

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held On Thursday 18 February at 7.30pm

Present Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr R Marr, Cllr S Russell, Cllr N Burraston, Cllr A Goldsmith, Cllr T Moran, Cllr D Brown, Cllr F Ashwood, Cllr M Yam, Dist. Cllr G Simpson
Cllr I Hunter

2 members of the public

01.02.21 **Public participation**
None

02.02.21 **Apologies for absence**
Dist. Cllr H Cole, Cllr C Purchase

03.02.21 **Minutes of meeting held 21st January 2021**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st January were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

04.02.21 **Declarations of interest**
Cllr Cottingham - 21/00043/FULD, White Horse, Newbury Road, Hermitage, RG18 9TB
Cllr Marr - Grants 2021-22 Village Hall
Cllr Ashwood - Grants 2021-22 Preschool
Cllr Yam - Grants 2021-22 Village Hall

05.02.21 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
None

06.02.21 **Report of the District Councillors**
The District Councillors provided a written report. Dist Cllr G Simpson commended WBC officers on a good job with COVID-19 support; officers have worked hard.

07.02.21 **Planning**
7.1 New applications:
21/00043/FULD, White Horse, Newbury Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9TB. Reconfiguration of the pub grounds (including the rearrangement of the parking and pub garden, and removal of the outdoor store) and erection of 4 new dwellings with access, parking and landscaping. Objection.
21/00225/HOUSE, Oakdean, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9RT. Single storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory. No Objection.
21/00273/HOUSE, 7 Rowlock Gardens, Hermitage, Thatcham, RG18 9WT. Single storey rear extension. No Objection.

7.2 Decision notices:
20/02777/HOUSE, The Annexe at, Crossways House, Marlston Road, Hermitage Thatcham RG18 9SU. Proposed front extension, false pitched roof to "hide" flat roof and new dormer. Approved.
20/02907/HOUSE, 6 Blake Road Hermitage Thatcham RG18 9WN. Loft conversion including installation of 3No roof-lights to the front elevation & 4 no roof-lights to the rear elevation, to form additional habitable space. Approved.

7.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan: Thank you to those who helped to distribute the survey; 130 responses so far. A reminder to be placed on Facebook.

08.02.21 **Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**

8. Financial position as of 29 January 2021

Balance carried forward (including S106 contributions)	£ 225,084.15
Receipts to 29 January	£ 63,555.51
Payments to 29 January	£ 55,455.09
Balance	£ 233,184.57
Plus, unpresented cheques	<u>£ 2,309.67</u>
Balance in hand	£ 235,494.24

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted.

8.2 Payments were agreed for February 2021

8.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£ 251.70
8.2.2 Grass maintenance/Contractor	£ 637.30
8.2.3 Cost of administration	Salary £ 687.24
8.2.4 Clerk expenses, stationery	£ 20.47
8.2.5 Triangle Management Ltd (1 dog bin)	£ 22.80
8.2.6 Crescent Signs; Furze Hill sign and fitting	£ 1,266.00
8.2.7 Volker Highways Ltd	£ 1,080.00
8.2.7 Cllr Cottingham; badger gates & furze hill doc postage	£ 155.60
8.2.9 Cllr Purchase; ink	£ 40.00
8.2.10 Cripps Fencing; Furze Hill ftp 18 chain link fencing	£ 6,000.00
8.2.11 Barlows; chain link supplies	£ 4,455.73
8.2.12 Willis & Ainsworth; salt bin refill	£ 61.20
	Total £14,678.04

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:

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

8.4 Budget 2021-22: first draft accepted.

8.5 Lloyds bank deposit account roll over: agreed

8.6 To consider rollover of proceeds of original Metro fixed term community account (which expires 31st March) into new one paying 0.35%: agreed

8.7 CCLA: figures at the end of December, mid-market value - £22,172 and bid market value - £21,828.82. Interest to 30th December is £706.43.

8.8 Grants 2021-22: approved. Appendix 1

8.9 FWP: Cllr Moran provided a verbal report.

09.02.21 **Burial ground**

New booklet on the website.

10.02.21 **Highways**

Emergency Active Travel Route survey consultation commences 22nd February.

11.02.21 **Environment**

Verbal reports received as follows:

11.1 Playgrounds: Cllr Ashwood did the inspections.

11.1.1 Councillor's inspection reports: Awaiting aerial tensioning training.

11.1.2 Annual inspection report from Wicksteed: Volunteers working through tasks and awaiting aerial runway tensioning training.

11.1.3 Pinewood Park: access to land underneath Railway Bridge; evidence of fires being started; to write to Highways England to request the area is secured. Clerk.

Resident has put a compost heap in land adjacent to the bridge which they do not own.
11.2 Furze Hill: footpath 18, replacement fencing installed.
11.2.1 Recreation Ground: muddy as would be expected.
11.2.2 Wildlife areas: nothing to report.
11.2.3 Tree works quotation, Webb & Cook £3,900+ vat: approved.
11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way fence to be repaired before next meeting;
Lipscomb Close and Charlotte Green: nothing to report.
11.4 Land adjacent to Pinewood Crescent: to write to Taylor Wimpey as no update received.
Clerk.
11.5 Defibrillator check: done.

12.02.21 **Other matters**

12.1 Village Hall: fire exit door done. Gates to be locked open to prevent unnecessary closure.
12.2 Hermitage Support Group Covid 19: nothing to report.
12.3 BALC AGM: HPC supports the Newbury Town Council motion about the adoption of sewers on new developments.
It agrees that fees should remain unchanged for the 2021 – 2022.

13.02.21 **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere:** all correspondence accepted and noted.

14.02.21 **Reports from Parish Council representatives who have attended meetings of outside bodies on behalf of the Council.**
None

15.02.21 **Items raised by Councillors (information only)**
None

16.02.21 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)**
BALC AGM 24 February 2021: Parish online presentation

Part two – Increment to Clerk's salary agreed.

17.02.21 **Date of the next meeting:**
Thursday 18th March at 7.30pm, virtual meeting
There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.41pm.