Brimpton Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

Date: Tuesday 4th March 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
9 members of the public

21/25 Open Forum
21.1 A resident reported that there is a large pot hole on Able Bridge, Brimpton Lane. The road is being closed on Thursday so it is thought that West Berkshire Council will be fixing the hole then.

21.2 Mrs Scott, Churchwarden, gave an update on the project to repair the Church Steeple. The steeple jack survey is starting this week. The Architect has redrafted the tender to include any small repairs that the steeple jack can make during the survey.
Mrs Scott reported that the Church has been granted £1000 from the Berkshire Heritage Fund towards the work. A Coffee Morning and Tombola will be held on 22nd March to help raise funds for the repair work.

21.3. A resident reported that a new unauthorised access point has been created in to land on the B3051 next to the playing fields. The resident has reported it to Basingstoke and Deane planning enforcement and they have said they will visit the site tomorrow.

21.4 Mr Dolphin reported that SSE have been removed the temporary fencing from Wasing Estate land.

22/25 Apologies for absence
None

23/25 To receive declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda
None

24/25 Minutes of the previous meeting
24.1 The minutes from the meeting of 4th February 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

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

Action Tracker Updates

127.3/24 Thames Water tankers in Brimpton Road. It was reported that the tankers are not running at the moment. There are continuing issues with the pumping station in Woolhampton as well which has added to the tanker traffic over the last few months.
The tankers have been seen parking in different places in the village.
Thames Water have said they are looking at reinstating the verges which have been damaged by the tankers. They have said they will respond to the questions about the long-term solution by 17th March. Clerk will continue to chase a response.

Action: Clerk

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

The Planning Inspector has not given his decision on the appeals yet. West Berkshire Council have given planning permission for a single traveller pitch on the A339 at Newtown Road in Newbury which will address the shortage of pitches in the district. It is hoped that this will mean that there is no longer a presumption in favour of the development on grounds that there weren't enough traveller pitches in the district. West Berkshire Council have informed the Planning Inspectorate that there are now enough pitches in the District and the Brimpton Common Resident's Group were asked to comment on this.

26/25 Planning and Development

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

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.

The Parish Council resolved to respond with no objections.

27/25 Parish Environment

27.1 To decide whether to repair the edging stones around the war memorial.

It was agreed that the kerb stones and wall around the War Memorial needs repair and cleaning. Clerk and Mr Dolphin to determine a list of required works and seek 3 quotes for the work.

Action: Clerk/JD

27.2 To consider installing a pole on Crookham Common Road for the SID

West Berkshire Council have suggested that the Hall Car Park might be a suitable location for a pole for the SID. They have outlined the requirements from a highways point of view.
Clerk will try the location with a tripod first to see if the sight lines are sufficient and to make sure that it won't block the view of cars leaving the neighbouring property or the Hall itself.

Action: Clerk/JD

28/25 Finance

28.1 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.

29/25 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 that the Parish Council does not see any benefit in taking on this responsibility. If necessary, councillors may speak to residents informally about overhanging vegetation, as they have done in the past.

30/25 Reports

30.1 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Boeck reported that West Berkshire District Council have approved their budget for 25/26. They will receive £16 million of emergency funding from Central Government. They plan to repay this emergency funding by selling off their property portfolio.

Cllr Boeck is a member of the cross-party group of councillors – the Member Devolution Advisory Group – which has been formed to discuss the options for merging with neighbouring authorities following the Government's announcement that they are abolishing District/County Councils and replacing them with unitary authorities to serve 500,000 or more residents.

West Berkshire Council are in discussions with South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, and the other five Berkshire unitary authorities.

This will be on the agenda of the next District and Parish Conference on 31st March.

30.2 Chairman's Report

Several complaints have been received from residents about vans and cars parking at the top of Brimpton Road, blocking the pavement and very close to the junction. It is thought that the vehicles belong to workmen who are finishing the building work at 5 The Willows.

30.3 Clerk's Report

Clerk has purchased a Microsoft 365 subscription so that files can be backed up and will look at purchasing a new laptop in the new financial year.

30.4 Village Hall Report

The Village Hall AGM will be held on 24th April. Refreshments will be available after the main meeting.

A grant from West Berkshire Council towards replacement solar panels has been approved and the work will start soon.

Internal decorating is almost complete and work to redecorate the outside of the building will start soon.

30.5 AWE – A report on feedback from the community engagement sessions has been published. 6 events were held with over 300 people attending. 97% said they knew what work was carried out on site. They will be holding more community engagement events in the future.

The next meeting of the AWE LLC will be held on 24th April.

31/25 The date of next meeting was agreed as 1st April 2025 at Brimpton Village Hall.

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Assembly would be held on 13th May or 22nd May depending on hall availability. Clerk to arrange.

Action:Clerk

Signed: …… Date:……
(Chairman)

Appendix A

Meeting Report 4th March 2025

Community Account

Statement balance 24/01/2025	Cashbook balance as at 24/01/2025	Cashbook balance after new payments made
£13,214.48	**£6,830.41**	**£6,475.17**

Payments made since last meeting

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

New items for payment

Payment method	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
DD	Mrs C McGarvie	Salary March	311.60
EP	Aldermaston Parish Council	half cost of SID batteries	43.64
			£355.24

Receipts since last meeting date

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
			£0.00

Payments not presented as of 24/02/2025

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			

Receipts not cleared as of 24/02/2025			
Receipt date	**Payer**	**Details**	**TOTAL COST**

Savings Account balance 24/02/2025	£32,727.76	
CIL	**£8,417.81**	**From Washoe Lodge must be spent by 2029.**

Appendix B

Bank Reconciliation 28th February 2025

Authority name	Brimpton Parish Council		
Prepared by	Christine McGarvie	Clerk and RFO	
Date	28th February 2025		
Approved by	John Hicks	Chair of council	
Balance per bank statements as at 24th February 2025		£	£
	Community Account	6,830.41	
	Saving account	32,727.76	
			39,558.17
Less any un-presented payments at 24th January 2025			
			0.00
Add any uncleared receipts			
Net Bank balances as at 24th January 2025			£39,558.17

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	25,085.94
Closing balance as per cash book as at 24th February 2025	£6,830.41
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 February 2025	£32,727.76
Overall closing balance	£39,558.17
diff	£0.00

Appendix C
Brimpton Parish Council Meeting - 4th March 2025

Planning Applications for Consideration

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.	Deadline 19th March25

Planning Application Decisions made

1	**24/02678/HOUSE and 24/02677/LBC** – Brimpton House,Church Lane- variation of approved plans 24/01372/HOUSE	Granted

Planning Applications Awaiting Decisions

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)	13th March 25
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 held – decision not yet made