

Want to get involved?

- ⇒ Email us your thoughts on future development of Hermitage.
- ⇒ Join the conversations on Facebook.

Can you spare 1-2 evenings a month?

We need volunteers to get our NDP completed.
Email us and find out how you could help:

hermitagendp@gmail.com

Find out more about NDPs at : <https://locality.org.uk/services-tools/neighbourhood->



Hermitage NDP
Hermitage Parish Council

HOMES FOR HERMITAGE

WHAT NEXT?

Have your say at an open day on **Saturday October 10th** at **Hermitage Primary School** in the Woodland Lodge.

To create a plan for future development in Hermitage the NDP group needs to know what residents like, what they would choose to have or not have.

Inside this booklet are a number of topics with questions to get you thinking. Pop in to the open day, anytime from 10.30 to 3.30, to let us know your thoughts. If you are unable to do this please email hermitagendp@gmail.com with your comments.

All Covid 19 compliance requirements will be in place.



Hermitage NDP

Hermitage Parish Council working alongside Hermitage
Neighbourhood Development Plan group

Neighbourhood Development Plan

What's that?

It sets out planning policies for a local area.

It's used to decide whether to approve planning applications—including new buildings or changes to existing buildings.

It's written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development in the right places.

Why does Hermitage need one?

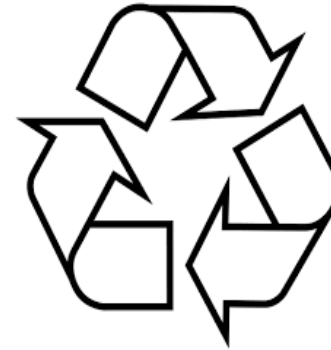
FACT: UK Government has told West Berkshire Council (WBC) that it must plan for 10,500 new homes by 2026.

FACT: WBC 2006—2026 strategic planning includes 2000 new homes in North Wessex Downs AONB.

FACT: Hermitage is categorised as a Service village within the AONB - defined as having “some limited development potential”.



With Hermitage Parish Council



Environment and Sustainability

A few questions to help you get a feel for the topic, but don't feel these are the only ones—leave us comments on anything that comes to mind.

Should Hermitage have local objectives for sustainability?

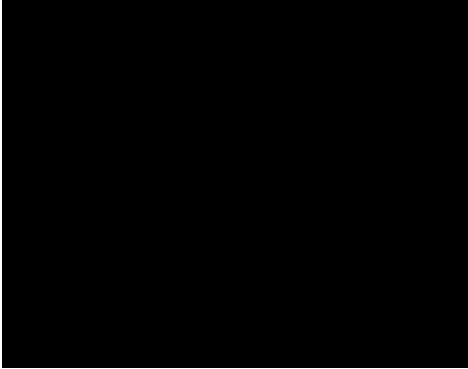
- Re-cycling target
- Carbon emission target

Should we encourage sustainability in future development in Hermitage?

- Heat pumps / biomass boilers
- High insulation requirements
- Electric vehicle charging points

What are your thoughts about more holistic environmental ideas?

- Larger gardens—better for us and local wildlife
- Cycle tracks to discourage car use
- Wildlife areas and corridors



Green Spaces

A few questions to help you get a feel for the topic, but don't feel these are the only ones—leave us comments on anything that comes to mind.

Did you know these are all designated **green spaces**:

- Furze Hill RG18 9WL (formerly clay and sandpits for M4 construction and Pinewood brickworks)
- Pinewood Park - RG18 9RP (near the scout hut on site of former Pinewood Halt station)
- Dines Way green Lipscombe Close green
- Hermitage Green play area Burial Ground on Marlston Road

Are there other green spaces you would want to be designated?

Habitats / bio-diversity

Hermitage is surrounded by woodland and countryside. Are there any specific habitats or areas of bio-diversity our NDP should aim to protect?

Areas you particularly like?

Let us know where these are and why you like them.



Housing

A few questions to help you get a feel for the topic, but don't feel these are the only ones—leave us comments on anything that comes to mind. (First read the facts on the opposite page.)

When considering any **new home development** should:

- Every home have a front and back garden?
- Every home have a garage large enough to hold a family car?
- More bungalows / houses suitable for older residents be included?
- Houses have better disabled access?
- More family (4-5 bed) houses be built?
- More starter homes (1-2 bed) be included?

What are your thoughts about **design features** for future development?

- Should new homes be primarily red brick?
- What other features do you think should be included?
- Should new homes be more environmentally friendly—even if that does mean they cost a little more?

Do you think more should be available to allow younger generations to make their first home in Hermitage?



A few questions to help you get a feel for the topic, but don't feel these are the only ones—leave us comments on anything that

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- Which is more important: free flowing traffic or speed / traffic calming measures?
- Should cycling be promoted? How could we improve cyclist / walking / driving safety?
- How can we deal with increased traffic?
- Are there parts of our High Street / through road that concern you? What would you do to change / improve them?

Footpaths / Cycle ways

- The cycle-path to Hampstead Norreys seems very successful – should we ask for more?
- Where could the village itself be made more cycle-friendly?
- Would “circular route” footpaths be a good thing? If so, where?

School

- Could we (should we) encourage more “drop off by foot or cycle”?
- Do you have ideas about how to make the School more car-friendly?

Amenities

- We have a shop, Post Office, pubs and Mini-market on the way – what is missing?

Public spaces / community facilities

- What's good? What's bad?
- What should we aim to have more of?