

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 19TH 2009.

Present.

Ms R Cottingham	Chairman
Mrs M. Goodman.	Vice-Chairman.
Mr R.Allum.	
Mrs J. Cunningham.	
Dr. M. Kerry.	
Mrs K. Willis.	
Mr Q.Webb.	District Councillor.
Mr C.W.Goudge	Clerk

There were five members of the public present.

90. Public participation.

Concern was expressed about the safety of the footpath from the Village Hall to the butcher's shop, and emails had been exchanged with both Councillor Webb and Highways. There was a suggestion that perhaps Compulsory Purchase powers could be initiated by WBC to improve the amount of space available.

This would be an Agenda item for the next meeting under road widening.

Is there anything in the Village Plan which would mitigate against wooden windows being exchanged for PVC window frames in a traditional cottage
It did not seem so.

The Village website has been brought up to date and is available for other content from local Organisations.

91. Apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Mrs Groves and Mr Pask.

92. Minutes of the last meeting held on October 15th 2009.

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

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

Minute 79.

- i Parish Plan.
The first "piggyback" event will be the meeting of the Horticultural Society.
It was decided to ask the Parish Plan Group to determine where to put the Village Christmas tree.
- ii Council records.
This is ongoing.
- iii Village website.
This had been reviewed in Public Participation.

94. The report of the West Berkshire Councillor.

Mr Webb reported that WBC had decided that there would be no parking charge on a Sunday in car parks which they controlled.

The WBC budget would probably come into balance by the end of the year.

It had been decided to freeze some of the staff salaries for the next year.

The Parish Council could perhaps give some thought to the preparation of a Local Incident Plan, covering basic subjects like keyholders, plus action and reporting functions.

95. Planning.**Decisions from the Planning Authority.**

		Decision
09/01505/HOUSE	7, Brick Walk, Hermitage. Conservatory.	Approval
09/01696/HOUSE	Stronvar House, Oare. Extension	Approval
09/01800/HOUSE	35, Lipscombe Close, Hermitage. Extension.	Approval

New planning applications.

09/01918/HOUSE 12, Kiln Close, Hermitage.
Extension.

The Council returned "no objections".

Other matters.

- i The Council noted a neighbour notification of a possible planning application for portacabins at the Old Post Office.

96. Highways.**Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.****Minute 82.**

- i Hedges.
Some trimming has been done. It was decided to follow up on the outstanding properties where owners had been asked to trim their hedges.
- ii High Street works.
This was raised earlier in the meeting. It was reported that the designated no parking spaces on the road were not being observed. It was decided to review this in a month and, if necessary ask WBC to implement a scheme under the Clear Streets Policy. A parishioner was concerned that the bollards could be an obstruction to pedestrians, and could benefit from solar powered lighting. It was decided to look at S.106 funding in this respect.
- iii Marlston bridge.
It was decided remind WBC again to move the traffic sign – this has been outstanding since the new road markings were installed.
- iv Clear Streets Policy.
A reply is awaited from WBC as to the legality of parking on pavements.
- v Speed limit revisions.
WBC have published the proposals for tidying up the speed limits in the Parish. It was decided to ask WBC if there could now be another speed survey. It was recognised that single lane country roads are dangerous for children and parents.

New matters.

- i Speed roundals.
It was decided to ask WBC if roundals of "30" could be placed on the road. A suggested location plan would be presented at the next meeting.

97. Environment.**Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.**

Minute 83.

- i Pinewood play area.
Quotes for installing lighting in the vicinity of the Scout Hut are awaited.
There had been some cub hut vandalism.
It was decided to chase BRB for a key to the fence gate, giving notice that if it is not provided the Council will open he gate and send BRB the account.
It was decided to ask the anti-social database team from WBC to come before the January meeting and demonstrate the database.
It was decided to start a sinking fund for the replacement of play area equipment, with an annual sum of £800. It was also decided to get an up to date quote from Insurers for damage insurance.
- ii Football pitch.
The drainage is reported as faulty because the pipes are not deep enough. It was decided to report this to Stewart Souden before WBC take over the pitch.
- iii Bulbs and flowers.
The Council was grateful to Mrs Cunningham for progressing this. There could be a cost of some £1,000 to £1,500 spread over three years.
- iv Hermitage green playground.
The repairs to some of the equipment is inadequate, and this will be taken up with Banner Homes. There are some 21 posts marking the places for sweet chestnut tree planting.
- v Flytipping at Forest Edge.
WBC have been informed.
- vi Stile.
A quote is awaited.

New matters.

- i WBC Major Incident Plan.
The Council noted this and would consider what has to be done to prepare an Incident Plan for the Parish.
- ii Pang Valley Projects.
It was decided to write a letter of support, similar to that in September.

98. Finance.

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| i | Receipts. | | | |
| | Bank of Scotland | Interest | Sept / Oct | £5.98 |
| | WBC | S.106 | | £5,088.35 |

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|----|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| ii | Payments authorised. | | |
| | F.C.Lawrence | Grass and bus | £375.75 |
| | Playground services | Repairs | £343.85 |
| | C.W.Goude | Salary & exes | £379.65 |
| | Transfer of an additional amount to Lloyds TSB | | £30,000.00 |
| | Dr J Lawler | Website expenses | £100.46 |
| | N.J.Perry | Notice board erection | £130.00 |
| | C.W.Goude | Salary & exes | £379.65 |
- iii Other matters.
- i The Statement of Receipts and payments to date was noted.
- ii Grant applications have been received from Scouts, PreSchool, Church and Horticultural Society.
- iii The FWP report from the October meeting was discussed. There would be a meeting of the FWP to discuss grants for 2010 / 2011 and investment suggestions.

99. Burial Ground.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

- i Consecration.
Arrangements were now complete for the consecration on November 30th.
- ii Interment.
A request had been made for an interment on December 5th.

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

Youth Services – new address at West Street House, West Street, Newbury.
Action for all – community websites.
Shaw House Christmas party – Sunday December 6th.
Thames Valley Police- crimestoppers text for insertion in a Parish Magazine.
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service – five year Risk Management Plan.
WBC – School admission consultation for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2011 / 2012
WBC Winter Service & Adverse Weather Policy Plan. Salting, operational detail and a guide to safer driving.
WBC District Parish Conference at Newbury on November 24th – programme. Parking will cost £1 after 6.00pm

101. Reports from Parish Council Representatives who have attended meetings of Outside bodies on behalf of the Council.

At the recent meeting of NAG the following matters were discussed.

- There will be questionnaires distributed to all the houses in the Parish.
- There is training being offered in NAG problem solving.
- If there are any parking problems Alex Drysdale should be contacted.
- It was stressed that URN numbers for reported crimes are very important and individuals should keep them safe.
- For anti-social behaviour with vehicles – chiefly mopeds – after two formal warnings the vehicle may be seized.

102. Items to be raised by Councillors.


It was requested that an update regarding the recent Oare Planning application which concerns Travellers should be obtained from WBC. This Council has not been consulted.

James Foster has been selected as WBC Junior Citizen of the year. There is an award ceremony at WBC in early December.

The litter bin at the old bus stop needs to be moved to the new bus stop. A replacement litter bin is also needed at the Village Hall.

103. Date of the next meeting.

Thursday December 17th at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room at Holy Trinity Church.


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Chairman

17-12-09
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Date.