

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 21ST 2008.

Present.

Mr D. Brown.	Chairman
Ms R Cottingham.	Vice-Chairman.
Mr R.Allum.	
Mrs M. Goodman.	
Mrs F. Groves.	
Mr R Rodgers	
Mrs K. Willis.	
Mr G. Pask.	
Mr Q Webb.	District Councillor.
Mr C.W.Goudge	Clerk

Four members of the public.

42.Public Forum.

What is the up to date position regarding the footpath widening in the High Street.
The Council is waiting for the results of a possible hedge repositioning along the High Street before further views can be expressed by the Council.

Miller Homes have been in contact with Mr Marr about costings for the new Village Hall.
This is the subject of an Agenda item later in the meeting.

43.Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Frost, Mr Jennings and Mr Miller.

44.Minutes of the last meeting held on July 17th 2008.

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

45.Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 40.

- i Parish Walk and Parish Plan.
Arrangements have been put in hand for both the Walk organisation and catering. There will be a display of the present Parish Plan at the end of the Walk. It was decided to ask Sarah Ward to come to the next convenient Council meeting, and also to ask for some suggested bullet points for display after the Walk.
- ii Display boards.
Plans were displayed at this meeting using temporary adhesive. It was noted that the cost of boards varied between £100 to £200.
- iii Vacancy for a Councillor.
WBC have been informed of the vacancy. Unless an election is called, the Council will be able, should it wish to do so, to co-opt from the next meeting.

- iv Tree trimming.
It was noted that a tree, which is the responsibility of the Council, needed trimming as it had started to pose a possible public danger. The Council had obtained two quotations from tree surgeons and decided to accept the quote of £290 to render it safe.

46.The report from the West Berkshire Councillor.

Mr Webb discussed the recent public meeting which was called to debate the widening of the footpath in the High Street, and as to how the meeting was structured. The next step is to see the response from the enquiry into suggested hedge movement.

47.Planning.

Decisions from the Planning Authority.

		Decision
08/00417/FUL	Sancta Maria Della Grotto Application renewal	Approval
08/00995/HOUSE	Redlands, Yattendon Road. Side extension.	Approval
08/01066/HOUSE	1, Stretcher Drive, Hermitage. Wall and fence	Withdrawn

New planning applications.

08/01312/HOUSE	11, Briants Piece, Hermitage. Extension & conservatory
08/01313/CON	11, Briants Piece, hermitage. Retrospective for conservatory demolition.
08/01469/HOUSE	Unit 5, Wellhouse Farms.
08/01471/LBC	Outbuilding to replace garage.
08/01472/HOUSE	Barn A Units 1-3, Wellhouse Farms.
08/01473/LBC	Outbuilding replacements.
08/01570/HOUSE	Benamore, High Street. Porch rebuild.
08/01547/HOUSE	25, Stretcher Drive, Hermitage. Conservatory

The Council returned “no objections” to these eight applications.

Adjoining Parish applications.

08/01451/FUL	Forest View, Dove Lane, Cold Ash Garage to family room.
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The Council objected to this application on the following grounds.

- 1 The design is out of keeping with the house.**
- 2 The many roof lines make the appearance fragmented.**

08/01259/FULD	Fifield Farm, Marlston, Hermitage. Barn change of use to residential from B & B
08/01505/HOUSE	1, The Old Nursery, Hermitage. Garage extension.

The Council returned “no objections” to these two applications, but requested an agricultural tie be made a condition for Fifield Farm, and that the garage should be considered as an integral part of the property and not be allowed to disposed of as a separate building.

Other matters.

- i GOSE.
The proposed changes to the South East Plan on CD were noted.
- ii Denison Barracks.
It was decided to suggest a meeting date of September 16th to Chieveley Parish Council.
- iii Miller Homes.
The Council noted the reports from the three meetings with Miller Homes. The plans for the football pitch had been submitted to WBC by Miller Homes.
- iv WBC SPG guidance.
The Council noted the guidance, which contains notes for developers as to expected contributions to infrastructure.
- v The Old Vicarage in Marlston Road.
Some construction work appears to be continuing. It was decided to request the Enforcement Officer to investigate as a matter of priority.

48.Highways.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 29.

- i VAS sign position.
It was decided to chase Highways about this.
- ii Footpath widening.
WBC have asked landowners in the High Street if they would allow some of their land to be used to widen the footpath. The result is not yet known.
There is some concern over the proposed traffic speed survey which might take place during the present road works, which would produce false results. Traffic calming throughout the whole Village needs to be addressed. It was suggested that the bus stop should be moved some 50 yds.
The Council will wait for the results of the land enquiry before making a final comment on the footpath widening scheme.
- iii Marlston Bridge.
No reply has been received to the letter to Highways of May 23rd asking for a reply to the Council’s original letter in January. It was decided to ask Mark Edwards for a response.
- iv No parking signs.
It was decided to purchase three no parking signs at a cost of £7.95 each.
- v Hedge cutting.
This has been done.

New matters.

- i Young people support.
It was requested that all Youth events should be publicised so that there is a wide understanding of available activities. School should be informed properly so that they can follow through for the benefit of the whole Parish.

- ii Cub hut.
The Pangbourne Area Youth Officer is looking for a venue and suggests that funds might be available for the refurbishment of the hut. This will be followed up.
- iii School ground access.
Inspection of Council minutes has found that a Licence for access was negotiated between the Parish Council and School some fifteen years ago. The Licence contains a clause allowing for either party to withdraw from the Licence upon giving one month's notice.
- iv Traffic speed through the Village.
It was reported that the PCSO does not believe there is a speeding issue. It was felt there does need to be a survey. WBC can put a traffic monitoring device can be put in place after the present road works are finished. Information from this could come back to the Council.
- v Hampstead Norris Road.
It was decided to ask Thames Water whether there is likely to be further work on Hampstead Norris Road as WBC intend to resurface the road.

49.Environment issues.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

Minute 36.

- i Play area inspection.
This has been carried out.
- ii Communication channels.
This is ongoing.

New matters.

- i Tour of Britain Cycle race.
This would pass through Hermitage on September 8th.
- ii Title deeds.
Title deeds are held for the Council by Gardner Leader in Newbury.
These were inspected and found to be –
Land to North of Lipscombe Close.
Land to the South East of the High Street – Lipscombe Close.
Land on the North side of Chapel Lane.
Land on the East side of Dines Way.
Land used as the Burial Ground.
- iii Parish Council minutes 1948 to 2001.
It was decided to obtain a quotation for binding these in sets and then sending them to the Berkshire Archives for safekeeping.
- iv BT payphones.
BT wish to remove the telephone box from opposite the Fox Inn. There are provisions for a Local Authority to take over either the complete service or just the telephone box. It was decided to investigate and report to the next meeting.

50.Finance.

Receipts.

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|----|----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| i | Bank of Scotland | Interest | July | £131.21 |
| | Burial Ground | Interment | | £275.00 |
| | VAT refund | | | £1,896.48 |
| ii | Payments authorised. | | | |

F.C.Lawrence	Grasscutting etc	£392.83
Playground Services	Climber maintenance	£135.13
C.W.Goudge	Salary & Expenses	£392.35
Mrs K. Willis.	Gate sign	£18.00

- iii Other matters.
 - i The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.

51.Burial Ground.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 38.

- i Grave spaces.
The Registrar has queried whether planning consent is needed for change of use. This is ongoing.
- ii Water supply valve.
Thames Water are believed to have inspected the valve and found it satisfactory.

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

The correspondence was discussed and, where appropriate, placed into circulation.

53.Items to be raised by Councillors.

It was requested the Parish Plan should be an Agenda item for the next meeting, and that Sarah Ward is invited to a convenient meeting.

There is a vehicle parked in Dines Way which is unlicensed and untaxed. The Police had been contacted four times. It was decided to take this up with the Police again.

54.Date of the next meeting.

Thursday September 18th at 7.00pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.

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Chairman

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Date