

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

**Minutes** of the meeting of the BCA Town Amenities Sub-Committee held on **Tuesday 21 October 2014** at 8 pm at 22 Bridgewater Road, Berkhamsted.

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

**Apologies:** Jenny Habib (JH)

1. **Minutes** of the meeting of 16 September 2014 were agreed.
2. **Matters arising**
  - 2.1 Environment Award plaque: Receipt of plaque expected imminently **GB**
3. **Planning and Environment (general), including Section 106 issues**
  - 3.1 (previous Minute 3.2) BCA meeting with Cllrs. Williams and Griffiths is re-arranged for 4 November at SJ's house. **Note**
  - 3.2 Internally illuminated signage (previous Minute 3.3): DBC planning enforcement has taken action to require disconnection of illuminated signage at Papa John (pizza takeaway). At Acorn (where beauty product is advertised), this is deemed to fall within the permission of pharmacies to have illuminated signage and no further action will be taken. **Note**
  - 3.3 SJ said that TV screen displays in shopfronts are not deemed to be 'externally illuminated signage, even though the effect is similar. **Note**
  - 3.4 SJ advised that she had objected in a personal capacity to comment on an apparent change of use in Lower Kings Road (nos 8 - 13) where a sushi and juice bar (called 'Zero') is opening, replacing 'Mr. Simms Sweet Shoppe'. Planning Enforcement are looking into the matter. **Note**
  - 3.5 SJ reported that the Town Council is 'looking into' A-frame signs and flyposting in the town, in conjunction with DBC, and hoped to involve interested parties in the discussion. SJ has registered interest with the Town Council on behalf of the BCA and a reply is awaited from the Town Clerk. SJ to follow up. **SJ**
  - 3.6 Ugly new street light beside The Grey House on Kitsbury Rd (i.e. within the Conservation Area [CA]) – PC to follow this up with Fiona Webb at DBC. **PC**
  - 3.7 Substation enclosure, Station forecourt (previous Minute 3.5) GB to liaise with Town Clerk for possible painting. **GB**

3.8 There had been an exhibition of proposals for the site designated as Local Allocation 4 (LA4) in the Core Strategy in the Civic Centre on 17 October. There were some concerns over a summary document concerning the 'Berkhamsted Place Strategy', and GB would investigate the meaning of certain content with DBC. **GB**

3.9 Planning Applications for 17 and 24 September and 1, 8, 15 and week up to 21 October were reviewed. No actions arising. **Note**

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

4.1 PC has placed the order for the board with Greenbarnes Ltd., with a request for invoice to be sent to BTC (Town Clerk). SJ had applied for a grant from BTC to cover the installation cost of £248.30 (no VAT applicable), and the application was successful. **Note**

#### **5. Environment Award**

5.1 CTP noted there were no changes to the list of potential candidates. List to be updated ahead of future meetings. **CTP**

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

6.1 PC responded on BCA's behalf to the consultation concerning withdrawal of evening and Sunday bus services. **Note**

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

7.1 PC represented BCA at CARP Meeting on 30 September. Towpath upgrade works to Stag Lane will be done early in 2015, to an increased width (1.75m) to accommodate cyclists. BCA Main Committee also agreed to provide £200 towards the costs of supplying 10no. mooring rings. Berkhamsted Community Partnership will also contribute to the supply costs, whilst the Inland Waterways Association will contribute to the installation cost. **Note**

#### **8. Footpaths/ Footways**

8.1 (Previous Minute 8.1) PC has reported obstructed footpaths in the Tunnel Fields area to the Town Warden. John Bushby has replied that there have been land ownership and maintenance responsibility issues between HCC and DBC but hopes these have been resolved. **Note**

8.2 (Previous Minute 11.1) The installation of new street signage poles along the High Street is associated with 'correcting' previous mistakes when parking

regulation and the 20 speed zone were put in place. However, in several locations, this has been done insensitively e.g. in front of St. Peter's Church. Cllr. Reay, Berkhamsted's County Councillor, has met with Highways officers. SJ to contact Ian to ascertain what the latest position is. **SJ**

**9. Trees**

- 9.1 Replacements for the 4no. mature trees removed from the High Street: Town Clerk had advised that DBC has not yet determined the locations. **Note**

**10. Sparrows Herne Trust Waymark**

- 10.1 SJ is following-up with the additional information requested by English Heritage in connection with Application for Listing. The Application will be put forward by English Heritage to the Secretary of State. **SJ**

**11. AOB**

- 11.1 None

**12. Dates of next meetings**

Tuesday 18 November (8 p.m.) at Jenny's house  
Tuesday 16 December (8 p.m.) at Gordon's house