02677/LBC** – Brimpton House,Church Lane- variation of approved plans 24/01372/HOUSE	14th Feb 25 deadline
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.	No date for appeal
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
5	**APP/W0340/C/24/3351139 - 23/00682/15UNAU -** Land south of Brimpton Lane and west of Blacknest Lane, Appeal against enforcement notice	Appeal in progress