

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Ms N Pierce
Farm Gate, High Street, Chieveley
Berkshire RG20 8TA
Email: hermitagepc@outlook.com

**Members of Hermitage Parish Council are summoned to attend a
Meeting of Hermitage Parish Council
The Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage
Thursday 21st August 2025 at 7.30pm**

AGENDA

1 Public participation

Council meetings are not a forum for public engagement (special meetings may be arranged if required) but HPC welcomes residents to express their views and oversee council operations. The first 10 minutes of the meeting are reserved for this purpose. Anyone wishing to speak should please advise the Clerk of the subject at least 48 hours before the meeting. Councillors may ask for further information but otherwise cannot respond directly; written responses to questions may be supplied where appropriate.

2 Apologies for absence

None.

3 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th July

To be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3.1 Actions and matters arising from minutes not referred to elsewhere.

Pump track – no progress to report (Action IG).

Action plan from resident's survey April 2025

4 Declarations of interest

Members are reminded to declare any interest on any item on this agenda at this point or at any point during the meeting in accordance with Hermitage Parish Council's Code of Conduct.

5 Councillor Co-option

To note councillor resignations and co-opt any persons volunteering

6 District Councillors' Reports and Information from West Berkshire Council

Reports circulated for information and questions.

7 Planning

7.1 New applications

25/01756/HOUSE, Blenheim House, Deacons Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham RG18 9RH. Demolish existing rear extension and replace with rear single storey extension. Relocate off road parking to the side and front of the property. Replace side well with part fence, part all over 1 metre.

7.2 Decision notices

None.

7.3 New Grundon Quarry

To decide approach to potential meeting with Grundon

8 Finance

See also RFO's report

8.1 Payments for consideration July 2025

To review and approve items of expenditure and note regular payments

8.2 Receipts (to note)

31st July CCLA investment interest £243.15

8.3 Receipts and Payments to date

1. To review 2025/26 receipts and payments/budget to date
2. To consider retaining the £40,000 held in the deposit account (maturity date 11th September) for a further 3 months.

8.4 Internal audit

To review internal auditor report actions

9 Administrative matters

1. To approve Furze Hill & Open spaces policy
2. Receive progress update on Financial Regulations (RC/VB/Clerk – Action)
3. Consider review schedules for policies & procedures and risk assessments
4. To discuss optimisation to better achieve aim of improving life in Hermitage (I Govier)
5. Website. Update on potential upgrade and transfer to gov.uk domain. (Action Chairman)

10 Burial Ground

1. To consider memorial headstone request, grave plot 4

11 Highways

Note further works done on Eling Way and Chairman to meet with Eling Estate rep re update of Rights of Way booklet and liaison.

1. To agree approach to improving road safety/ parking near Hermitage School

12 HPC properties

Council to receive reports or updates on the following:

12.1 Playgrounds

1. To receive inspection reports
2. To consider quotation for painting at Hermitage Green playground
3. To consider options and quotations for replacement surface beneath cantilever swing at Pinewood Park
4. Hermitage Green playground sign
5. Hermitage Green playground surface

12.2 Furze Hill & Recreation Ground

1. To set a budget for the replacement of rotted fenceposts at Furze Hill

12.3 Other open spaces

Dines Way (AG), Lipscomb Close (DB), Charlotte Close (DB)

12.4 Land off Pinewood Crescent

To consider health and safety inspection of Leylandii trees and consultation with local community
Update on land behind gas governor (RC)

13 Other matters

Council to receive reports or updates on the following:

13.1 Village Hall (IG)

13.2 Defibrillator

1. Checks and new batteries
2. Providing training in use

14 Other correspondence received

Councillors to advise if they want to see any items listed separately.

15 Reports on meetings of outside bodies

16 Any other business (information only)

17 Date of the next meeting

Thursday 18th September 2025, 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.

Nicky Pierce

Parish Clerk

15th August 2025
