

## HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm

- Present** Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr A Goldsmith, Cllr D Brown, Cllr P Turner, Cllr I Govier.  
4 members of the public  
In attendance Ms N Pierce (Parish Clerk)
- 01.07.23 **Public participation**  
A representative from NDAS spoke about Newbury District and Agricultural Society seeking a variation to s106 agreement at Newbury Showground.  
One member of the public spoke about speeding on the B4009 between 30 mph sign and Priors Court roundabout where there is no footway.
- 02.07.23 **Apologies for absence**  
Dist. Cllr. H Codling, Dist. Cllr. P Dick, Cllr R Marr.
- 03.07.23 **Minutes of meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- 04.07.23 **Declarations of interest**  
None.
- 05.07.23 **Actions agreed and matters arising from the minute of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**  
None.
- 06.07.23 **Report of the District Councillor**  
6.1 Dist. Cllrs' reports have been circulated.  
6.2 Chairmans report: accepted. Cllr Cottingham advised Hermitage PC is a team. No councillor can decide anything on behalf of the council. All decisions are made by the council collectively.  
The chairman and clerk are the only people who speak on behalf of the council, unless authorised to do so.
- 07.07.23 **Planning**  
**7.1 New applications:**  
23/01512/HOUSE, The Original, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, RG18 9RS. Two storey and single storey extension to The Original. Objection.  
23/01421/HOUSE, 4 Rowlock Gardens, Hermitage RG18 9WT. Erection of two rear gable roofs adjoining existing main house roof and conversion of loft space to habitable rooms. No objection.  
**7.2 Decision notices:**  
23/01162/COND, Cornish Cottage, Priors Court Road, Thatcham, Hermitage. Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 (Materials) and 5 (Tree Protection) of planning permission 23/00326/HOUSE - Proposed addition of first floor storey to existing chalet bungalow and widen existing access. Approved.

7.3 **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** Cllr Cottingham provided an update. The regulation 16 consultation starts 21<sup>st</sup> July and ends 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Dist. Cllr Codling has been assisting. WBC to select a company from which an examiner can be chosen. HPC will be consulted.

08.07.23 **Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**

8. Financial position as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Balance carried forward	
(Inc. S106 contributions)	£206,814.16
Receipts to 30 <sup>th</sup> June	£ 57,690.58
Payments to 30 <sup>th</sup> June	£ 26,247.18
Balance	£238,257.56
Plus, unrepresented cheques	<u>£ 0.00</u>
Balance in hand	£238,257.56

**Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer**

8.1 Report of Financial Officer: noted.

8.2 Payments for consideration July 2023

8.2.1 Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£ 269.57
8.2.2 Grass maintenance/Contractor	£ 768.00
8.2.3 Cost of administration	£ 988.60
8.2.4 Administration expenses, spray paint burial ground, ink	£ 62.87
8.2.5 Autela Payroll Services (01/04-30/06)	£ 80.36
8.2.6 Self Storage Newbury (29/07/2023 To 12/01/2024)	£ 315.36
8.2.7 Jacqui Clack, internal auditor year end March 31 <sup>st</sup> 2023	£ 150.00
8.2.8 Fen Leisure products Ltd, wet pour, Furze Hill playground	<u>£ 247.20</u>
	£ 2,881.96

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved:

1&1 Ionas (web site) monthly payment	£ 5.99
NEST monthly payment	£ 97.78

8.4 Receipts to be noted June 2023:- None.

8.5 Internal Audit: Clerk to summarise actions points from audit report for September meeting. **Clerk**

8.6 Bank Mandate renewals: Cllr Paul Turner to be added as bank signatory to all accounts. **Clerk**

09.07.23 **Burial ground:**

9.1 Grave 28: interment on 13<sup>th</sup> July

9.2 Grave 35: burial on 24<sup>th</sup> July

9.3 Resident request to have large Beech tree overhanging from the railway bank down to the ground, cut back: to write to Eling Estate to request tree is cut back to collar. **Clerk**

10.07.23 **Highways**

10.1 Speed limit on B40009 including the Primary School: to discuss reduction to 20-mile speed limit: Cllr Govier to establish what can be done to liaise with Highways and other bodies. **IG**

11.07.23 **Environment**

Council received verbal reports or updates on the following:

11.1 Playgrounds: nothing to report.

11.1.1 Councillor inspection reports: Cllr Govier to take on playground inspections from July. **IG**

11.1.2 Giant Swing repair: 5 quotations requested for replacement matting; one received for wet pour. To supply Cllr Turner with the quotation request. To obtain 2 further wet pour quotations. Budget of £8,000 agreed **PT/Clerk**

11.1.3 Surface repair to Furze Hill Playground: scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> July, playground to be closed 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July.

11.2 Furze Hill: Cllr Cottingham provided a report.

11.2.1 WBCS task for August: approved.

11.2.2 Recreation Ground: Cllr Cottingham provided a report. Shed to be installed and scalplings to be laid at the pedestrian entrance, end of August.

11.3 Other open spaces: Lipscomb Close, a crack is appearing on the pathway, to monitor. Charlotte Close and Dines Way nothing to report .

11.3.1 Recreation Ground and Open Spaces Policy: Cllr Cottingham to send comments to Cllr Goldsmith, when draft complete Clerk to send to Village Hall Chair for consideration. **RC/AG/Clerk**

11.3.2 Replacement of inadequate litter bin at Furze Hill and damaged dog waste bins on Footpath 14: litter bin ordered; barrel ordered for dog bin behind post office. **RC**

## **Part Two: Village Hall Parking and Lease**

### **12.07.23 Other matters**

12.1 Village Hall: Parking meeting date to be advised. Mr N Burraston OBE to assist with project. **RC**

12.2 Defibrillator checks: done.

12.3 Councillor roles: updated and to distribute. **Clerk**

12.4 The Newbury & District Agricultural Society: application to vary S106 agreement: HPC supports the application.

12.5 Chairmans report: no further questions

### **13.07.23 Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere**

Correspondence accepted and noted.

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

New Councillor training 4<sup>th</sup> July – Cllr Govier, Cllr Turner. To send The Good Councillor Guide 2018 to Cllr Turner. **Clerk**

### **15.07.23 Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)**

None.

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

None.

### **17.07.23 Date of the next meeting**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage. There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.34pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

