

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at
Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST
on Thursday 22nd August at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr I Govier, Cllr D Brown, Cllr V Burgess, Cllr J Rigby, Cllr. P Dick(7.30pm – 8.22pm), Cllr. H Codling (7.30pm – 8.22pm), Cllr A Goldsmith(8.20pm-9.11pm), Ms N Pierce (clerk)

01.08.24 Public participation

Two residents attended to observe the first ten minutes of the meeting.

02.08.24 Apologies for absence

Cllr C Montague, Cllr N Brett.

03.08.24 Minutes of meeting held on 18th July 2024.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

04.08.24 Declarations of interest

Cllr Rigby - 24/00091/HOUSE, 3 Oare View, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9RT. Extension of dropped existing curb.

Cllr Rigby left the meeting room for the duration of the discussion.

05.08.24 Actions agreed and matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere and actions list

None.

06.08.24 Reports

6.1 District Councillors

Cllr. P Dick & Cllr. H Codling. Report circulated.

6.2 Chairman's report

Noted.

07.08.24 Planning

7.1 New Applications:

24/01285/FUL, The Cabin, High Street, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9SR. Erection of replacement two-storey dwelling following the demolition of an existing bungalow.

No objection.

24/00091/HOUSE, 3 Oare View, Hampstead Norreys Road, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9RT. Extension of dropped existing curb.

No objection.

24/01606/HOUSE, 33 Lipscomb Close, Hermitage, Thatcham, RG18 9SZ. Extend and infill front porch.

No objection.

24/01493/COND, Hazeldene, Deacons Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham. Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 (CMS) of planning permission 23/02605/FUL - Construction of a replacement dwelling with associated landscaping works.

No objection.

24/01430/PACOU, Boars Hole Farm, Marlston Hermitage, Thatcham, RG18 9UB. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a Proposed: change of use of a barn on the site from its current agricultural use to a commercial/storage/distribution/business (Class B8/Class E) use.

No objection.

23/00815/FUL Land South of Sandhill Hampstead Norreys Road Hermitage Thatcham RG18 9XU. Cllr Dick provided an update. Cllr Brown to email details about highway safety and EV charging points to Cllr Cottingham and Cllr Dick.

Cllr Brown/Cllr Cottingham

7.2 Decision notices:

24/01081/HOUSE, 6 Rowlock Gardens, Hermitage, Thatcham, RG18 9WT. Conversion of existing garage and addition of new link porch to create Part M facilities with full Part M access for disabled person. Approved.

08.08.24 Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

Financial position as of 31st July 2024

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Balance carried forward (Inc. S106 contributions) | £225,011.99 |
| Receipts to 31 st July | £32,497.70 |
| Authorised Payments to 31 st July | £24,925.31 |
| Payment not processed by 31 st July | 0.00 |
| Balance in hand (total) | £235,584.38 |

8.1 Report of Financial Officer (Clerk's report)

Noted. No comments or questions.

8.2 Payments for consideration July 2024

Approved.

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| 8.2.1 | Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge | £269.57 |
| 8.2.2 | Grass maintenance/Contractor | £762.09 |
| 8.2.3 | Cost of administration | £1,060.45 |
| 8.2.4 | HMRC, tax and NI | £146.92 |
| 8.2.5 | Tactical Management Ltd, dog bins (July) | £266.34 |
| 8.2.6 | David Brown, Ink | £74.99 |
| 8.2.7 | WBCS, volunteers 6 th August | £80.00 |
| 8.2.8 | Gardner Leader, fees for lease transfer Hermitage open space | £1,800.00 |
| 8.2.9 | Sutcliffe Play, tripod swing fixings | £357.66 |

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| Total | All approved and endorsed online | £4,818.02 |
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8.3 Direct Debits previously approved

Noted.

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| 1&1 Ionos (website) monthly payment | £20.40 |
| NEST monthly payment | £107.08 |

8.4 Receipts July 2024

Noted.

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| CCLA interest | £288.37 |
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8.5 CCLA balance 31st July 2024

£21,279.58

09.08.24 Burial ground

A burial 10.30am, 22nd August – Plot E7
An interment of ashes 3pm, 27th August – Plot 123

10.08.24 Highways

Nothing further to add to that provided in Chair report.
Cllr Govier to report road issue at The Fox to WBC.

Cllr Govier

11.08.24 Environment

11.1 Playgrounds

11.1.1 Councillor inspection reports

Repairs have been done. Nettles have been cut. Matting beneath the Tripod swing to be considered.

Cllr Cottingham

11.2 Furze Hill

Nothing to report

11.2.1 Recreation Ground

Nothing to report

11.2.2 Cycling on the recreation ground

September agenda

11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way, Lipscomb Close, Charlotte Close

Nothing to report.

11.4 Transfer of Hermitage Green playground

Transfer to take place within 21 days of 21st August, although anticipated sooner. To place on insurance policy.

Clerk

12.08.24 Other matters

12.1 Village Hall: discuss outcome of meeting with trustees

Cllr Govier and Cllr Rigby met with village hall trustees. Cllr Rigby provided a report. To arrange a working party meeting with trustees. Cllr Cottingham to contact Cllr Dick to ask to chair the meeting and advise available dates for the meeting.

Cllr Cottingham

To consider updated Open Spaces policy: September agenda.

To request advice from HALC about third parties taking bookings for council open space. **Clerk**

12.2 Defibrillator checks

School defibrillator temporarily removed due to access problems. Defibrillator at the White Horse checked.

12.3 Youth Club

Cllr Govier provided an update. Volunteers have come forward to both drive the minibus and chaperone the children. Cllr Govier to meet with The Downs school to discuss the way forward and to place posters on the noticeboards.

13.08.24 Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

Correspondence noted on agenda.

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

Cllr Govier attended The Knowledge and Core Skills for Councillors.

Cllr Govier and Cllr Rigby attended a meeting with the Village Hall trustees

Cllr Cottingham attended a meeting with Cllr Dick and a member of the concerned residents' group about planning application 23/00815.

15.08.24 Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)

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

None.

17.08.24 Date of the next meeting

Thursday 19th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.11pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____