Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

Date: Tuesday 7th January 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

12 members of the public including Andrew Perkins – Chief Executive, Wasing Estate

1/25 Open Forum
No items raised

2/25 Apologies for absence
None

3/25 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda
None

4/25 Minutes of the previous meeting
4.1 The minutes from the meeting of 3rd December 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

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

127.4/24 – SSE temporary fencing on Wasing Land – Mr Perkins reported that their land agent has tried to contact SSE for an update but has not received a response yet.

131/24 - VE Day commemoration – Mrs Matthews reported that she has spoken to the Fish and Chip shop and booked the date with them.

Action Tracker Updates
106.2/24 Able Bridge gullies – West Berkshire Council have confirmed that the gullies were cleaned in August 2024 but the output of the gullies is not adequate so they are silting up very quickly. They have said they will inform the Parish Council when they have a date for the work to improve the output of the gullies.

59.1/24 Lack of Cats eyes in Brimpton Lane. A resident has provided more information about the current legal position regarding cat's eyes in Brimpton Lane, a request previously refused by West Berkshire Council. Clerk to chase West Berkshire Council for an answer again.

Action: Clerk

5/25 To update on planning enforcement issues in Brimpton Common

An update was given by the Brimpton Common Residents' Group. The proofs of evidence were submitted by the 17th December and have been uploaded to the West Berkshire Council planning portal. This includes evidence on the suitability of the site, evidence from a landscape expert, ecology evidence, evidence related to the loss of green infrastructure, heritage, a response to the personal circumstances statement submitted by the appellant and the impact on the community.

Mr Brims has registered to speak on behalf of the Parish Council at the planning appeal which will begin on 14th January.

6/25 Planning and Development

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

24/02113/HOUSE and 24/02114/LBC – Brimpton House, Church Lane. Minor alterations at first and second floor levels.

24/02678/HOUSE and 24/02677/LBC – Brimpton House,Church Lane- variation of approved plans 24/01372/HOUSE

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections to these applications.

6.2 To consider the following motion :-

Brimpton Parish Council resolves not to support any proposals for new houses that would use the sewerage plant in Brimpton Road until the current problems are resolved. The reason is that the current sewerage plant is already unable to cope with current demand whenever there is heavy rain as has happened frequently in recent months and years. Thames Water's present solution is to have a fleet of tankers emptying the sewerage plant 24/7 causing much disruption to the village, road safety concerns and damage to the verges. This situation is already unsustainable and must be solved before any additional houses are added to this inadequate sewerage plant .

Mr Brims made the proposal which was seconded by Mr Dolphin. The motion was passed unanimously.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Performance Manager at Thames Water with a series of questions and suggestions which Mr Bassil will prepare. The Clerk will also request a site meeting with a Thames Water representative.

Action: Clerk/PB

A resident pointed out that tankers are also coming through Wasing Road to empty the pumping station at Woolhampton and the road is not suitable for vehicles of this size.

Cllr Boeck suggested that the Parish Council raise these issues directly with the Environment Portfolio holder at West Berkshire Council.

Mr Hicks will also raise the issue with the local MP Olivia Bailey.

Action: JH

7/25 Finance

7.1 To approve payments & approve reconciliation against bank statements

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

7.2 To consider a grant request from the Parochial Church Council.

The Parochial Church Council has submitted a grant request towards a condition survey of the Church Spire.

Mrs Brims, Churchwarden, explained that the PCC need to pay for a steeplejack and a surveyor to carry out a thorough condition survey in order to determine what repairs are needed. The total cost will be around £10k. They will be using some of their own funds and seeking other grants to meet the shortfall.

Mr. Hicks proposed that the Parish Council approve a grant of £6k to the PCC for this survey and that this should be taken from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds. The Parish Council agreed to this proposal.

8/25 To review any consultation documents

West Berkshire Council Local Plan Consultation – deadline 31st January 2025.

It was agreed not to comment as the proposals do not include any changes or development in Brimpton Parish.

9/25 Reports

9.1 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Boeck will send a report via email.

9.2 Chairman's Report

Mr Hicks reported that he had attended a police awards ceremony and took the opportunity to speak to the new Thames Valley Police Chief Constable about rural policing and the lack of communication from the team. Thames Valley Police are currently reviewing communications in rural areas so it is hoped they will be in touch.

Mr. Dolphin pointed out that he had reported an incident regarding security at the hall to the Police but received no response.

9.3 Clerk's Report

Speed monitoring – The new Speed Management Officer at West Berkshire Council has been in touch with the Clerk to follow up on a resident's complaint about speeding in Brimpton Road.

He was not able to find evidence of significant speeding but asked if the Parish Council can use the SID to monitor the situation. Clerk has asked for advice about where it could be mounted on a post in this location.

Microsoft 365 – the Clerk is waiting to hear back from Microsoft as to whether the Parish Council is eligible for a discount on the subscription cost as a "not-for-profit" organisation.

9.4 Village Hall Report

Maintenance work has been carried out over the Christmas period. The Hall was kept open as much as possible and there are just a few outstanding jobs.

They are still waiting for a quote for replacement solar panels.

The exterior will be decorated this year and a chimney removed.

9.5 AWE LLC

Nothing to report.

10/25 The date of Next Meeting was agreed as 4th February 2025 at Brimpton Village Hall.

Signed: …… Date:……
(Chairman)

Appendix A

Meeting Report 7th January 2025

Community Account

Statement balance 24/12/2024	Cashbook balance as at 24/12/2024	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£13,908.08	**£13,908.08**	**£13,214.48**

Payments made since last meeting

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary November	311.60
DD	Barclaycard	donation to SSAFA	25.00
TOTAL			**£336.60**

New items for payment

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
SO	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary January	311.60
EP	RC Saunders Ltd	repair to war memorial surround (£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
			£693.60

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
			£0.00

Payments not presented as of 24/12/2024

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not cleared as of 24/12/2024			
Receipt date	**Payer**	**Details**	**TOTAL COST**

Savings Account balance 24/12/2024	£32,727.76	
CIL	**£14,417.81**	**£420.13 must be spent by May 2026. Rest from Washoe Lodge must be spent by 2029**

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 2nd January 2025

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council		
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO	
Date	2nd January 2025		
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council	
Balance per bank statements as at 24th December 2024		£	£
	Community Account	13,908.08	
	Saving account	32,727.76	
			46,635.84
Less any un-presented payments at 24th December 2024			
			0.00
Add any uncleared receipts			
Net Bank balances as at 24th December 2024			£46,635.84

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	18,008.27
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th December 2024	£13,908.08
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 December 2024	£32,727.76
Overall closing balance	£46,635.84
diff	£0.00

Appendix C

Brimpton Parish Council Meeting - 7th January 2025

Planning Applications for Consideration

1	**24/02113/HOUSE and 24/02114/LBC** – Brimpton House, Church Lane. Minor alterations at first and second floor levels.	Deadline 8th Jan 25
2	**24/02678/HOUSE and 24/02677/LBC** – Brimpton House,Church Lane- variation of approved plans 24/01372/HOUSE	Deadline 20th Jan 25

Planning Application Decisions made

1	**24/01943/MINMAJ -** Land at Phase 4 To 6 Kennetholme Quarry Brimpton Road, Midgham. Section 73-Variation of condition 1-Extraction, of previous application 23/01740/MINMAJ: Section 73 - Application for Variation of Condition (1) following Grant of Planning Permission 21/01561/MINMAJ	Approved
2	**24/02035/HOUSE - Rose Cottage, 18 Brimpton Common** 2mtr lateral extension of Front entrance Porch. Demolition of rear conservatory and extension of current single storey building (living accommodation).	Approved
3	**23/01699/FULMAJ – Travellers Friend, Crookham Common Road**. Demolition of existing pub and reconstruction of 18 new flats with reception facilities.	Approved

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

3	**APP/W0340/W/24/3347670 – Oaktree Farm, Brimpton Common.** Erection f residential annex including change of use from equestrian to residential 23/02759/FUL	Date arranged – in progress
4	**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
5	**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
7	**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
8	**APP/W0340/C/24/3351139 - 23/00682/15UNAU -** Land south of Brimpton Lane and west of Blacknest Lane, Appeal against enforcement notice	Appeal set for 14th Jan 25