

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST on Thursday 15th June 2023 at 7.30pm

- Present** Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr A Goldsmith, Cllr D Brown, Cllr P Turner(7.43pm).
Dist. Cllr H. Codling (7.30pm to 8.22pm)
- 1 member of the public
In attendance Ms N Pierce (Parish Clerk)
- 01.06.23 **Public participation**
One member of the public spoke about Co-option to the Council.
- 02.06.23 **Apologies for absence**
Cllr P Dick, Cllr R Marr.
- 03.06.23 **Minutes of meeting held on 16th May 2023**
The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.06.23 **Declarations of interest**
None.
- 05.06.23 **Actions agreed and matters arising from the minute of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
None.
- 06.06.23 **Report of the District Councillor**
Dist. Cllrs' report to advise allocated roles have been circulated.
- 07.06.23 **Planning**
7.1 **New applications:**
None.
7.2 **Decision notices:**
None.
7.3 **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** Cllr Cottingham provided an update. Regulation 16 is delayed due to shortage of staff at West Berkshire District Council. Dist. Cllr Codling has been assisting.
- 08.06.23 **Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**
8. Financial position as of 31st May 2023
- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance carried forward | |
| (Inc. S106 contributions) | £231,071.74 |
| Receipts to 31 st May | £ 66,565.21 |
| Payments to 31 st May | £ 84,853.59 |
| Balance | £212,783.36 |
| Plus, unrepresented cheques | <u>£ 985.74</u> |
| Balance in hand | £213,769.10 |

Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted.

8.2 Payments for consideration June 2023

8.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£ 269.57
8.2.2 Grass maintenance/Contractor	£ 703.00
8.2.3 Cost of administration	£ 988.60
8.2.4 Administration expenses, £79.99 word subscription, ink	£ 113.12
8.2.5 West Berkshire Councils grounds maintenance 2032-24	£ 603.00
8.2.6 Kybotech Ltd, Furze Hill Shed	<u>£ 424.35</u>
	£ 3,101.64

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:

1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment	£ 0.00
NEST monthly payment	£ 97.78

8.4 Receipts to be noted May 2023:- £30,876 Precept, £465.00 Cold Ash Football club, £4,274.65 West Berkshire Council, M J Sly Memorials £182.00.

8.5 Internal Audit: accepted and added to July agenda.

8.6 Annual Return 2022/23

1. To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement: approved.
2. To approve the Annual Return 2022/23 Accounting Statement: approved.

09.06.23 **Burial ground:**

Nothing to report.

10.06.23 **Highways**

10.1 Footpath to Curridge: To cut verge, totally overgrown; to establish who owns the land.

AG

11.06.23 **Environment**

Council received verbal reports or updates on the following:

11.1 Playgrounds: nothing to report.

11.1.1 Councillor inspection reports: Cllr Brown advised the playgrounds are in good order, the rubberised tarmac in Furze Hill playground requires urgent attention. **Clerk/RC**

11.1.2 Giant Swing repair; 5 quotations requested; none received. To supply Cllr Turner with the quotation request.

11.2 Furze Hill: Cllr Cottingham provided a report.

11.2.1 Parking: parking is causing problems. CAFC have been advised to park at the Primary School car park. To send recreation ground and open spaces policy to Cllr Goldsmith. **Clerk**

11.2.2 Recreation Ground: Cllr Cottingham provided a report. Shed will be installed 5/6th July. Thursday team to look at butterfly larder boardwalk as becoming loose.

11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way, Lipscomb Close, Charlotte Close: nothing to report.

11.3.1 Hermitage Green open space: to agree 75-year lease; approved.

11.4 Waste disposal: WBC and contractor have new systems both are problematic. To write to WBC to request discount. **RC**

11.4.1 Bin emptying report: minute note 11.4.

11.4.2 Replacement of inadequate litter bin at Furze Hill and damaged dog waste bins on Footpath 14.

11.5 Dog bin replacement: minute note 11.4.2.

12.06.23 **Other matters**

12.1 Village Hall: Cllr R Marr provided a written report.

12.2 Defibrillator checks: done.

13.06.23 **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
Correspondence accepted and noted.

Part two – Councillor Co-option

Ian Govier and Brad Jennings were Co-opted to the Parish Council.

Active Travel Route

Resolved: That by virtue of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business under Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.”

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

15.06.23 **Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)**
None.

16.06.23 **Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)**
None.

17.06.23 **Date of the next meeting**
Thursday 20th July at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.40pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____