

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST on Thursday 17th February 2022 at 7.30pm

- Present** Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr S Russell, Cllr R Marr, Cllr D Brown, Cllr T Moran, Cllr A Goldsmith, Cllr N Burraston, Cllr E Chan, Cllr F Ashwood, Cllr M Yam, Cllr C Purchase
- 4 members of the public
- 01.02.22 **Public participation**
None
- 02.02.22 **Apologies for absence**
Dist. Cllr H Cole, Dist. Cllr G Simpson, Ms N Pierce (Parish Clerk)
- 03.02.22 **Minutes of meeting held on 1st February 2022**
The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.02.22 **Declarations of interest**
Cllr Marr declared a personal interest in 12.1.2 as a trustee of the village hall.
- 05.02.22 **Actions agreed and matters arising from the minute of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
None
- 06.02.22 **Report of the District Councillor**
Dist. Cllrs' report is on the website.
- 07.02.22 **Planning**
7.1 New applications:
22/00293/HOUSE, Ardmore, Lipscomb Close, Hermitage RG18 9SZ. Conversion of garage into a home office. External garage door to be replaced with brick and double-glazed window, to match rest of the property. Internal door to be fitted to connect the home office with the utility room. Lights, electrics, and radiators to be fitted.
Floor and walls and ceiling to be insulated and all works to be completed according to the applicable building regulations. No change to height or floor area of the property. No building works external to the existing property. No change to parking arrangements.
No objection.
21/03264 – Old Farm House, matters to be considered - Access. Section 73 application to vary Condition 4 (approved plans) of previously approved application 17/03290/OUTMAJ to amend the parameter plan.
22/00129 – OFH, Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 16 (Access Details - Lipscomb Close), 17 (Parking and turning), 18 (External Lighting), 23 (Tree Protection), 24 (AMS), 30 (Gas Protection Measures) and 33 (Cycle Storage) of approved 19/02993/OUTMAJ - Outline application for demolition of farmyard buildings, retention of The Old Farmhouse and the erection of up to 21 new dwellings, improved vehicular access off Newbury Road, car parking, public open space and landscaping. Matters to be

considered - Access. Section 73 application to vary Condition 4 (approved plans) of previously approved application 17/03290/OUTMAJ to amend the parameter plan.

22/00095 - Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (Sample of materials), 6 (CMS) and 14 (External lighting) of approved 21/00043/FULD - 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 together with access, parking, and landscaping | White Horse Newbury Road Hermitage Thatcham RG18 9TB.

Objections.

7.2 Decision notices:

21/01649/FULMAJ THE PROPOSAL AND LOCATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT: Replacement dwelling and detached garage with guest accommodation above. Sanctuary Wood, Slanting Hill, Hermitage, Thatcham West Berkshire RG18 9QG. Approved.

21/03188/HOUSE, 37 Lipscomb Close, Hermitage, RG18 9SZ. Proposed ground floor extension to infill between house and garage, with part garage conversion. Approved.

7.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan: Two sets of minutes and Village Design Statement questionnaire will be circulated.

08.02.22 Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

8. Financial position as of 31 January 2022

Balance carried forward	
(Inc. S106 contributions)	£215,709.38
Receipts to 31 January	£ 73,942.93
Payments to 31 January	£ 50,951.85
Balance	£238,700.46
Plus, unrepresented cheques	£ 0.00
Balance in hand	£238,700.46

Free funds are inflated because they include grants received for speeding equipment and NDP. Cllr Moran to reallocate them to ring fenced.

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted

8.2 Receipts and payments for consideration February 2022

8.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge		£ 256.73
8.2.2 Grass maintenance/contractor		£ 643.60
8.2.3 Cost of administration	Salary	£ 441.38
8.2.4 Cllr Purchase; speed monitoring equipment		£ 184.90
8.2.5 Webb & Cook; tree works		£ 480.00
8.2.6 Navigus Planning (NDP Grant)		£ 630.00
	Total	£ 2,644.29

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:

1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment	£5.99
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09.02.22 Burial ground

9.1 Revised burial ground rules and costs: approved

Definition of resident confirmed as anyone who has lived in Hermitage within the last 10 years.

Fees to be increased by 10% from March 2022. Cllr Moran to refresh the table of charges, including purchase of a selected grave, standard fees for child and adult interments in any grave.

- 10.02.22 **Highways**
10.1 Speeding: Cllr Purchase provided a report.
Speedwatch signs to be ordered for village gateways.
Cllr Purchase will arrange a small team to refurbish the gateways.
- 11.02.22 **Environment**
Council received verbal reports or updates on the following:
11.1 Playgrounds: see below
11.1.1 Councillor inspection reports done by Cllr Yam.
11.2 Furze Hill: Cllr Cottingham provided a report, WBCS tasks for 22nd February approved.
11.2.1 Recreation ground: nothing to report
11.3 Other open spaces. Dines Way, Lipscomb Close, Charlotte Close: nothing to report.
11.4 Quotation for a health and safety inspection of all trees on the land adjacent to Pinewood Crescent: Webb & Cook quotation; £300 inc. vat, approved.
- 12.02.22 **Other matters**
12.1 Village hall: Cllr Marr provided a report
12.1.2 Village hall car parking: proposal discussed.
Cllr Chan will consult the head teacher at Hermitage Primary School regarding using the car park for weekend / holiday overflow.
12.2 Defibrillator checks: done
12.3 APA: nothing further to report
12.4 Platinum Jubilee celebration: Cllr Russell has been in contact with every organisation/club/society to discuss contributing to one event to be held at the village hall; responses received from preschool, primary, horticultural society, village hall - Jane Staunton will be the contact.
12.5 Virtual meetings: Laura Farris MP responded to HPC letter.
- 13.02.22 **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
Correspondence accepted and noted.
- 14.02.22 **Reports from Parish Council representatives who have attended meetings of outside bodies on behalf of the council**
Cllrs Russell and Cottingham attended a Greenham Common Trust meeting publicising anniversary grant.
Cllr Cottingham attended a West Berkshire Climate change meeting. Papers to be circulated.
- 15.02.22 **Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)**
- 16.02.22 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)**
None
- 17.02.22 **Date of the next meeting**
Thursday 17th March 2022 at 7.30pm at the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST.
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.34pm

Signed _____ Dated _____