

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
TOWN AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the BCA Town Amenities Sub-Committee held on **Thursday 14 November 2013** at 8 pm at 22 Bridgewater Road, Berkhamsted.

Present: Paul Crosland (PC) in the Chair, Gordon Bluck (GB), Susan Johnson (SJ), Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby (CTP), Tony Statham (TS)

Apologies: Beryl Edwards, Jenny Habib

1. **Minutes** of the meeting of 14 October were agreed.

2. **Matters arising**

2.1 16 Sept. Minutes, item 3.2 - CIL. GB attended the second follow-up meeting organised by Berkhamsted Town Council and attended by Robert Freeman of Dacorum BC. Any monies yielded from CIL would not materialise until 2016-17.

Note

3. **Planning and Environment**

3.1 The meeting noted that the original building at New Lodge, Bank Mill Lane, which was due to be retained as part of the redevelopment of the site, had been demolished during the past month. The meeting concluded that, although regrettable, this was a rather inevitable result of the length of time that this building had been left derelict and unprotected. The plans for the building's replacement – hopefully incorporating some elements recovered from the original building are awaited.

Note

3.2 PC received a copy of the s.106 Agreement for the New Lodge development, had summarised the financial obligations of the developer and had circulated these to members of TASC. As a general point of s.106 monies, GB will arrange to have a discussion with Mark Howard, who is the new (part-time) Section 106 Officer for DBC.

GB

3.3 4/01791/13/FUL - Oakhill Court, 38 Cross Oak Road: SJ has objected on behalf of TASC to the proposed use of upvc in soffits and fascias (property is within Conservation Area). BTC has objected along similar lines.

Note

3.4 Planning Applications for weeks of 16 October (balance after last meeting), 23/30 October, 6 and 13 November were reviewed.

Note

3.4.1 4/01909/13/FUL – The Chilterns, Stoney Close, Northchurch: On behalf of TASC, SJ would contact the Planning Dept. and to 'express regret' at the proposal to introduce a potentially unsightly "semi-permanent wood built building to a development which has previously been given a 'high commendation' in the BCA Environment Awards.

SJ

3.4.2 4/02007/13/FHA – 63 Charles Street, HP4 3DH. SJ to enquire from the Conservation Officer why a Conservation Area Consent is apparently not required from the demolition of the garage (property is within Conservation Area). **SJ**

4. Transport (including Parking)

4.1 TS to collate comments on the defects noted on the By-Pass and to submit these via the Herts direct website (www.hertsdirect.org) **TS**

5. Canal (including Canal & Riverside Partnership – CARP)

5.1 It was recorded that some works has been done in the past month to install bank protection adjacent to the Moor. The retaining wall at Castle Street Bridge was not repaired at this time. **Note**

6. Footpaths/ Footways

6.1 Nothing to report **Note**

7. Trees

7.1 Nothing to report. **Note**

8. Sparrows Herne Trust Waymark

8.1 TS to obtain quotation for stripping the cast iron waymark from the contractor recommended by DBC; SJ to obtain the same from the contractor recommended by a contact in Tring. **TS/SJ**

9. Environment Award

9.1 Long list was circulated by CTP prior to the meeting. **Note**

10. AOB

10.1 Herts CC Libraries Consultation is currently in progress (until 31 December). PC noted there is a public meeting for Dacorum at South Hill Centre, Cemetery Hill, Hemel Hempstead on Weds. 20 November 6.30 p.m. and a drop-in session at Berkhamsted Library on Friday 22 November, 4 – 6 p.m. **Note**

- 10.2 SJ advised that DBC has written to residents of the proposed locally listed buildings asking for contributions to the descriptions of buildings involved (architectural detail, history or past ownership). This will provide a more detailed review of affected buildings than the Conservation Area Appraisal. **Note**
- 10.3 CTP noted that some Japanese Knotweed has been identified in the area of scrub between Cook and the Bulbourne in Lower Kings Rd. CTP to report this to the BTC Town Warden. **CTP**
- 10.4 CTP noted that BTC Planning Committee has agreed to standardise street name signs in Berkhamsted with black lettering on a white background within the Conservation Area, and with green lettering on a cream background outside the Conservation Area. Both versions to incorporate 'Berkhamsted' above the street name. These preferences to be put to BTC Full Council for approval.

11. Dates of next meetings

Tuesday 10 December (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house (Apologies: Jenny, Tony)
Tuesday 21 January 2014 (8 p.m.) at Christopher's house