

## HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the virtual meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held On Thursday 10 December 2020 at 7.30pm

- Present** Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr R Marr, Cllr S Russell, Cllr C Purchase, Cllr N Burraston, Cllr A Goldsmith, Cllr I Hunter, Cllr T Moran, Cllr D Brown, Cllr F Ashwood, Dist. Cllr G Simpson
- 1 member of the public  
Mrs Laura Ferris MP joined the meeting at 7.35pm
- 01.12.20 **Public participation**  
Laura Ferris discussed Covid vaccinations, estate management fees and which tier West Berkshire is likely to be in after Christmas (Tier 2).
- 02.12.20 **Apologies for absence**  
Dist. Cllr H Cole, Cllr Yam, Nicky Pierce, Clerk
- 03.12.20 **Minutes of meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020**  
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.12.20 **Declarations of interest**  
None
- 05.12.20 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**  
None
- 06.12.20 **Report of the District Councillors**  
The District Councillors provided a written report. Dist. Cllr Simpson provided an additional report relating to his work with Cold Ash PC and spoke about their NDP and traffic and urged councillors to engage with the new HEELA being published by WBC on 11<sup>th</sup> December.
- 07.12.20 **Planning**  
**7.1 New applications:**  
20/02118/HOUSE, 29 Fletton Link, Hermitage, RG18 9WR. Retrospective application for a wooden framed free-standing structure at the side of the existing dwelling house, to become a permanent structure. The structure will be 3.25m to the top of the slate roof, the width will be 5.15m and length will be 3.15m. Object
- 20/02777/House, The Annexe at Crossways House, Marlston Road, Hermitage, RG18 9SU. Proposed front extension, false pitched roof to “hide” flat roof and new dormer. Approve
- 7.2 Decision notices:**  
20/02211/ADV, Lawrence Building Newbury Road Hermitage Thatcham RG18 9TD. 1x internally illuminated logo sign 1x set of non- illuminated perspex letters 1x internally illuminated totem sign and vinyl window treatments. Approved.
- 7.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan: verbal report on HNS received. Council agreed to apply for a grant for this work.
- 08.12.20 **Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**  
8. Financial position as of 30 November 2020  
Balance carried forward  
(including S106 contributions) £ 225,084.15

Receipts to 30 November	£ 63,261.86
Payments to 30 November	£ 49,116.46
Balance	£ 239,229.55
Plus, unrepresented cheques	£ <u>668.07</u>
Balance in hand	£ 239,897.63

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted. Cllr Brown to follow up with Eling Estate the placing of the new benches on the ATR

8.2 Payments were agreed for December 2020

8.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£ 251.70
8.2.2 Grass maintenance/Contractor	£ 650.00
8.2.3 Cost of administration	Salary £ 687.24
8.2.4 Clerk expenses, stationery	£ 66.22
8.2.5 Sue Russell, newsletter fliers	£ 80.00
8.2.6 Low Carbon Products Ltd, Eling Way benches	£ 974.40
	Total £ 2,709.56

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:

1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment £5.99

8.4 VAT return 2019-20 submitted to HMRC 25<sup>th</sup> November, £2,443.74.

#### 09.12.20 **Burial ground**

9.1 Review of burial ground fees 2021-23: agreed with inclusion of £25 charge for scattering ashes. Cllr Purchase to update booklet.

#### 10.12.20 **Highways**

10.1 Removal of bus shelter: Volker Highways quotation £1,750 (inc vat) was accepted. The bus stop is not being moved. The signpost and litter bin are being tidied up.

10.2 Decision on replacing bus shelter, and if yes, with what to be agreed at February meeting.

10.3 Speed management: Cllr Purchase provided an update. Recommendation to work with Community Speed Watch agreed.

10.4 Active Travel Route (ATR) to Newbury: agreed to go ahead with request of route to Curridge if Covid travel money can be obtained. Dist. Cllr Simpson to liaise with WBC.

#### 11.12.20 **Environment**

Verbal reports received as follows:

11.1 Playgrounds: Cllr Burraston to do this w/c 14/12

11.1.1 Councillor's inspection reports: nothing to report

11.1.2 Annual inspection report from Wicksteed: appointment for maintenance of zipwire still awaited.

11.2 Furze Hill: nothing to report

11.2.1 Recreation Ground: Cold Ash football team is now able to make bookings and has done so.

11.2.2 Wildlife areas: noted that people climbing over fence in corner of recreation ground.

11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way, Lipscomb Close, Charlotte Green: pane of glass being used to block hole in fence at Dines Way.

11.4 Defibrillator check: done.

#### 12.12.20 **Other matters**

12.1 Village Hall: repairs to the parking site, fire door and cloakroom facilities have all taken place.

12.2 Hermitage Support Group Covid 19: Cllr Purchase provided an update including that Christmas parcels will be delivered. Council noted that the support group thanks all donors for their continuing, outstanding generosity to this cause. More than 15 families have been helped.

12.3 Hermitage Green: Dist. Cllr Simpson to follow through with WBC.

- 13.12.20 **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere:** all correspondence accepted and noted.
- 14.12.20 **Reports from Parish Council representatives who have attended meetings of outside bodies on behalf of the council**  
None
- 15.12.20 **Items raised by Councillors (information only)**  
None
- 16.12.20 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)**  
None
- 17.12.20 **Date of the next meeting:**  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm, virtual meeting.  
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.