

A bi-monthly meeting of East Garston Parish Council was held at the village hall on Thursday 3rd November 2022

MINUTES

1. **Present:** - Sue Tulloch (ST) -Chair, Councillors: - Peter Smith (PS), Jonathan Rabbitts (JR), Deana Carpenter (DC),
Clive Hooker – District Councillor
Clerk: Sonia Coyle (SC).
Apologies received: Chris Tonge (CT), Annabelle Eyre (AE),
Meeting started at 7:04pm
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes** Councillors then RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to confirm and adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st September 2022.
4. **Questions/comments from members of the public.**
None
At this point in the meeting the role of website administrator was to be discussed, however, Alan Breadmore was still attending a separate meeting and Councillors agreed to move onto the next point on the agenda.

5. **Receive Reports**

Representatives from Outside Bodies – District Cllr Hooker.

CH explained that a Cost of Living Support Hub has been opened to make it easier for residents to get help if needed, full details are in his monthly newsletter. He also advised that WBC are offering use of tools for litter picks. CH attended the Lambourn Flood Forum this week, the water table has not risen enough yet to test the lining installed last year. The Environment Agency have taken ownership of the Great Shefford Flood Alleviation Scheme at a cost of £5million. Planned start date 1st May.

A copy of the newsletter is available here www.westberks.gov.uk/downlandsparishcouncilreport

Chairman's Report

ST informed councillors the Thames Water Bockhampton sewer repair project in the Millenium Field has been further delayed.

A meeting is taking place today to look at the possibility of installing solar panels on the village hall.

Post meeting note; The solar panels have been installed.

Role of Website Administrator

At this point AB joined the meeting and informed Councillors of his decision to retire from the role of website administrator, custodian of the defibrillator and East Garston News. Councillors will look to recruit a replacement. (On average the website takes a couple of hours a week and requires some IT proficiency, there is a responsive helpline).

Clerk's Report

There is no update on the War Memorial at this point.

Clerk will be attending the Berkshire Association of Local Councils meeting on Wed 9th.

Enforcement Policy planning meetings will be held by WBC 23rd Nov & 30th Nov. SC & ST will attend.

Clerk showed councillors wheelie bin stickers to encourage the correct speed is adhered to but councillors agreed this was quite costly and that the speedwatch is more effective.

WBC are organising a trial Liftshare project with a meeting taking place on the 7th Nov. Unfortunately, no PC members are available to attend.

Post meeting note; Penny Locke attended on behalf of the PC.

Chris Tonge is attending a Thanksgiving Service to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen tomorrow night. Connecting Communities in Berkshire meeting 18th November – no members able to attend.

6. **Planning matters**

No planning applications to be considered.

Decision Notices

22/01563/LBC2 Trinity Cottage, School Lane,
Listed building consent.

LBC NOT REQUIRED.

<http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=22/01563/LBC2>

Signed



1

Date

5/11/23

7. Finance and Compliance:-

A. The Clerk presented the payments

1. Paid since last meeting

Name	Goods or Service	Amount inc VAT	Approved
Scofell	September & October	£576	ST/DC
Clerk's salary	Sept & Oct	£366.36	ST/DC
ICO	Data Protection Fee	£35.00	ST/DC
Emango	Service Charge	£460.80	ST/DC
S Coyle	Poppy Wreath	£20.99	ST/DC
Cripps Fencing	Removal of diseased tree	£960	ST/DC

2. To be paid by next meeting

Name	Goods or Service	Amount Inc VAT
Clerk's salary	Nov & Dec	£366.36
Caloo	Gym equip review	£474
SLCC	Membership	£80
CPRE	Membership	£30
Ecogreen Communities	Dog pooh bags	£90.60

3. Received since last meeting

Name	Goods or Service	Amount Inc VAT
HMRC	VAT	£1097.18
Unity Bank	Interest (deposit account)	£29.09

Clerk confirmed total in the current bank account £3557.02 and in the deposit account £18,578.39
Clerk informed councillors that due to health reasons the auditor (David Weller) has had to stand down.
The WBC Grounds Maintenance Service charge for Jan 2023 to empty the 5 dog bins in the village once a week has been submitted at a cost of £177.34. Councillors unanimously agreed to keep this service in place for the benefit of all villagers. WBC have stated that the new contract will be heavily monitored. The dog bins in the village are very well used. It was also agreed to review the ROSPA inspection once WBC confirm the cost for 2023.

It was confirmed that the £50 payment received from Lady Whent is for the Save Our Bells fund – Councillors requested the money be transferred.

3. Jubilee Meadow

ST received quote for rubber chippings for the play area £19,000. Other alternatives to be looked into.

9. Village Maintenance & Millennium Field

Following a recent inspection Councillors had agreed to have the diseased horse chestnut tree removed on the Front Bank Street between Cornbaggers and Willowbrook Given the time pressure to do the work before the river was flowing again and worries from Parishioners regarding the safety of the tree this work has been carried out. The village cleanup took place on Sunday 30th October.
Clerk had been contacted by WBC with regards to fly tipping on the bonfire. There were 2 sofas and 1 chair. Richard Brooks is in direct contact with WBC to resolve.
PS requested more dog pooh bags to be purchased.

10. Community Speedwatch

PS had not been contacted by PC Turnham – Clerk to investigate.
Latest speedwatch report was handed to the Clerk at the meeting, to be submitted to WBC tomorrow.

11. AOB

None

Meeting ended – 8.59pm
Next meeting – Thursday 5th January 2023 at 7.00pm

Signed



Date

5/1/23