

# BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.ANDREW'S CHURCH ON MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2015

Present: Mr.P.Kilding (Chairman)  
Mr.A.Britton  
Mr.M.Hayes-Newington  
Mr.C.Oliver-Bellasis  
Mrs.V.Sandars  
Mrs.S.J.Appleton (Clerk)  
1 member of the public

### Action

1. Apologies were received from Mr.P.Thompson (who was in South Africa on business) and Cllr. P.Bryant
2. **Declarations of Interest** – none
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015** were unanimously approved (prop.PK; sec.VS.)
4. **Financial Matters**  
The status of the bank current and deposit accounts and the prognosis for the current year previously circulated, were noted. There were no questions.  
The first draft of the budget for 2016-17 was studied showing an unchanged precept, clerking costs and a 0.75% increase in costs overall for the year. Councillors were asked to notify the Clerk of possible changes or preferences. A final decision on the Parish precept will be taken at the January meeting. Funding for maintenance of the Boxford Railway Waiting Room and the Coronation bench to be considered further. **PK/MHN**  
**Approval of expenditure:** Royal British Legion Poppy Wreath £25; Clerk's repayments £29.48 and £17.18; West Berkshire Countryside subscription £15; Internal auditor £30 (prop. PK; sec. VS.)
5. **Planning Matters**  
The Parish Council had no objections to the following planning applications: 15/02444/HOUSE Westbrook Manor; 15/02151/HOUSE Westbrook House; 15/02109/HOUSE and 15/02110/LBC2 Shepherds Cottage.  
West Berkshire Approvals: 15/01950/HOUSE Devoran; 15/02444/HOUSE Westbrook Manor; 15/02151/HOUSE Westbrook House; 15/01751/Mill House, 15/01752/LBC – not required.  
West Berkshire Council had placed a TPO on a lime tree at The Maltings.
6. **To receive an update from Thames Valley Police**  
The Chairman reported a statement from Thames Valley Police that a male had been arrested in connection with a fraud, involving Parish Council documentation; police are continuing their investigations.
7. **To consider a Public Safety Policy Document for Boxford**  
Presented by Cllr. M.Hayes Newington the policy was agreed with thanks. It contained a series of communications with emergency services and other agencies followed by helpful information and advice to parishioners. Communications would be sent from the Parish Council through the Clerk. **Clerk/MHN**

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8.    **To consider a request by Jenifer Herbert for a 20mph speed limit in Westbrook**  
It was agreed to request a change from the 30mph speed limit to 20mph in Westbrook; criteria to support the application to include: no through road, single carriageway, high number of pedestrians, no pavement and off street parking.      **Clerk**
9.    **To consider naming the unnamed road through Boxford**  
Cllr. M. Hayes Newington had requested consideration of this from West Berkshire Council who had contacted the Parish Council. After discussion it was agreed to defer any decision since it was possible that there would be a conflict with postal addresses already notified to utility companies, banks and other organisations.
10. **To receive reports:**
- **Boxford Village Hall** – Peter Thompson had sent a report advising a fund raising event on November 14<sup>th</sup> for an all weather cricket pitch. He reported that the village hall was used extensively and details will be posted on the village website. The AGM has been tentatively fixed for 26<sup>th</sup> November and he was content to stand again as the Parish Council representative – this was approved.
  - **Defibrillator Training** – It was reported that 32 people had received resuscitation training on 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> September.
  - **Off street parking at Southfields** – there had been no response from Sovereign Housing to the Parish Council’s communications.      **Clerk**
  - **Condition of Highways, paths and stiles** – The following was noted: Two laybys are proposed in High Street to be constructed in 2016 – three was the preferred number. A consultation on the West Berkshire Council budget would include the removal of salt bins from highways. West Berkshire Council had checked overhanging trees throughout the village. All were found satisfactory except those over the Coronation seat, which SSE had subsequently cut back. After an accident between an HGV and parked car on the Leckhampstead Road to the rear of the churchyard, West Berkshire Council had refused the installation of new signage to deter HGVs using the narrow lanes. However another accident involving an HGV on the Lambourn Valley Road at the railway bridge. This was extremely serious – 2 cars damaged and passengers including a child involved. To be referred to West Berkshire Council again.      **Clerk**

**Members were reminded of the Remembrance Sunday service at 10.55 at the War Memorial.**

9.    **Public Questions:** none

Meeting closed at 9pm

The date of the next meeting will be on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7pm in the Heritage Centre.