

## HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> 2015.

Present.

Ms R Cottingham. Chairman  
Mr D. Brown, Mr R. Burgess, Mrs M. Goodman, Mrs F. Groves,  
Dr J. Lawler, Mr R Marr, Mrs S. Russell, Mrs K. Willis, Mr B Willis.

Mr G. Pask District Councillor  
Mr Q. Webb District Councillor

There were no members of the public present.

**131. Public participation.**

*The Tall trees application does not address some of the vital issues and which are fundamental to the application.*

There is a revised set of plans to consider under planning later on.

**132. Apologies for absence.**

There were no apologies for absence.

**133. Minutes of the last meeting held on February 19<sup>th</sup> 2015.**

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

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

Minute 120.

i Hermitage Plan Implementation Group.

There is to be an organised Village litter pick on the 29<sup>th</sup>. A formal Risk assessment will be completed on the day at the start of the litter pick.

ii Broadband.

It is believed some cabinets have been upgraded and that the broadband provision moves slowly forward.

iii Twinning.

There is nothing further to report.

**135. The report from the District Councillor.**

The childrens' social service provision is going through a lengthy OFSTED inspection. A report is expected on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Councils do not always take advantage of the WBC Member's bid scheme for capital projects and we both urge this Council to do so. The next round of bids is due in September and any applications should be lodged with a District Councillor long before then.

Questions were invited.

*There is now a considerable firing noise from the Garrison, particularly noticeable at the weekends. With more troops being drafted to the Base this is going to increase and should be limited. It is now interfering with the way of life in parts of the Village. Is it possible to ask for times within which firing may take place.*

The Garrison itself is in the Chieveley Parish, but we will do some research and probably ask for a meeting with the C.O.

**136. Planning****Decisions from the Planning Authority**

|                |  |                 |
|----------------|--|-----------------|
| 14/03370/HOUSE | Fir tree Cottage, High Street.<br>Extensions | <b>Approval</b> |
|----------------|--|-----------------|

|                 |  |                 |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| 15/00240/NONMAT | Eling Estate, Hermitage<br>Change of use | <b>Approval</b> |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|

**New applications**

|                |   |                   |
|----------------|---|-------------------|
| 15/00505/HOUSE | Tumbleweed, Yattendon Road.<br>Garage & tool store. | <b>Objections</b> |
|----------------|---|-------------------|

- i **Garage is in front of building line.**
- ii **Previous application refused on grounds that a separate garage was not needed.**

|                |  |                      |
|----------------|--|----------------------|
| 15/00522/HOUSE | Laurel Cottage, Chapel Lane<br>Porch & extension | <b>No objections</b> |
|----------------|--|----------------------|

**Adjoining Parish**

|             |  |                      |
|-------------|--|----------------------|
| 14/03415FUL | Red Shute Hill Industrial Estate<br>Lab demolition and replace | <b>No objections</b> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|

**Amended plans**

|                 |  |                    |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|
| 14/03326//HOUSE | Tall trees, Newbury Road.<br>Kitchen & dining room alterations.<br>Amended elevation drawings. | <b>No comments</b> |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|

**Other matters.**

- i WBC DPD Consultation..  
The report is not expected until September with consultation following.

**137. Burial Ground.****New matters.**

- i Entrance walls.  
It is felt that the walls need work and it was decided to get a quote for both entrance walls.

**There being no public present a Part ii meeting was called.**

There was a detailed discussion of the claim for compensation from Mrs Pease. It was decided to write to Mrs Pease's Solicitor rejecting the claim as presented and stressing that there are no grounds for such a claim. It was also agreed, in order to end the matter, to make an offer of a small ex gratia payment not to exceed £250, providing that Mrs Pease does not speak of this matter to anyone except this Council or Mrs Pease's Solicitor. Also that Mrs Pease would bear her own costs in bringing this matter.

**This minute will not appear on the public draft minutes.****138. Finance**

- i Receipts.  
None
- ii Payments authorised.

|                        |                   |            |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Contractors            | Maintenance       | £619.41    |
| MEC signs              | Signage           | £225.60    |
| Hermitage CIO          | Grant             | £22,975.26 |
| West Berkshire Council | Dog bin supply    | £629.09    |
| West Berkshire Council | Broadband – final | £2,763.00  |
| Berkshire Youth        | Affiliation fee   | £120.00    |

|     |   |                      |         |
|-----|---|----------------------|---------|
|     | BALC  | Subscription 15 / 16 | £352.50 |
|     | HMRC  | PAYE                 | £72.68  |
|     | C.W.Goudge  | Sal & exes           | £342.32 |
| iii | Other matters.  |                      |         |
| i   | The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.   |                      |         |
| ii  | Internal interim audit.<br>The interim internal audit report .<br>The FWP had considered the Interim Internal audit report and reported that there were minor issues which had been or were being, addressed. |                      |         |
| iii | Village Hall retention.<br>The amount of 3% would be accounted for in the final grant submission, which automatically would share any costs between the parties.  |                      |         |
| iv  | Lloyds Bank deposit of £250k for three months was renewed on March 3. Interest would be £220.55 for the three months.   |                      |         |
| v   | A grant of £1,000 to the Church was approved.   |                      |         |

**139. Highways.****Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.**

Minute 125.

- i Shared cycle track.  
This is being taken forward, and a Member's bid application prepared in time for the next round of bids.

**140. Environment.****Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

Minute 126.

- i New Hermitage Village Hall.  
The current grant application had been agreed. There would be an invitation to visit the site in a short while.
- ii Present Village Hall.  
Nothing further to report.
- iii Furze Hill & Recreation area.  
The WP has reported on activities at Furze Hill since the last meeting.  
The Contractors are to be asked about their initial work and also the best way to deal with rabbit holes.
- iv Tree maintenance  
All the planned maintenance has been completed apart from the Lipscombe oak tree, which needs to be the subject of bat clearance. The distance from nearest house which was built nearer the tree than ABI guidelines mandate may make any subsequent ground movement when the oak is removed the Owners responsibility.
- v Pinewood play area.  
It was decided to contact Mr Souden placing benches.
- vi BT verge.  
Miller Homes have verbally agreed that the Council could repair or replant the area. Written confirmation is awaited.
- vii Scout Hut.  
There appears to be a Lease agreement between the Council and BT regarding a water meter and foul drainage. BT has been asked for a copy of the Lease.

**141. Correspondence received since the last meeting not referred to elsewhere.**

Clerks & Councils direct – newsmag

Village Agent Volunteer Centre – meetings invitation.

The correspondence was discussed and where appropriate placed into circulation.

**142. Reports from Parish Council Representatives who have attended meetings of Outside Bodies on behalf of the Council.**

The presentation from the West Berkshire District Parish Conference is available on the WBC website.

There were no other reports.

**143. Items to be raised by Councillors.**

There were no further items.

**144. Date of the next meeting.**

**Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room Holy Trinity Church.**

**The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

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Chairman

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Date