

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at The Hall, Hermitage Primary School, Hermitage on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7.30pm

- Present** Cllr N Burraston, Cllr R Marr, Cllr D Brown, Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr A Goldsmith(7.36pm), Cllr C Purchase, Cllr T Moran, Cllr E Chan, Cllr B Jennings.
- 71 members of the public
1 candidate for local elections
In attendance Ms N Pierce (Parish Clerk)
- 01.04.23 **Public participation**
One member of the public spoke on the planning application 23/00608/HOUSE, Haslington, Newbury Road, Hermitage RG18 9TD, requesting no render be applied to the rear of the garage.
Four members of the public spoke about 23/00815/FUL, Land south of Sandhill, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage. Part retrospective. Change of use of land for the formation of 5 Gypsy/Traveller pitches comprising of 1 mobile home, 1 touring caravan and 1 utility building per pitch, with 17 members of the public raising questions and answers with the landowner.
- 02.04.23 **Apologies for absence**
Dist. Cllr H Cole, Dist. Cllr G Simpson.
- 03.04.23 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th March to be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**
The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.04.23 **Minutes of Annual Parish Assembly meeting held on 20th April to be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**
The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 05.04.23 **Declarations of interest**
Cllr R Cottingham:- 23/00608/HOUSE, Haslington, Newbury Road, Hermitage RG18 9TD. To render over existing 1950's red brick heathers) external wall to the front of the property facing towards Newbury Road (East facing side). The property is a single storey bungalow with tiled roof.
- 06.04.23 **Actions agreed and matters arising from the minute of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**
WBDC grant received for litter bin at Furze Hill.
- 07.04.23 **Report of the District Councillor**
Dist. Cllrs' report circulated and on the website.
- 08.04.23 **Planning**
8.1 New applications:

23/00540/HOUSE, Exton House, Deacons Lane, Hermitage RG18 9RH. 1) erection of external chimney flue to enable installation and use of wood burner stove inside residential property. 2) Installation of external all mounted car charging point. No objection.

23/00608/HOUSE, Haslington, Newbury Road, Hermitage RG18 9TD. To render over existing 1950's red brick heathers) external wall to the front of the property facing towards Newbury Road (East facing side). The property is a single storey bungalow with tiled roof. No objection.

23/00779, Adjacent Parish Land North of M4 on East Side of Hampstead Norreys Road. Change of use of land to residential Gypsy/Traveller site with 2no plots, 2no mobile homes, stables and associated fencing, hardstanding, and package treatment plan. Objection.

23/00815/FUL, Land south of Sandhill, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage. Part retrospective. Change of use of land for the formation of 5 Gypsy/Traveller pitches comprising of 1 mobile home, 1 touring caravan and 1 utility building per pitch. Objection.

8.2 Decision notices:

23/00326/HOUSE, Cornish Cottage, Priors Court Road, Hermitage, RG18 9TG. Proposed addition of first floor storey to existing chalet bungalow and widen existing access. Approved.

8.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan: West Berkshire District Council will be sending the Local Plan Review submission to the Secretary of State, after 8th May, regarding possible examiner. A further grant may be needed.

09.04.23 Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

8. Financial position as of 31st March 2023

Balance carried forward	
(Inc. S106 contributions)	£231,071.74
Receipts to 31 st March	£ 66,616.64
Payments to 31 st March	£ 90,874.22
Balance	£206,814.16
Plus, unrepresented cheques	<u>£ 1,862.27</u>
Balance in hand	£208,676.43

Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

9.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted

9.2 Payments for consideration April 2023

9.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£ 269.57
9.2.2 Grass maintenance/Contractor	£ 658.70
9.2.3 Cost of administration	£ 1,013.32
9.2.4 Expenses, ink, postage, mileage 01/22 to 03/23	£ 206.06
9.2.5 Cllr R Cottingham, NDP paper, ink	£ 96.15
9.2.6 Cllr R Marr, Ink	£ 26.99
9.2.7 Cllr N Burraston, APA refreshments, ink	£ 119.82
9.2.8 WBC Grounds Maintenance recharge 2023-24; dog/litter bins	£ 857.08
9.2.9 Groundworks UK (NDP grant reimbursement)	£ 2,314.26
9.2.10 Cllr T Moran, APA flyer printing	£ 66.73
9.2.11 Autela Payroll Services, Jan-March and EOY 2023	£ 84.36
9.2.12 Zurich Insurance Premium 2023-24	£ 1,572.22
9.2.13 Castle Water, Burial Ground 01/02-31/07 2023	£ 25.05

9.2.14 Cllr D Brown, Ink	£ 55.01
9.2.15 Cllr E Chan, APA refreshments	£ 54.00
Total	£ 7,419.32

9.3 Direct Debits previously approved:	
1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment	£ 5.99
NEST monthly payment	£ 101.25

9.4 Receipts to be noted March 2023:- None

9.5 PWLB balance on 27 March 2023, £187,473.59

9.6 Insurance premium £1,572.22 23023-24: approved

9.7 Electronic payments change to 2-person authorisation: approved.

10.04.23 **Burial ground:**

10.1 Interment request plot 28: no pet remains to be buried in burial ground.

11.04.23 **Highways**

None

12.04.23 **Environment**

Council received verbal reports or updates on the following:

12.1 Playgrounds: nothing to report.

12.1.1 Councillor inspection reports: Cllr Brown did the inspections, in good order. Cllr Brown to complete and distribute the report. **DB**

13.04.23 **Other matters**

13.1 Village Hall: new hirer at the Village Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday has left.

The ongoing correspondence re inadequate car parking was discussed. Noted that it is for use of both residents and VH users."

13.2 Defibrillator checks: done. New pads will need to be ordered in a couple of months.

13.3 Road signs Priors Court Road: village sign, 40 repeater, and Hermitage Parish Council and community speed watch signs . Cars responsible for the damage have had registration numbers passed to West Berkshire District Council, to follow up and enquire about replacing with white gates in keeping with the village entry points. **CP**

14.04.23 **Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**

Correspondence accepted and noted.

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

Cllr Cottingham attended Newbury Showground Residents Meeting – report circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Cottingham attended Climate Forum biodiversity meeting.

16.04.23 **Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)**

To confirm CAFC donation figure.

Clerk

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

Chairman Cllr Nick Burraston OBE thanked all HPC members and Clerk for their service.

18.04.23 **Date of the next meeting**

Tuesday 16th May at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.41pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____