



Clerk of the Council

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9 February 2012

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREENHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL, GREENHAM  
ON 8 FEBRUARY AT 7.30 pm**

PRESENT: Mr A J Forward (Chairman)  
Mr P Planterose (Vice-Chairman)  
Mr C Austin  
Mr P Barnett  
Mr A Beal  
Mr W Drummond  
Mr D Hale  
Mrs S Huxtable  
Mr. D Kenning  
Mrs T King  
Mrs D Smith

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Boston (Clerk)  
2 members of the Public (including 1 member of the Press).

1. Apologies for Absence. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr A Agutter Mrs P Hay and Mr J Swift-Hook
2. Declarations of Interest and Statements of Position.

Mr Barnett stated that:

"Any views that I may express about planning matters and other business before this Council tonight are in my capacity as a member of *this* Council (Greenham Parish) and are based on the information before me tonight. If and when I consider any of the items at any future time in my capacity as a member of Newbury Town Council, I will consider each item on its merits at that time, taking full account of all the facts and information which are put before me at that time, as a result of which **I may well form a different view from any view I may express tonight**".

Mr Drummond stated that:

"Any views that I may express about planning matters and other business before this Council tonight are in my capacity as a member of this Council (Greenham Parish) and are

based on the information before me tonight. If and when I consider any of the items at any future time in my capacity as a member of West Berkshire District Council, I will consider each item on its merits at that time, taking full account of all the facts and information which are put before me at that time, as a result of which **I may well form a different view from any view I may express tonight"**.

The Clerk asked if any Member had any Interest to Declare at that time. There were none.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2012 which had previously been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Youth Matters. The Chairman welcomed Jenny McIntyre, the Youth and Community Worker. She gave an outline of the work she undertakes locally and explained the level of support to Greenham youth and sources of funding for her post. A particular problem is that funding from Lloyds TSB was coming to an end and the Lloyds policy was not to make consecutive grants. Among suggestions for sources of funding was the Racecourse which would have a large population with little or no youth facilities. It was proposed by Mrs Smith, seconded by Mr. Drummond and carried unanimously that a grant of £1,000 be made. This would initially be for one year in order that demand could be reassessed after the Racecourse development started to be occupied.

5. Matters Arising. The Clerk noted that GPC had yet to receive a copy to the Commons Commissioners' letter to WBC regarding the control tower. Mr. Austin will ensure this is forwarded.

6. Neighbourhood Security. Nothing to report.

7. Planning.

Mrs Smith expressed her dismay that GPC (and WBC planners and councillors) are again faced with applications that require a huge amount of effort to pick through the errors of omission and errors of commission committed by the applicants. She thought WBC should start charging by the hour for time spent, rather than flat rate fees which encourage incompetence and laziness. There was general agreement to this view.

#### Applications

<u>No.</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
11/01548/FUL	Sandleford Farmyard (Conservation) Demolition/Conversion Gilson Engineering (Newbury) Ltd	Object
11/01548/FUL	Sandleford Farmyard (Noise) Demolition/Conversion Gilson Engineering (Newbury) Ltd	Object
11/02283/FUL	Dalziel Ltd 100 GBP Extension to Warehouse	No objection subject to conditions

	Dalziel Ltd	
11/02329/FULEXT <i>adjacent Parish</i>	Stirling Industrial Estate Redevelop into 190 dwellings Nelson Geneva Ltd	Object
11/02416/HOUSE	27 Capability Way Install rear decking Mr. J Tanner	Object
11/02608/HOUSE	Greenham Croft, Bishops Green One- and Two-storey extensions Mrs K Bolt-Lawrence	Application Invalid
11/02654/HOUSE	10 Rosyth Gardens Rear extension Mr. & Mrs Ellis	Support
11/02679/MINE	Newbury Concrete S.73 Variation Tarmac Ltd	No objection subject to conditions
11/00015/FUL <i>adjacent Parish</i>	Ho Wah Takeaway S.73A variation Mr. M Bray	Object
12/00057/LBC	Sandleford Farmyard Demolition/Conversion Gilson Engineering (Newbury) Ltd	Object
12/00114/FUL	Greenbanks Bishops Green Demolish existing, erect new Mr. & Mrs R Hunter	Object

It was proposed by Mr. Forwarded and seconded by Mr Planterose that the recommended responses be approved. Mr. Austin abstained, all others were in favour.

**Note:** *The full text of GPC's comments on applications may be found by going to [www.greenham.gov.uk](http://www.greenham.gov.uk) and following the 'Planning' link.*

#### 8. Finance & Accounts for Payment.

It has been pointed out that although the December Minutes record the approval of the 2012-2013 Budget, they do not specifically record the approval of the Precept. It was proposed by Mrs Smith, seconded by Mr. Forward and agreed unanimously that the Precept for FY 2012-2013 be set at £54,000.00.

The following cheques were presented for payment:

Mr J Boston – Clerk's salary & expenses	£1078.18
HM Revenue & Customs – Tax & NI	£330.47
CPRE – membership renewal	£29.00
Mrs S Huxtable – Community Centre expenses	£26.81

It was proposed by Mr. Beal, seconded by Mr. Hale and carried unanimously that the cheques listed above be approved for payment.

Mr. Swift-Hook has been asked by residents of Pinchington Grange for the provision of up to 3 salt bins. Residents subsequently agreed that 3 bins for an estate of 64 houses was excessive. The Clerk has confirmed with WBC that the previous opportunity for the provision of bins (Parish pays for bin, installation and initial fill) is still available. Cost is £192.00 per bin. It was proposed by Mr Drummond, seconded by Mr. Austin and carried unanimously that one bin be provided, the siting to be agreed with residents.

It has been suggested that GPC should deposit some of its funds with the local Credit Union (CS&L). The Clerk said that he favoured using GPC funds to help people but that he had to be sure that the funds were safeguarded. Such deposits are now allowed following a change in regulations but the CS&L will need to change its constitution at its AGM in March. It was agreed that this subject be reconsidered in April, when the CS&L constitution has been revised.

9. Parish Plan. Mrs Huxtable was pleased to announce that a grant of £10,000 had been awarded by Veolia towards the Green Gym. Overall funding for the Green Gym was around £19,300.00. Veolia advised that the payment of the grant is in arrears, GPC will therefore have to make the initial payment for the Green Gym. The Clerk confirmed that short-term funds are available for this. The Diamond will be revisited with the supplier to agree final layout, equipment etc. Mrs Huxtable is waiting for further correspondence from Veolia and had sought guidance from TTC on how their previous grant was progressed. Mrs Huxtable reported a very positive initial meeting on the Diamond Jubilee celebration, which would cover all of Greenham Parish. The Plan is that festivities would start at The Diamond and continue at the Church Hall. She was in need on helpers on the day and asked all Councillors to help if they could.

10. FindMeAGrant. The Chairman and Clerk had attended GCT to discuss the FindMeAGrant initiative. They were happy to recommend to GPC that grant funding be channelled through the FindMeAGrant website, ideally from 1 April 2012, although some GPC-specific changes were needed. Mr. Austin and Mr. Drummond declared Personal Interests as members of GCT. It was proposed by Mr. Hale, Seconded by Mr. Beal that GPC channel grant applications through FindMeAGrant, from 1 April 2012. Mr. Austin and Mr. Drummond abstained, all others voted in favour.

11. Newbury Racecourse – the way forward. Mrs Smith reported on a meeting of the Planning Liaison Group. She outlined the timescale for construction and advised that there are 3 more planning applications awaited. She has asked the Racecourse to provide a complaints telephone number for residents to report problems such as with contractors and construction traffic. She also suggested that baseline figures for current on-street parking particularly in New Road and Westwood Road should be identified so that parking in local streets by contractors can be monitored.

12. Roads and Transport. WBC has advised that the Real Time Passenger Information system will be installed at the Tesco bus shelter between 8 and 10 February. There was concern that GPC as a neighbouring parish had not been consulted over the possible future changes to the Hambridge Road/Boundary Road junction and the installation of traffic lights.

13. S.106 Including S.106 Highways Improvements. Nothing to report

14. Stroud Green and The Diamond. The Chairman and Clerk will visit WBC on 24 February to discuss bollarding of Stroud Green.

15. Tesco. The Clerk has received a reply from Tesco and has sent a response. It is understood that Park House School is seeking a meeting with Tesco in order to identify any of their students involved. Mr. Austin said that the problem remained unchanged and that new holes were being made in the hedge and at the sides of the existing fence. Mr. Hale said that although students no longer came through the College fence thanks to the strong action taken by the College authorities, they now walked down the A339 and through the gaps in the fence.

16. Public Rights of Way. WBC has issued advice on the authority of Parishes to maintain Rights of Way. WBC suggests that Parishes put aside £3,000 - £5,000 for general maintenance. There is also guidance on the use of contractors. As the advice was issued after next year's budget was set, it was agreed to assess any required work on a case-by-case basis. Mrs Smith said that Greenham has relatively few footpaths and RoW compared to other Parishes. WBC also suggests that a 'Parish Paths Officer' be appointed. Mrs Smith agreed to undertake this role. Mrs Smith said she had asked WBC to repair the stile and reinstate the footpath sign from the A339 opposite St Gabriel's to Warren Road. She had also been advised that a footpath was to be created from Deadman's Lane to the Common, using S.106 funding.

17. Forthcoming Events. The CPRE/NALC workshop on Local and Neighbourhood Planning will take place on **20 February** at Newbury Rugby Club. The preview of the BBOWT photographic exhibition will be at the Corn Exchange on **29 February** from 5.00 to 6.30 pm. The next District/Parish Conference will be at the WBC Council Offices on **7 March** from 6.00pm.

18. Exchange of Information. Mr. Planterose referred to the poor state of Westwood Road, where the foundations appeared to be breaking up, possibly exacerbated by being on a bus route. Mr. Drummond will take this up within WBC. Mr. Planterose had also received adverse comments about the fortnightly bin collections. Mrs Smith drew attention to the Sandleford walk on 12 February. She also said that WBC will be considering the Sandleford consultation on 14 February and asked those who could to attend the Council offices. Mr Austin referred to the coming Commission meeting and asked that any agenda items be passed to him. He also asked that the Parkway Bridge be an agenda item for March 2012. Mr. Barnett referred to the level of support available to Parish Councils. He had attended the BALC meeting on 7 February and there was still strong support for a West Berks DALC (D=District). Ms Lalley at BALC will only be available intermittently as she is now sharing her time with Oxfordshire. Mrs King said that cars were again being offered for sale at the Hambridge Road roundabout. The Clerk will contact Planning Enforcement. Mrs King also recalled that Stryker had offered a visit to the new HQ building when it was complete. The Clerk will contact Stryker. Mr. Forward referred to the overgrown footpaths en route to Tesco at Pinchington Grange. He also noted that the amended plans for the development the pavement should run all the way along the south side of Pinchington Lane but it had been landscaped over.

Date of Next Meeting. The Meeting closed at 9.20 pm. The date of the next meeting is on 14 March 2012 at St Mary's Church Hall at 7.30pm.

A J Forward  
Chairman  
14 March 2012

Abbreviations:

BALC - Berkshire Association of Local Councils  
BBOWT - Bucks, Berks & Oxon Wildlife Trust  
GCT - Greenham Common Trust  
GPC - Greenham Parish Council  
NALC - National Association of Local Councils  
TTC - Thatcham Town Council  
WBC - West Berks Council