

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON MAY 15TH 2008.

Present.

Mr D. Brown. Chairman
Mr R Allum
Ms R Cottingham.
Mrs M. Goodman.
Mrs F. Groves.
Mr A. Hayes-Jones
Mr B. Jennings.
Mr K. Miller
Mr R Rodgers
Mrs K. Willis.

Mr C.W.Goudge Clerk

Ten members of the public.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr D. Brown, as Chairman, opened the meeting.

1.The election of the Chairman for the coming year.

It was proposed by Mrs Willis and seconded by Ms Cottingham that Mrs Goodman be elected Chairman.

It was proposed by Mr Rodgers and seconded by Mr Miller that Mr Brown be elected Chairman for the coming year.

The propositions were put to the vote and Mr Brown was elected Chairman for the coming year.

Mr Brown then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2.Apologies for absence.

There was an apology for absence from Mr Frost.

3.The election of the Vice Chairman for the coming year.

It was proposed by Mrs Goodman and seconded by Mrs Groves that Ms Cottingham be elected Vice-Chairman for the coming year. The proposition was agreed unanimously.

4.Parish Council Representatives to Outside Bodies.

The following appointments were made.

Hermitage Village Hall management Committee.	Mr Allum.
Hermitage School Governors	Mr Frost
Neighbourhood Action Group	Mr Rodgers.

5.Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

These were approved.

6.Registers of Member's Interests.

Councillors were reminded to make sure their Register was up to date.

THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

7.Public participation.

Residents at Orchard Close reported that their property is subject to flooding believing this to be a consequence of new houses being built.

Other residents who live opposite the new Miller Homes houses have been subject to both flooding and sewerage back up.

If the WBC flooding overview report is not correct the Council needs to know, and individual residents need to write to WBC .

How does the P.C. work and how is it selected.

The Council is elected every four years.

Could there be more notice boards placed in the Parish.

It was decided to put this as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

The sewerage pipe which Thames Water is installing is not large enough for the purpose.

On technical matters the Council has to rely on WBC and Thames Water expertise.

A resident in Manor Lane reported that there are severe traffic concerns now on Manor Lane.

A copy of the letter written by the residents to WBC would be sent to the Clerk and placed on the next Agenda.

A resident reported that Richard Benyon M.P.has agreed to chair a public meeting regarding the High Street footpath widening scheme.

The Council was unaware of this but was progressing the question of such a meeting and would be in touch with Mr Benyon and WBC.

8.Minutes of the last meeting held on April 17th 2008.

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

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

No matters were raised.

10.Planning.

New planning applications.

There had been no new planning applications since the last meeting.

Other matters.

- i Denison barracks.
Ms Cottingham and Mrs Goodman attended a meeting at Chieveley. The M.O.D. representative reported that the base concept had been taken to Developers. There could be some 500 houses built. The M.O.D. undertook to keep the three Parish Councils concerned informed as this matter progresses. It was decided that this Council would keep in touch, particularly with the appointed Consultants.
- ii WBC Planning Strategy – options for rural areas.
The background and strategy papers had been received from the recent meeting at Chieveley. It was agreed to provide a leaflet drop through the Village to encourage response to these papers.
Mrs Goodman and Mrs Groves were appointed to liaise with the M.O.D and their Consultants over the development of Dennison Barracks.

11.Highways.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 132.

- i Footpath widening.
This had been discussed earlier.
- ii Marlston bridge traffic.
The response from WBC was reviewed.
It was decided to ask WBC for a more detailed explanation of their reasons for refusal.

New matters.

- i Sewerage works in Hermitage.
Thames Water believe the works will be completed by the end of August.
- ii Manor Road traffic.
It was decided to circulate any letter received from the residents.
- iii Permissive footpath between footpath 16 and Hermitage Green.
Ms Cottingham would investigate this.
- iv No parking sign.
It was decided to investigate the possibility of a no parking sign opposite the Fox Inn.

12.Environmental.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Minute 133.

- i Hermitage Green play area.
It was reported that WBC are pressing Banner Homes to carry out their obligations under the original planning permission.

New matters.

- i School access.
Deep concern was expressed by Councillors that access is being restricted. It was suggested that a fence might be erected and funded by the Council to resolve some of

the problem. Mr Pearson would take back the suggestion to the Governors and also obtain a quote for the Council's consideration.

13. Finance.

i	Receipts.			
	Bank of Scotland	Interest	April	£132.50
ii	Payments authorised.			
	F.C.Lawrence	Grass & Shelters		£397.43
	Zurich Insurance	Premium 08 / 09		£475.73
	Hermitage & Curridge Youth Club	Grant 08 / 09		£1,000.00
	Hermitage Pre-School	Grant 08 / 09		£750.00
	C.W.Goudge	Salary & exes		£376.09
iii	Other matters.			
	i	The Statement of Receipts & Payments to date was noted.		
	ii	The Annual Return for the year to March 31 2008 has been submitted to the Internal Auditor for examination and for signature by the Council on June 19 th .		

14. Burial Ground.

Minute 134.

- i Water supply.
The stopcocks of Thames Water and the Burial Ground are to be examined.
- ii Reserved grave spaces.
The Council decided not to grant any further requests for grave space reservation for the time being.
- iii Head marker.
It was agreed to allow an oak cross some 2ft6 inches high and some 18 inches wide to be placed at the head of Mr Pound's grave.

The meeting was then brought to a close.

15. Date of the next meeting.

Thursday June 19th at 7.45pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.

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Chairman

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Date

