

**BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**  
**TOWN AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE**

**Minutes** of the meeting of the BCA Town Amenities Sub-Committee held on **Tuesday 17 June 2014** at 8 pm at 18 Merling Croft, Northchurch.

**Present:** Gordon Bluck (GB) in the Chair due to Chairman's lost voice, Paul Crosland (PC), Beryl Edwards (BE), Susan Johnson (SJ), Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby (CTP),

**Apologies:** Jenny Habib (JH), Tony Statham (TS)

As a **point or order**, omitted from last month, GB proposed that BE be co-opted onto TASC. Seconded by SJ, carried unanimously.

1. **Minutes** of the meeting of 13 May 2014 were agreed.

2. **Matters arising**

2.1 Environment Award plaque: costs for metal plaque were too expensive. GB is looking at cheaper alternative and is awaiting quotation. Main Committee has approved expenditure of £200 + VAT. **GB**

3. **Planning and Environment (general), including Section 106 issues**

3.1 (previous Minute 3.1) Section 106 expenditure: PC asked if GB could ascertain how 'new' projects e.g. M&S were added to the s.106 funds 'register'. GB is following up with Dacorum's s.106 Officer. **GB**

3.2 (previous Minute 3.2) BCA has issued letter on subject of s.106 expenditure to Dacorum, dated 19 May 2014. Awaiting response; SJ to chase reply. **Note**

3.3 Internally illuminated signage (previous Minute 3.4): SJ has notified the Enforcement Officer, and has received a reply from Philip Stanley. Mr. Stanley has advised that illumination of signs is permitted without advertisement consent for medical *and similar services*. David Paul (optician) considered as 'similar service'. Mr. Staley has opened enforcement files on Acorn (where beauty product is advertised) and Papa John (pizza takeaway). Developments awaited. **Note**

3.4 (previous Minute 3.5) PC to take photograph of the ugly new street light beside The Grey House on Kitsbury Rd (i.e. within the Conservation Area). **PC**

3.5 Substation enclosure, Station forecourt (previous Minute 3.6) PC has recently received a reply from DBC's Head of Planning, James Doe, attaching a copy of a letter to Network Rail from Mr. Doe. Mr. Doe's letter implies that Network Rail's assertions that it had undertaken reviews with Dacorum BC of alternative sites for the substation were untrue. Mr. Doe has not, however, addressed PC's questioning of whether siting of substation falls under General Permitted

Development, and other matters. PC to respond to Mr. Doe with an Fol request for answers. **PC**

3.6 Planning Applications for 13, 22, 28 May and 4, 11 and 17 June were reviewed. Actions as follows:-

3.6.1 11/6: Application 4/00868/14/FUL (Entreat, Gossoms End, HP4 1DD; change of use to Fast Food outlet) : TASC to object on grounds of unsuitability of use for residential area, and on proposed late night opening. **SJ**

3.6.2 17/6: Application 4/01317/14/MFA (proposed Lidl store and housing, Gossoms End, HP4 3LP : TASC to comment concerning a) traffic management proposals are inadequate – especially for traffic turning right out of the store towards Northchurch, and b) that draft Section 106 payments seem very low. **SJ**

#### **4. Public Noticeboard**

4.1 PC has obtained quotations from Greenbarnes Ltd. for various noticeboard options, and circulated a brief report ahead of the meeting (report attached to Minutes). Main decisions required are material (man-made timber or oak), layout (landscape/ portrait) and capacity. After discussion it was agreed to recommend to Main Committee that an oak board with 2-bays, portrait layout, one side glazed, the other side open, with capacity of 2x9 sheets of A4 should be purchased, at a cost, excluding VAT and installation, of around £1,400. **Note**

#### **5. Transport (including Parking)**

5.1 Nothing to report **Note**

#### **6. Canal (including Canal & Riverside Partnership – CARP)**

6.1 Nothing to report. **Note**

#### **7. Footpaths/ Footways**

7.1 Nothing to report. **Note**

#### **8. Trees**

8.1 Nothing to report. **Note**

**9. Sparrows Herne Trust Waymark**

- 9.1 SJ reported that the works had been completed and appearance was satisfactory. SJ to follow-up with publicity – Town Council, Gazette, Milestone Society, Berkhamsted Community Partnership, Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, and article for next newsletter. SJ also to progress application for Listing via English Heritage. **SJ**

**10. AOB**

- 10.1 BCA will host ANTAS AGM on Saturday 18 October 2014 (post meeting note: new date: 29 November 2014). **Note**
- 10.2 PC noted that as a result of an accident on 27 May, the east end of town had suffered the loss of a phone box and pillar box, and would need to make sure these were replaced. **PC**

**11. Dates of next meetings**

Tuesday 15 July (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house  
Tuesday 19 August (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house