

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held On Thursday 18 March 2021 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, Dist. Cllr G Simpson, Cllr C Purchase
Cllr I Hunter
- 2 members of the public
- 01.03.21 **Public participation**
One member of the public spoke about replacing the bus shelter. One member of the public spoke about replacing the bus shelter, pathfinder and youth engagement and HPC Facebook communication.
- 02.03.21 **Apologies for absence**
Dist. Cllr H Cole, Cllr M Yam
- 03.03.21 **Minutes of meeting held 18th February 2021**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th February were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.03.21 **Declarations of interest**
None
- 05.03.21 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
None
- 06.03.21 **Report of the District Councillors**
The District Councillors provided a written report. Dist Cllr G Simpson provided an update on the 2021-22 Budget, covid 19 vaccination delivery success and strategy delivery 2019.
- 07.03.21 **Planning**
7.1 New applications:
None
7.2 Decision notices:
21/00225/HOUSE, Oakdean, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9RT.
Single storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory. Approved.
7.4 Neighbourhood Development Plan: the first draft of the housing needs survey is expected within the week.
7.5 West Berkshire Local Plan Review – Settlement boundary review: Cllr R Cottingham to collate all Councillors responses and forward draft response to all.
- 08.03.21 **Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**
8. Financial position as of 26 February 2021
- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| Balance carried forward
(including S106 contributions) | £ 225,084.15 |
| Receipts to 26 February | £ 68,081.19 |
| Payments to 26 February | £ 70,202.35 |
| Balance | £ 229,962.99 |
| Plus, unrepresented cheques | <u>£ 2,053.00</u> |
| Balance in hand | £ 225,015.99 |

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted.	
8.2 Payments were agreed for March 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 Willis & Ainsworth; salt bin refill	£ 24.00
8.2.6 Triangle Management Ltd, 2 dog bins and Dec/rep chq	£ 68.40
8.2.7 Cripps Fencing, erect chain-link fencing at Dines Way	£ 1,836.00
8.2.8 Barlow's, supplies for chain-link fencing	£ 657.47
8.2.9 Ruth Cottingham, paint and grease for playgrounds, key	£ 25.66
8.2.10 Arc4, NDP survey	£ 3,113.36
8.2.11 Your Space self-storage; April to September	£ 315.36
	Total £ 7,666.36
8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:	
1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment	£5.99
8.4 Budget 2021-22: approved	
8.5 Direct debit card; £250 authorisation limited: approved	
8.6 Finance Risk register: approved	
8.7 Asset registers: approved	
8.8 Grounds Maintenance annual charge; £60 p.a. increase: approved	
8.9 Recreation Ground annual charge; £63 p.a. increase: approved	

09.03.21 **Burial ground**

9.1 To confirm guidance on artificial flowers: flowers placed in the Burial Ground to be fresh, but silk flowers will also be accepted. The Council reserves the right to remove flowers if they become mouldy, fall apart, or start to fade or loose appeal.

10.03.21 **Highways**

10.1 Bus shelter to be replaced: approved.
 10.2 Emergency Active travel scheme Consultation (Active travel community planning): Cllr R Cottingham to draft a response and circulate to all.

11.03.21 **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.
- 11.2 Furze Hill: nothing to report.
 - 11.2.1 Recreation Ground: roller may be needed.
 - 11.2.2 Arrangements for reopening MUGA and Gym equipment: awaiting Government guidelines.
- 11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way; edge of green quashed, fence looks good. Lipscomb Close: nothing to report. Charlotte Green bench is in need of repair.
- 11.4 Land adjacent to Pinewood Crescent: contact has left awaiting update from new contact.
- 11.5 Defibrillator check: done.

12.03.21 **Other matters**

12.1 Village Hall: Cllr R Marr provided a written report. FWP to consider loan request therein and put back to councillors.

12.2 Hermitage Support Group Covid 19: Cllr C Purchase provided a report. The group continues to work hard. Group have received a highly commended award from the Sheriff of Berkshire.

12.3 APA: 29th April 2021

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

14.03.21 **Reports from Parish Council representatives who have attended meetings of outside bodies on behalf of the Council.**

Cllr C Purchase meeting with Cheryl Evans – Speeding initiative

Cllr R Cottingham and Cllr S Russell attended the Parish District Conference.

15.03.21 **Items raised by Councillors (information only)**

NDP discussion.

16.03.21 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)**

Part two – Hermitage Green: transfer of open spaces: to continue to work on the lease, obtain clear indication of what ground HPC is taking responsibility for and to take solicitor advice to do that.

17.03.21 **Date of the next meeting(s):**

Thursday 15 April at 7.30pm. This will be a virtual meeting.

Annual Parish Assembly

Thursday 29 April at 8.00pm. This will be a virtual meeting.