

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 17TH 2013.

Present.

Ms R Cottingham. Chairman
Mr D. Brown, Mr R. Burgess, Mrs M. Goodman, Mrs F. Groves, Mr R. Marr,
Mr B. Willis, Mrs K. Willis.

Mr Q. Webb District Councillor.
Mr C.W. Goudge. Clerk.

There were four members of the public present.

67 Public participation.

Dr Lawler is away until October 31st. The Lease is now being exchanged between Solicitors for the VPMC and the Council.

Tenders were sent out on October 4th to six Contractors, and the tenders are expected back in some six weeks. Some of the Contractors are interested in buying the present Hall site as part of the negotiations. The present Hall has been put on the market for £825k.

The Trustees are considering whether to create a C.I.O. to own the new Hall.

The superfast broadband report has been received from WBC. Some data is still unclear, but the majority of those who might benefit is now quite clear, though it is stressed that locations may change in the final scheme by BT.. There seems to be a benefit to the Parish and the Council is asked to continue the annual funding for the next two years.

There have been a number of complaints on the website about dog fouling, and WBC Environment has arranged for a dog warden to patrol spasmodically. It might be an idea to have a map of the dog bin locations posted on the website.

There are also speeding concerns.

68 Apologies for absence.

Dr Lawler and Mr Pask had tendered apologies for absence.

69 Minutes of the last meeting held on September 19th 2013.

The minutes had been circulated, advertised, were agreed as correct, and signed by the Chairman.

70 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.

Minute 56.

i Village Vision.

The Group is to rename itself to reflect the change to an Implementation Group.

ii Website.

The website needs keeping up to date, and in house expertise might be used.

71 The report of the West Berkshire Councillor.

Mr Webb felt that there were no WBC issues to raise and welcomed questions.

Mr Webb was asked whether he had any views on the secrecy governing the report which Newbury Town Council had commissioned over Marsh Lane. Mr Webb felt that, as the Council had commissioned the report they were entitled to deal with it as they saw fit.

Mr Webb was asked to follow up the question as to whether the area was a public right of way which appeared to be given to a Developer.

The Council objected strongly to a planning application for Le Cateau at a recent meeting pointing out that the Land Registry plans supplied were ten years out of date, and both these and the block plans provided were misleading in the context of the application. It was difficult to see how WBC could approve this application, and Mr Webb was asked to look at the WBC reasoning.

72 Planning.**Decisions from the Planning Authority.**

13/01945/FUL	Eling Estate Buildings, Wellhouse. Building to B1 use	Approval
--------------	--	-----------------

13/01977/HOUSE	5, Clay Walk, Hermitage. Conservatory	Approval
----------------	--	-----------------

13/02017/25	Pinewood crescent. Extensions	Withdrawn
-------------	----------------------------------	------------------

New applications.

13/02268/HOUSE	Pippins, Pond lane. Extension & porch	No objections
----------------	--	----------------------

13/02296/HOUSE	28, Briants Piece, Hermitage. Extension	No objections
----------------	--	----------------------

13/02516/23,	Lipscombe Close. Extension	No objections
--------------	-------------------------------	----------------------

Adjoining Parish.

13/02402/HOUSE	The Drove House, Cold Ash. Extensions	No objections
----------------	--	----------------------

73 Burial Ground**Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

Minute 59.

i Trees.

It was decided to allocate a budget of £200 to purchase trees for the Burial Ground.

New matters

i Saw tribute.

A saw tribute had been placed on an existing grave. It was decided to investigate the origin and reason for the tribute.

74 Finance.

i Receipts.

Camp Hopson	Burial	£300.00
-------------	--------	---------

HMRC	VAT refund July	£301.27
------	-----------------	---------

ii Payments approved.

Contractors		£469.16
-------------	--	---------

WBCS	Donation	£50.00
------	----------	--------

C.W.Goudge	Salary & exes	£385.93
------------	---------------	---------

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---|--------|
| | C.W.Goudge | Wreath | £50.00 |
| iii | Other matters. | | |
| | i | The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.. | |
| | II | £250K has been placed on deposit with Lloyds TSB at a rate of 0.6% for three months, maturing on November 19th. | |

75 Highways.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 61.

- i Road conditions in the Parish.
There had been no feedback from residents.
It was decided to note that the work recently carried out in the High Street was appreciated and of good quality.
- ii School parking.
It was decided to ask WBC to undertake a survey of the parking problems at School at peak times with the object of working towards agreed restrictions.
- iii Footway to Curridge.
This would run south along Long Lane from Station Road bus stop to meet the existing footway in Curridge. It was decided to contact the Chieveley Parish Clerk for views and comments.

76 Environment.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 62.

- i New Hermitage Village Hall.
 - i Funding.
Concern was expressed about the level of funding available from GCT, as this will affect the amount of grant available from the Council, because the application to DCLG was on the strict basis of match funding.
 - ii Lease
The draft Lease is being examined by Solicitors for both parties.
It was noted that there is uncertainty as to whether the hall would be governed by a CIO. This affects the time when the Lease will be ready for completion.
- ii Woodland and recreation area.
 - i WP report.
The Council received the WP report on activity for the last month. It was agreed that a budget should be allocated of £100 for sundry items connected with gate and fence installation, with local residents being invited to a working party to repair the rabbit fencing.
It was suggested that local residents might volunteer to take part in renewing the rabbit fencing.
 - ii Sports activities.
The Council discussed at length the question of sports which could be played on the recreation area, and it was decided that –
Furze Hill is a Village recreation ground, and is an area where locals are encouraged to play football and other sports.

Applications to use the recreation area from registered football teams will always be considered by the Council, in relation to the Council's policy to preserve the area for both continued and intermittent local use.

- iii Maintenance Contracts.
These are being evaluated within a broad outline for cutting the grass and emptying the litter bins.

- iii Pinewood play area.
 - i The boundary of the area appears to being abused, and it was decided to write to the property owners of the buffer zone pointing this out.
- iv Hermitage Village Hall.
 - i Pop up restaurant.
This is completely sold out.
The ceiling of the Parish Council room has collapsed.
- v Youth Club.
 - i There is a strong feeling that the Youth Club should be rejuvenated. It was noted that there is some £5k in the Youth Club's Bank account under the previous administration. Berkshire Youth will be consulted about this.
- vi Allotments.
The Solicitors for a possible site have been contacted.
- vii Christmas arrangements.
These are ongoing.

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

BALC – newsletter
WBCS – Upstream – newsletter.
Duchess of Kent Hospice – letter and grant request.
West Berkshire Transport Team – newsletter
the correspondence was discussed and where appropriate placed into circulation.

78 Reports from Parish Council Representatives who had attended meetings of outside Bodies on behalf of the Council.

There were no reports.

79 Items to be raised by Councillors.

There were no items raised.

80 Date of the next meeting.

Thursday November 21st at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date