

# HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> 2008.

Present.

Mr D. Brown.	Chairman
Ms R Cottingham.	Vice-Chairman.
Mrs M. Goodman.	
Mrs F. Groves.	
Mrs K. Willis.	
Mr Q Webb.	District Councillor.
Mr C.W.Goudge	Clerk

Twenty four members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed the public to this meeting which had been called to consider mainly the planning application for development 08/01519/FULD at Thistledown, Hampstead Norreys Road.

## 55. Public Participation.

The Chairman invited the views of those supporting the application for the development.

The following points were made by the spokesman for the developer.

- The developer realised there would be concerns which he had done his best to mitigate.
- WBC needs to build a substantial number of homes in the next ten years and this would be achieved partly by using existing brownfield sites such as this.
- Development in Hermitage is only just behind that at Chieveley.
- It is inevitable there will be further houses built in the Village.
- The developer wants to work with WBC on this application to achieve a sympathetic outcome.

The Chairman invited the views of those opposed to the application for development.

The following points were made by members of the public.

- The number of Hermitage houses has increased from 400 to 700 and this should be sufficient.
- Concentrated infilling like this is disruptive, poorly thought out, the three storey five bedroom houses are out of character with the surroundings and represent an invasion of privacy.
- .The parking provision is disruptive.
- Sewerage from the proposal has not been properly planned.
- The houses would have a number of windows overlooking the neighbouring properties.
- The Village Design Statement and Plan are opposed to three storey houses.
- There would be light pollution in Winter months.
- The area floods easily and collects water, leading to drainage concerns.
- The entrance is on a dangerous bend with insufficient lines of sight planned.

RC

**56. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Allum, Mr Frost and Mr Jennings.

**57. Minutes of the last meeting held on August 21<sup>st</sup> 2008.**

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

**58. Planning.**

**Decisions from the Planning Authority.**

08/00187/HOUSE

35, Dines Way, Hermitage.  
Extension.

**Decision**

**Approval**

**New planning applications.**

08/01519/FULD

Thistledown, Hampstead Norreys Road.  
Eight new dwellings.

**The Council decided to object to the application for the reasons stated in the letter to WBC attached to these minutes.**

08/01643/HOUSE

36, Pinewood Crescent, Hermitage.  
Log cabin style shed.

**The Council returned "no objections" to this application.**

**59. Date of the next meeting.**

**Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.**



.....  
Chairman

18.09.08  
.....  
Date

# HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman. Mr D. Brown.

West Berkshire Council,  
Planning Department,  
Council Offices,  
Market Street,  
Newbury,  
Berkshire. RG14 5LD.

12 September 2008  
Planning application. 08/01519/FULD

Dear Sirs,

Thistledown, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage.

The Council **objects** to this application for the following reasons.

1. The proposal represents unacceptable infilling which it totally out of keeping with the vernacular, and the Village Plan resists both this and the erection of three storey houses.
2. Present mains drainage and sewerage facilities are not adequate as shown in the letter to WBC from Thames Water dated August 26<sup>th</sup>.
3. The proposal would result in a serious invasion of privacy and loss of amenity for six houses – Conifers, Bridge House, New House, Pinewood Cutting , Mannin House and Sperrin, and would result in an unnecessarily cramped development, losing their gardens with the associated influence on the neighbourhood.
4. Flooding occurs in the proposed development area and this has not been recognised. The existing gardens constitute an area where water can safely gather when heavy rains occur, and the water usually drains away in a short time without serious inconvenience. The proposed houses with their hard standing would not allow such dispersal.
5. The parking provision of 14 spaces for eight properties with 31 bedrooms is inadequate and the waste collection area could be compromised.
6. There is no footpath provision along the proposed access road.

Yours faithfully,

C.W.Goudge.

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Clerk.

Mr C.W.Goudge.

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## HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> 2008.

**Present.**

Mr D. Brown.	Chairman
Ms R Cottingham.	Vice-Chairman.
Mr R. Allum.	
Mrs M. Goodman.	
Mrs F. Groves.	
Mr B. Jennings.	
Mr J. Rodgers.	

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

**60. Public participation.**

*Streetcare had been informed about the blockage of main drains in one part of the Village. At the Doctors House, when the new drains were being tested water backed up into the lavatory. This has been reported to WBC.*

The Council took note and would mention this to Mr Webb when he arrived.

**61. The Chairman.**

Mr Brown resigned from the Council and left the Meeting.  
Mr Allum, Mr Jennings and Mr Rodgers also left the meeting.

**The Meeting was adjourned.**

**The Meeting reconvened.**

**Present**

Ms R. Cottingham.	Vice Chairman.
Mrs M. Goodman.	
Mr M. Frost	
Mrs F. Groves.	
Mrs K. Willis.	
Mr Q. Webb	District Councillor.
Mr C.W.Goudge	Clerk.

**62. Election of a Chairman.**

The Vice-Chairman took the Chair of the Meeting. It was decided to defer the election of a Chairman until the next meeting.

**63. Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies for absence.

**64. Minutes of the last meeting held on September 4<sup>th</sup> 2008.**

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

**65. Parish Plan.**

The presentation from Sarah Ward was deferred until the November meeting.

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

Minute 45

i Vacancy for two Councillors.

WBC have confirmed that an election had not been called and the Council could co-opt.

ii Meeting procedures.

The Council discussed these in general and would bring an Agenda item forward for the next meeting.

**67. The report of the District Councillor.**

Mr Webb reported that the Area Forums are cancelled and replaced by Roadshows manned by Senior WBC Officers and Members.

It appears that the suggestion to purchase land to widen the footway was not acceptable to some residents. The matter would be rethought by WBC.

The comment in about drainage Public participation was mentioned to Mr Webb, who believed it not to be a WBC responsibility.

The definition of S.106 funding was also mentioned to Mr Webb, as the Council felt the present wording is too restrictive. It was decided to write to the WBC Chief Executive.

**68. Planning.**

**Decisions from the Planning Authority.**

		<b>Decision.</b>
08/01187/HOUSE	35, Dines Way, Hermitage. Extension	<b>Approval</b>
08/01312/HOUSE	11, Briant's Piece, hermitage. Extension	<b>Approval.</b>

**New planning applications.**

08/01761/HOUSE                      Wayside, Yattendon Road.  
Replacement conservatory.

**The Council returned "no objections".**

**Other matters.**

i Denison Barracks.

The Council considered the report from the recent three Parishes meeting. It was decided to confirm to Chieveley Parish Council agreement for Mr Benyon to ask the five suggested questions in the House. The Council would consider other matters when the questions had been answered.

- ii Miller Homes.  
The Council discussed the report from the recent meetings. It was noted that the S.106 funding has been discussed with Miller Homes who are content for the usage description to be altered. Funding and costs for the Village Hall are being considered by the Village Hall Committee. A date for the next meeting with Miller Homes had not been set.
- iii The Old Vicarage.  
The Enforcement Officer has been requested again to examine the working on site.

**69. Highways.**

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

Minute 48.

- i VAS sign position.  
It was decided to press WBC Highways on the wrongly positioned sign.
- ii Footpath widening.  
This was discussed with Mr Webb as part of his report.
- iii Marlston bridge.  
It was decided to write to the Chief Executive at WBC about the lack of response. The Council noted the letter from Mr & Mrs Waller pointing out the apparent defects in the present scheme.
- iv No parking signs.  
Two signs had been purchased but they did not appear suitable. The matter is ongoing.

**New matters.**

- i Speeding in the Village.  
The Council noted the submission from Mr Magee. It was decided to ask WBC Highways to institute a speed review, once the footway widening is completed, on Yattendon Road, Hampstead Norreys Road, High St and Newbury Road. In the meantime, it was decided to request the reinstatement of white gates on Yattendon Road.
- ii Bus stop at the Post Office.  
It was decided to defer this until the footpath widening had been completed.

**70. Environment.**

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

- i Communication channels.  
This is ongoing.
- ii BT payphones.  
It was decided not to adopt or support the payphone opposite the Fox Inn.

**New matters.**

- i BAYCP.  
It was decided to follow up publicity in the Village with School.
- ii Report on the Park.  
The Council noted the report. It was decided to request Thatcham Outreach to be pro-active in meeting youth in the Park.

AC

**71. Finance.**

- |                         |   |                                       |        |         |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| i Receipts              |   |                                       |        |         |
|                         | Bank of Scotland  | Interest                              | August | £134.00 |
|                         | Parish Walk   | Donation                              |        | £2.00   |
| ii Payments authorised. |   |                                       |        |         |
|                         | D. Brown.   | Tour of Britain expenses              |        | £29.20  |
|                         | F.C.Lawrence  | Grasscutting & shelters               |        | £360.83 |
|                         | R. Marr   | Village walk – teas                   |        | £23.98  |
|                         | Hermitage Village Hall  | Meeting August 1 <sup>st</sup> – hire |        | £30.30  |
|                         | Mortimer West End P.C.  | Stationery & Computer half year       |        | £41.27  |
|                         | Bradfield P.C.  | Photocopy / printer hire half year    |        | £55.00  |
|                         | C.W.Goude   | Salary & expenses                     |        | £377.42 |
|                         | C.W.Goude   | No Parking signs                      |        | £41.65  |
|                         | Mazars llp  | External Audit to March 31 2008       |        | £334.88 |
| iii Other matters.      |   |                                       |        |         |
| i                       | The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.   |                                       |        |         |
| ii                      | Chairman's allowance.<br>This would be considered at a later meeting.   |                                       |        |         |
| iii                     | Grants 2008 / 2009.<br>The closing date for grant applications is December 1 <sup>st</sup> .                                    |                                       |        |         |
| iv                      | The completion of the audit for 2007 / 2008 was noted .The External Auditors have signed off the Annual Return without comment. |                                       |        |         |

**72. Burial Ground.****Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.**

Minute 51.

- i Burial spaces.  
The question of planning consent is being investigated.

**New matters.**

- i Request for an allotment.  
A request had been received from a Parishioner It was decided that this could not be accommodated.
- ii Hedge cutting.  
A Parishioner had requested that the hedge on one side of the Burial Ground be cut.  
This would be cut as part of routine maintenance in the near future.

**73. Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.**

Berkshire Record Office – newsletter and review of 60 years.  
NALC - newsletter  
CPRE Fieldwork – newsletter  
Clerks & Councils Direct – newsletter.  
WBC – Junior Citizen of the Year Award – Nominations by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
NALC – Legal Topic Notes – Council meetings.  
Homestart – invitation to AGM Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September  
WBC – District Parish Conference – October 21<sup>st</sup> at Newbury.

The correspondence was discussed and, where appropriate, placed into circulation.

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

There were no further matters raised.

**75. Date of the next meeting.**

**Thursday October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.**



.....  
Chairman

16. 10. 08

.....  
Date