

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council of Berkswell,
held in The Reading Rooms, Berkswell on
13 November 2014 at 7.45pm**

1. Attendance

Cllrs D Hitchcock, K Howles, R Lloyd, and G Lock (Chairman)
Mrs S Butterworth (Clerk)
Five members of the public including Ms L Barr, Mr R Hubbard, Mr K Tindall,
Mr P Bray

2. Apologies

Cllr A Cambage, Cllr S Cooper, Borough Cllr D Bell, Mr M Hickin, Mr J Ebbans, Mr
D Felthouse

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lloyd declared an interest as Chair of the Local Action Group HHAG.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 October 2014
confirmed as accurate by all present, and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from previous minutes not covered elsewhere on this Agenda

None.

6. Public Opinion, Borough Councillor's Report and Parish Councillor's Opinion

Cllr Lloyd provided an update on the recent Airport Community Engagement
Meeting. Concerns of little confidence in the airport had been expressed. The next
ACC meeting would be in January and it was important to ensure local bodies had
representation.

Cllr Howles reported on the production of a Neighbourhood Development Plan.
Balsall PC had expressed an interest in producing a NDP. Cllr Lloyd stated resources
were not available from either PC until after HS2 proceedings. NDP to be a regular
agenda item. Balsall PC were to have a Planning Meeting on 3 December, when this
would be discussed.

Cllr Lock questioned whether Planning Committee meetings should be reconvened.
It was agreed meetings would be arranged on an ad-hoc basis when deadlines needed
to be met.

Mr Tindall reported on a recent BCVRA meeting concerning Traffic Management
where it became clear there was no strategic plan for the centre of Balsall Common.
At a recent Balsall PC meeting a decision was made to invite Cllr D Bell and Mr A
Prior to a meeting to discuss traffic problems. It was suggested discussions should
also be held between Balsall PC and Berkswell PC.

7. Planning Applications

- *Garden Wood, Berkswell Hall (Planning Committee 29.10.14)*

A response had been received from Mr M Saunders advising of the result of the Planning Committee meeting.

It was agreed the PC should respond to Mr Saunders asking for details on how the PC and residents could participate in the restocking process and also to restate the unlawful situation which had taken place.

Cllr Hitchcock confirmed the Tree Wardens had been active in the process. Cllr Lock advised Ms L Barr to again express her concerns in writing to Mr Saunders, c.c. Cllr D Bell.

Cllr Lloyd suggested the PC should write to Berkswell Estate. Cllr Lock confirmed he would speak to Mr Parry to advise of the PC's involvement.

- ***Meriden Garden City***

Cllr Lloyd had responded to Mr G Palmer by email on 29 October 2014.

Cllr Lock reported consultation had commenced and questioned the need for new housing in addition to the Local Plan. It was agreed the PC should write to Mr Lloyd-Williams (SMBC) objecting to the consultation process.

- ***2014/1742 – 205 Duggins Lane***

Erect 2 No. temporary timber development signboards No objection.

- ***2014/1790 – Meadow Farm, Windmill Lane***

Prior notification for a change of use from agricultural building to a single dwelling house No objection.

- ***2014/1930 – Narok, Lavender Hall Lane***

Fell 1 x Ash and reduce crown by 25% of 1 x Birch tree

Cllr Hitchcock had attended the site. The current planning application had been withdrawn and a new application would be submitted for both trees to be felled due to fungal infection. It was agreed no comment to be submitted on the current application and await submission of the new application. Clerk to check current application had been withdrawn.

8. Highways and other SMBC issues

205 Duggins Lane – New Road Name

Cllrs Lloyd and Cooper had responded to Mr R Gamwell stating their disapproval of the road names suggested. Clerk to respond to Mr Gamwell stating the PC's disapproval of the suggestions, the need to encourage local input and requesting advice on how to proceed with this.

Bear Inn car park

The area needs tidying and the question of ownership was discussed, i.e. private land or SMBC. Clerk to register with Land Registry to establish ownership.

Flooding

Cllr Lock confirmed drains had been replaced when the fields had been ploughed. No further update.

Greenway

Cllr Lloyd reported on the Local Access Forum attended by HS2 representatives. WCC had been given assurance that access would be provided through the station car park. Cllr Lloyd stated legal undertaking was required to ensure the provision of a bridleway, cycle path and footpath.

School parking issues & Traffic calming in Berkswell Village

Cllr Lock reported on a recent meeting where Mr A Prior had recommended appointing specialist Ben Hamilton-Baillie to look at traffic calming solutions. Cllr Lock had subsequently requested the availability of funds. It was suggested funds could be made available from the budget 'Specialist Advice and Legal Fees'. Cllr Lock stressed the importance of using the opportunity of the study and the motion was agreed to go ahead with the study. Mr Hamilton-Baillie would be invited to a meeting in January 2015.

Repair to fingerpost – Berkswell crossroads

Mr B Brant had confirmed he was dealing with this.

Wooden bollard posts – Berkswell Village Green

Mr B Brant to meet with Clerk on site to agree position of posts.

Damaged lamppost on Meriden Road (situated in close proximity to the Reading Rooms)

Mr B Brant had confirmed this had been ordered and was scheduled for delivery at the end of November.

Damaged lamppost on Meriden Road (at crossroads)

Mr B Brant had confirmed this had been ordered and was scheduled for delivery at the end of November.

Damaged 'Meriden Road' road sign (at crossroads)

Mr B Brant had confirmed an order for repair had been placed.

Hedge trimming on A452 (in particular Marsh Lane area)

Cllr Lloyd stated evidence had repeatedly been supplied. It was agreed to resend the evidence. Carry forward.

Damaged road signs on Truggist Lane, Hodgetts Lane and Spencer's Lane

Mr B Brant had confirmed an order for repair had been placed.

Damaged speed limit sign on Baulk Lane

Mr B Brant had confirmed an order for repair had been placed.

Sunken kerb stones along Church Lane

Mr B Brant to meet with Clerk on site to identify location.

Redundant road sign pole on Spencer's Lane, Carol Green

Mr B Brant had confirmed an order had been placed for the removal.

9. Heritage and Community

Berkswell Museum

Mr M Hickin had provided an update and had suggested a meeting with all interested parties. Cllr Lock suggested a meeting at 7.00pm before the next Ordinary Meeting on 11 December 2014. Clerk to arrange.

Commemorative Poppies

Mr M Hickin, on behalf of Berkswell Society, had requested a contribution towards the purchase of 38 poppies. Carry forward. Cllr Cambage and Clerk to discuss budget.

Grass Cutting

Meeting to be arranged between Cllr Cambage, Clerk and Mr A Dymond.

Land at Meeting House Lane

Mr M Hickin had provided an update. He had spoken with a representative of the Church who had confirmed this had moved forward internally and they would be contacting the Parish Council shortly to set up a meeting to discuss proposals.

Pound Close

Mr G Parry had requested an update. Cllr Lock had advised Mr Parry of this Ordinary Meeting, suggesting residents attend.

The proposal made by Cllr Hitchcock not to renew the lease and return the land to Berkswell Estate was agreed by all. Clerk to write to Mr N Parry.

RHS Britain in Bloom Report 2014

Mr M Hickin had provided an update. Carry forward.

Spinney Maintenance

Cllr Hitchcock confirmed there was no update due to weather conditions and availability of volunteers.

10. External Representative Reports

A request had been received for an increase of £1000 for the 2014/15 annual grant to the Jubilee Project. This was questioned and it was agreed to carry forward. Cllr Cambage and Clerk to discuss budget.

11. HS2

Berkswell Parish Council Presentation - Update on Progress

Cllr Lock provided an update. There had been a conference call with Ms Linda Felton, Solicitor and Ms Annabel Graham Paul, Barrister and a meeting with petitioners. The Barrister had explained the Hearing process and suggested the presentation should be fact based and provide evidence. Individual petitioners should approach with an emotional stance.

Cllrs Lock and Lloyd would act as witnesses for the Parish Council.

12. Accounts for Payment

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Cheque</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Solihull MBC (Salary & Allowances July-Sept)	001683	1,828.46
Balsall Common Bugle CIC (Winter Edition)	001684	100.00
Ian Geddes (Website July-Oct)	001685	51.36
Mrs S Cooper (Expenses 22.9.14)	001686	101.53
To be allocated to HS2.		
Mr D Hitchcock (Expenses 8.10.14)	001687	47.25
To be allocated to HS2.		
Poppy Fund Berkswell (Wreath for 9.11.14) Payment	001688	25.00
to be made for second wreath.		

13. Correspondence

Traffic Management in Balsall Common – Mr Will Heard

Correspondence received from Mr W Heard regarding traffic management in Balsall Common. Clerk to write to Mr Heard acknowledging receipt, stating correspondence to be held on record pending appointment of the consultant.

14. Administration

Berkswell PC Asset List – Maintenance of PC Assets

No update

Community Asset List

Clerk to resubmit to Mr J Butler.

Berkswell PC Bank Accounts

Carry forward

Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Lloyd stated residents should be made aware of the procedure for re-election next year. Clerk to organise Parish Assembly 6 weeks prior to re-election date.

15. Next Meeting

Ordinary Meeting of the Council, Thursday 11 December 2014 at 7.15pm, The Jubilee Centre, Station Road, Balsall Common.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Mrs S Butterworth

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13 November 2014