

## HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> 2014.

Present.

Ms R Cottingham. Chairman  
Mr D. Brown, Mr R. Burgess, Mrs M. Goodman, Mrs F. Groves,  
Dr J. Lawler, Mr R. Marr, Mrs S. Russell, Mr B. Willis, Mrs K. Willis.

Mr Q. Webb District Councillor  
Mr C.W.Goudge. Clerk.

There were no members of the public present.

**101 Apologies for absence.**

Mr Pask had presented an apology for absence.

**102 Minutes of the last meeting held on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2014.**

The minutes had been circulated were agreed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**103 Matters arising from the minutes of the November meeting not referred to elsewhere.**

Minute 85.

i Village vision.

There is no further report for this month.

ii Broadband.

There has been some unspecified activity by Bt in the Parish. WBC intend to issue a report showing more closely who will benefit in the near future.

iii Village website.

The content is being reviewed.

**104 The report from the West Berkshire Councillor.**

Mr Webb mentioned –

- WBC is trying hard to get the broadband issue finished.
- The SHLAA meeting for Hermitage is on February 4<sup>th</sup> in Newbury.
- The Parish Conference will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup>.
- WBC is considering their decision regarding passing on the tax base grant from Government
- Mr Marr mentioned that Love Lane problems had been reported to Streetcare without any effect. Mr Webb would take this up.

**105 Planning.**

**Appeal.**

13/00663/FULD

Fifield Farm, Marlston Hermitage.

Barn conversion to a private dwelling.

**The Appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.**

**Any further comments to the Planning Inspectorate by January 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



**New application.**

13/03053/HOUSE

Fernlea, High Street.  
Garage demolish & extension

**No objections****Other matters.**

i WBC SHLAA.

Fifteen sites in Hermitage have been put forward. The link to viewing the sites is – [www.westberks.gov.uk/shlaa](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/shlaa). The SHLAA is described by WBC as a technical appraisal and not policy making .

**106 Burial Ground.****Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting in November**

Minute 87.

i Trees.

The trees have been planted.

Councillors expressed their appreciation to the Hermitage Horticultural Society for their help in planning and planting the trees.

**107 Finance.**

i Receipts.

ii Payments authorised.

Contractors		£469.16
Barlow & Sons	Materials	£99.41
C.W.Goudge	Salary & exes	£385.33

iii Other matters.

i To note the Statement of Receipts &amp; Payments to date.

ii £250K has been placed on deposit with Lloyds TSB at a rate of 0.6% for three months, maturing on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

iii Grant forms.

It was decided to make the following grants, to be paid after the APA.

Hermitage Horticultural Society	£250
Hermitage Scouts	£1,000
Pre-School	£1,000
Hermitage Village Hall	£1,465

iv It was decided to accept the Contractor's quotation for the coming year, in the sums of –

Grass & hedge cutting.	£5,885.00
Inspections, litter pick	£40 per month.
Bus shelter cleaning	£34 per month.

iv The Precept for the year to March 31 2015 was set at £42,000, unchanged from the current year..

**108 Highways.****Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting in November.**

Minute 89.

i School parking.

It was decided to remind WBC of their agreement to survey the problem.

**109 Environment**

**Matters arising from the meeting in November.**

Minute 90.

- i New Village Hall.
  - i Funding.

Tenders have been received, and the overall project would be decided on a basis of what might be affordable. Talks would take place with GCT, after which the Council would decide upon their grant policy.
  - ii Lease.

The boundaries will be agreed very shortly and the Lease will be submitted to the VH Solicitor.
- ii Woodland & recreation ground maintenance.

The Furze Hill Working Party had reported on actions since the November meeting. It was decided to buy signs for the pond area, and dog nuisance signs with a budget of £500 plus VAT.  
It was also agreed to provide signs for the recreation ground and adjacent to Pinewood crescent with a budget of £500.
- iii Pinewood play area.

The grass has been badly damaged by an unknown heavy vehicle. The recent inspection report highlights some matters to be corrected. None were reported as major.
- iv Youth Club.

The existing Youth Club Committee has returned the amount of £6,129.60 to the Parish Council, being the balance of funds at the dissolution of the former Club. It was decided to ring fence this amount to be used for youth activities.

**110 Correspondence**

The correspondence was discussed and where appropriate placed into circulation.


**111 Items to be raised by Councillors.**

Ms Cottingham suggested that there might be speed signs placed on lampposts in the Village.

The Council meeting for April was fixed for Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>, followed by the APA on Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**112 Date of the next meeting.**

**Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room Holy Trinity Church.**

  
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Chairman

20.2.14  
Date