

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 23RD 2009.

Present.

Ms R Cottingham	Chairman
Mrs M. Goodman.	Vice-Chairman.
Mrs J. Cunningham.	
Mrs F. Groves.	
Mr M Kerry.	

Mr C.W.Goudge	Clerk
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Two members of the public.

147. Public participation.

What is happening with both Dennison Barracks and the old Lawrence site.

It is believed that the Lawrence site is to be leased to Wessex Recovery, and possibly part occupied by Thames Valley Police. The Council is in touch with Chieveley Parish Council about Dennison Barracks, and this will be discussed later under planning.

Consultation about Dennison Barracks is laughable, and there should be a joint approach from both Councils.

The Council will pursue this energetically.

The Lawrence site might be in use all day every day.

There had been an impromptu talk with Wessex, and it has been decided to see if WBC have any further information.

The letter from WBC Highways to residents appears to be with a view of getting information to the whole of the Village. No reply has been sent to Jon Winstanley yet.

The Council will contact WBC to see whether there is any progress. It is noted that the footpath widening was mentioned in the Hermitage Village Plan.

Are there to be more traffic speed surveys undertaken. There have been no results from any carried out. Councillor Findlay felt it might be Parishioners own "perception" that there were excess speeds, and that parking on the footway was not an offence in itself. It needs concerted action. Speeding checks should be carried out by the shop.

If there are any visible offences the Police should be told, and it is essential to get an URN number so that the matter is registered.

The PCSO seems to be the liaison between the Police and the Public.

It is worthwhile to inform the beat Policeman, though not to rely solely on this as the message will not get logged into the Police system.. The Council has the information on the speed checks and the interpretation. There was a survey last and the Council has asked for additional surveys which will take in Marlston Bridge.

148. Apologies for absence.

There were apologies for absence from Mr Allum, Mrs Willis, Mr Webb and Mr Marr.

149. Minutes of the last meeting held on March 16th 2009.

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

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150. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

Minute 136.

- i Notice boards.
Two have been ordered.
- ii Green Land Rover.
This has been moved.
- iii Parish Walk.
It has been suggested that the Scouts might use the occasion to raise funds, perhaps through food provision.
- iv APA matters.
It was decided to put the Annual Parish Council report on the website.
There was criticism about the poor communication from WBC Highways. It was decided to bring this to WBC attention.
There is a problem with many cars parking on the High Street – perhaps there should be parking restriction, both in the High Street and at School.
The WBC travelling Library has had no one using it at Forest Edge, though at Hermitage Green it is well used.

151. The report from the West Berkshire Councillor.

An apology for absence had been received from Mr Webb.

152. Planning.

Decisions from the Planning Authority.

		Decision
08/02203/FUL	Oak Tree House, Rowlock Gardens. Post & Rail fencing at boundary	Approval.
09/00013/HOUSE	High Oak, Deacon's Lane, Hermitage Extension.	Approval.
0900014FUL	Thornton House, Priors Court Road. Section 73 variation of planning conditions	Approval

New planning applications.

09/00474/FUL	Toutley Court, Doctors lane. Retrospective – demolish house in accordance with consent to 04/02898/HOUSE
09/00414/HOUSE	The Benhams, Yattendon Road. Fence replacement.

The Council returned “no objections” to these two applications.

Other matters.

- i Dennison Barracks.
It was decided to ask Mr Crispin from Chieveley Parish Council to a meeting, to discuss how this Council can best participate in a clearly sensitive matter.
- ii S.106 suggestions.
It was decided to form a Working Party to determine the ramifications of bringing into service the pitch and changing rooms, as well as being of assistance to the Village Hall Management Committee.

RC

- iii Lawrence farm Equipment site.
This has already been discussed.
- iv WBC S.106 contributions expected from developers.
The Council noted the new list of amounts which might be expected from developers for educational purposes.
- v Pinewood play area.
No reply had been received from the Contractors, and it was decided to follow this up. The Council needs a key to the gates in case of emergency. The planting of shrubs is being taken forward.

153. Highways.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 139.

- i Speed limits in the Village.
This had already been discussed.
- ii Marlston bridge.
There has been no further response from WBC.
- iii White gates at Yattendon Road.
There has been no action by WBC.
- iv Footpath works on the High Street.
This had already been discussed.

New matters.

- i WBC Road improvement programme to 2014.
It was decided to ask WBC what form the improvements will actually take.

154. Environment.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 140.

- i Allotments.
It was decided to enquire whether the ground owned by BT near the Pinewood play area could be used for allotments.
- ii Risk assessment at Pinewood play area.
This is to undertaken in May.
- iii Football pitch.
This will be discussed by the Working Party.
- iv Tree work.
This has been completed.
- v Presentation to Mr Greenaway.
This is to be deferred to the next meeting.
- vi Pinewood play area.
It was decided to lock the gate as a precaution against vandalism, and a spending for a lock and chain up to £25 was authorised.

155. Finance.

- i Receipts.

Bank of Scotland	Interest	March	£3.53
Turner	Burial		£125.00

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| ii | Payments authorised. | | |
| | F.C.Lawrence | Grass & shelters | £360.83 |
| | A.Hedges | Planning | £345.00 |
| | J.S.Catering | APA costs | £300.00 |
| | WBC | VAT on dog bin empty | £4.94 |
| | Hermitage Village Hall. | Hall hire for APA | £58.03 |
| | Ms Cottingham | APA expenses for wine | £46.70 |
| | C.W.Goudge. | Salary & exes | £396.88 |
- iii Other matters.
- i The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.
- ii The audit to March 31 2009 has been called, and the Council has been randomly selected as part of a 5% spot check. The Clerk would liaise with the Vice-Chairman and Mrs Groves regarding the supplementary questions which form part of a spot audit.
- iii It was decided to open an account with Lloyds TSB.

156. Burial Ground.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 142.

- i Grave spaces.
The Registrar had been sent a copy of the reply from WBC regarding planning permission, which indicated that planning consent was not required in order to consecrate further ground in the Burial Ground.
- ii Headstone request.
It was decided to ratify the ownership of the grave as it is now known.

157. Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

West Berkshire Community planning – Parish Plan newsletter.
BALC information on various updates which are attached.
Information Commissioners office – DVD about the Freedom of Information Act.
Parish Charter – version for submission to WBC Executive.
Shaw House event in May.
WBC – flood leaflets.
- Clear Streets Strategy to be enforced by Civil Enforcement Officers..
NALC Legal Topics – Celebrations and similar events.
Councillors allowances – S28 deals with the Chairman's allowance.

158. Reports from Parish Council Representatives who had attended meetings of Outside Bodies on behalf of the Council.

There were no reports.

159. Items to be raised by Councillors.

The Council had been represented at the WBC seminar "Meet the Planners", and it was felt that was an excellent event. S.106 contributions had been studied in depth.

It was noted that the next Parish District Conference is on May 27th at the Holiday Inn, Bath Road, Padworth at 6.00pm.

160. Date of the next meeting.

Thursday May 21st at 7.00pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.

This meeting will start with the Annual Meeting of the Council, followed by an Ordinary Council meeting.



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Chairman

21.05.09

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Date.