

# BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BOXFORD VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 4 JULY 2016

Present: Cllr. M. Hayes-Newington (Chairman)  
Cllr. A. Britton  
Cllr P. Kilding  
Cllr C. Oliver-Bellasis  
Cllr P. Thompson  
Mrs Kim Lloyd (Clerk)  
2 member of the public

### Action

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr. V. Sandars, Cllr. P. Bryant.
2. **Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting** held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and the EGM on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 was approved (prop. PK; sec. AB.)
3. **Declarations of Interest** –None.

Item 7 was brought forward. To consider complaints of effects of pig farming.

COB raised a concern following a complaint that slurry was running off the pig farm field and making its way into Westbrook stream after heavy rainfall and then into the River Lambourn. COB also pointed to the collapse of the road bank as a concern.

The farmer who was invited to Council firstly said it is not slurry, but rainwater runoff, coming from the bottom corner of the pig field. On the night of the minor bank collapse in the spring, following heavy rain he had not seen any of the water run to the Westbrook ditch. Instead it flowed into the car park of the Bell and the excess was released by a householder opening a drain cover. He had checked the drain into the Westbrook and there was no flow.

The Farmer confirmed that a new ditch had been dug from the pig field to the depression in the field just east of the Bell, to better manage any run off

There was some discussion of the previous history of water flow in 2007 and 2014 although no exact eyewitness statement or evidence could be given to prove the run off from the field had entered the west brook

After full discussion in the absence of any evidence, it was agreed that the matter had already been considered and remedial steps had been taken against any foreseeable problems. If another flooding event occurs and evidence is found, PC will take pictures (after seeking permission from the landowner) to eliminate future problems. The clerk was asked to write to the parishioner who raised the concern. PC thanked the pig farmer for coming to the meeting. **Clerk**

4. **Financial Matters**

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The clerk said payroll companies had been researched and the cost would be £16.25 per quarter. The clerk would still be paid monthly and any tax related difference balanced at each quarter end; a standing order will need to be actioned by the Chairman. The new bank mandate was signed; the clerk will forward to HSBC and forward details to the Chairman to action the Clerk's payments.

**Clerk/MHN**

The status of the bank current and deposit accounts and the prognosis for the current year previously circulated, were noted. Approved expenditure: (prop.PK. sec. MHN)

Mrs Appleton – (previous Clerk) stationery and stamps £100.56.

**Income** - £730.40 was paid into account from Boxford PCC on 14 June towards the Grounds and Maintenance payment.

## 5. **Planning Matters**

WBC approval of planning application 16/00959/LBC2 – Wyfield Manor – Proposed single storey extension and associated alterations. Boxford Parish Council had no objection.

The Bell at Boxford – the planning enforcement officer had replied to the previous Clerk to advice because of the reduction in resources this item is classed as low priority and would be investigated at a later date.

There was some debate about how the matter should have been handled. MHN reminded the Council the point about signage had been raised at the parish AGM.

Coombsbury Farm House – report received on concerns of no screening that was originally planned. Mrs Appleton (previous Clerk) said she would investigate planning application and report back.

It was agreed that where points about planning control or planning breaches are notified to Parish Councilors these will be put to West Berkshire Council by the Clerk and responses reported to the Council and the parishioner who raised the complaint.

Parishioners are also reminded they can also report planning breaches directly to West Berkshire Parish Council through their website

## 6. **To receive reports**

### **Condition of highways, paths and stiles**

**Potholes around the church** – Highways reported the road from Southfields to the Church was inspected and no defects found. The section had been added for

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future analysis. Due to budget cuts no works will be carried out at this time, MHN said to keep measuring the pot holes.

No 4 footpath -Westbrook towards East was overgrown. **Clerk** to contact WBC.

Road through Oldham was overgrown both sides of the road, **Clerk** to contact WBC.

No 15 footpath by Knapps Farm was overgrown – **Clerk** to contact WBC

## Village Hall

PT reported the football nets were removed from the goals due to being damaged. The VHC are looking into either repairing or removing the tunnel in the playground due to a exposed hole on top of the tunnel. A website for VH bookings is being discussed. Action had been taken to eliminate rat's part of the play area.

## Lime Trees

Parochial Church Council **had met to discuss** action on the 3 lime trees outside the Church. The consensus was moving towards their removal and replacement with 2 mature honey fungus resistant species.

There was an amount of debate about this issue and it was agreed that more thought and discussion was important before a decision is made. To this end MHN would circulate the Tree Officers Report to council together with some financial analysis. A proposal of a joint application from PCC and PC should be made in October after the leaf fall.

**MHN**

Item to be added to the September meeting.

## Boxford Station /Waiting Room/Bus Shelter

A total of £450.00 had already kindly been donated towards the Bus Shelter works. The clerk will keep a running log of all donations.

**Clerk**

The works to the bus shelter was discussed. It was agreed that PK put a scheme of works together for the shelter and report back.

**PK**

## **Items for next agenda –**

Lime Trees

Boxford Station Waiting Room/Bus Shelter

Meeting closed at 20.40

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**Public Questions:** none.

Date of the next meeting Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Parish Room/Heritage Centre

DRAFT