

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
TOWN AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the BCA Town Amenities Sub-Committee held on **Tuesday 15 April 2014** at 8 pm at 22 Bridgewater Road, Berkhamsted.

Present: Paul Crosland (PC) in the Chair, Gordon Bluck (GB), Beryl Edwards (BE), Jenny Habib (JH), Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby (CTP), Tony Statham (TS)

Apologies: Susan Johnson (SJ)

1. Being the first sub-committee meeting following the AGM, PC convened the meeting, and it was unanimously agreed that PC would continue as Chairman for the year 2014-15.
2. **Minutes** of the meeting of 18 March were agreed.
3. **Matters arising**
 - 3.1 GB to write to Mrs. & Mrs. Lyons, the owners of 'Mariners' to establish if, and in what format the Environment Award plaque might be displayed. **GB**
4. **Planning and Environment**
 - 4.1 PC noted that the Police Station site is confirmed as sold to Beechcroft Homes, developers of sheltered accommodation (same company developing 'Rose & Crown' at Tring). **Note**
 - 4.2 It was agreed that the expenditure of s.106 monies was important enough to be included as an agenda item for consideration at each meeting under 'Planning' – reviewing expenditure of existing funds and new agreements. GB to provide monthly update. **GB**
 - 4.3 GB noted that a response to his letter dated 24 March 2014 to Alex Chrusciak, Development and Planning Manager at DBC (Minute 4.3 of last Minutes), remains outstanding. **Note**
 - 4.4 Following-up on items in Minute 4.4 of last meeting (new shop unit 'Mint Velvet', Birchnells site), CTP noted that tarmac surfacing at side remains in-situ; projecting sign obstructing road sign and damage to the streetlight on the corner of Elm Grove have been resolved. **Note**
 - 4.5 Internally illuminated signage: TASC members to bring a list to the next meeting so that all could be notified to the Enforcement Officer in one e-mail (examples in interim: Boots (green cross), Ask Italian, Villagio) **All**

- 4.6 PC to take photograph of the ugly new street light beside the Grey House on Kitsbury Rd (i.e. within the Conservation Area). **PC**
- 4.7 Ashlyns School Sports Hall: On behalf of TASC, SJ has written to Planning Officer expressing view that the revised Application to be an improvement over its predecessor, but concerns continued to be expressed over materials proposed, especially the unrelenting use of concrete. **Note**
- 4.8 Land at Junction of Durrants Lane and Shootersway. On behalf of TASC, SJ has written to Planning Officer, along the lines of Minute 4.8 of last meeting. It was noted that the Town Council has recommended rejection of the current plans. **Note**
- 4.9 It was noted that all homes in Berkhamsted had received a letter from Lidl advising of their intention to develop a new supermarket and homes (including 'affordable' homes) on the site currently occupied by Roy Chapman Motors and Davis & Samson Demolition in Gossoms End. After discussion, it was agreed not to support or object to this proposal until such time as a Planning Application was submitted. **Note**
- 4.10 Planning Applications for 19, 26 March, and 2 and 9 April were reviewed; no actions required. **Note**

5. Public Noticeboard

- 5.1 TS would look at a sign supplied by Allen Signs to St. Mary's Church, Hertford to assess its suitability. PC following up another possibility from The Church Noticeboard Company, and whether these can be opened without a key. **PC/TS**

6. Transport (including Parking)

- 6.1 Nothing to report **Note**

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

- 7.1 Possible listing of the totem pole at Alsford Wharf: GB reported that English Heritage were not over keen on listing the totem pole as it dated only from the 1960s. SJ waiting for response from Graham Cox (Berkhamsted Community Partnership) to find out how far matters progressed a few years back when BCP offered to assist in maintaining the totem pole. GB thought the matter should be passed back to David Hilling of Inland Waterways Association to progress. **SJ**

8. Footpaths/ Footways

- 8.1 Nothing to report. **Note**

9. Trees

9.1 Nothing to report.

Note

10. Sparrows Herne Trust Waymark

10.1 SJ has written to National Tyres and to potential contractors for the work. SJ to provide update at next meeting. **SJ**

11. AOB

11.1 PC advised that he had attended the Planning Committee meeting the previous evening to object on behalf of the BCA to the ugly substation and steel palisade enclosure installed on the station forecourt. The Town Council would proceed to object to Network Rail/ UK Power Networks who had installed this. **Note**

12. Dates of next meetings

Tuesday 13 May (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house (possible apologies from TS)

Tuesday 17 June (8 p.m.) at Beryl's house