

# HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> 2007.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Present.

Mr R. Allum.  
Mr D. Brown.  
Mrs R Cottingham.  
Mrs R. Goodman  
Mrs F. Groves.

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

The meeting was opened by Mr Q. Webb, under an Authority from West Berkshire Council, there being no existing Chairman.

**1. The Election of the Chairman for the coming year.**

It was proposed by Mrs Groves and seconded by Mr Allum that Mr Brown be elected Chairman for the coming year. The proposition was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

Mr Brown then took the Chair.

**2. The Declarations of Acceptance of Office.**

The Chairman signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and each Councillor signed their individual Declaration.

**3. Co-option of Councillors.**

It was proposed by Mrs Goodman and seconded by Mrs Cottingham that

Mr M Frost  
Mr K.D. Miller  
Mrs K. Willis.

be co-opted to Hermitage Parish Council.

The proposition was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

**4. The election of the Vice Chairman for the coming year.**

It was proposed by Mr Brown and seconded by Mrs Groves that Mrs Goodman be elected Vice-Chairman for the coming year. The proposition was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

**5. The appointment of the Clerk.**

Mr Goudge had been acting as Clerk since the beginning of June. It was decided that he should continue to act as Clerk at the same salary as the previous Clerk.

**6. The appointment of Parish Council Representatives to Outside Bodies.**

It was decided to postpone these appointments until the recently co-opted Councillors would be present at the July meeting.

**7. The Code of Conduct and Standing Orders.**

Councillors had examined the new Code of Conduct and it was decided to adopt it. Notice would be given to West Berkshire Council and the Standard Board of England. The Clerk would research the Standing Orders for presentation at the next meeting.

**8. The Bank Mandate.**

It was decided to renew the present arrangement with the Bank of Scotland whereby any two Councillors could authorise financial Instruments on behalf of the Council.

THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

**9. Public participation.**

Mr Gilchrist gave a short report from the Village Hall Committee. The design for the new hall had been presented to the Committee and was being considered. Funding initiatives were being pursued but the results were slow in materialising. The sale of the present land would cover part of the cost leaving about £250k to £400k to be funded. The Architect's fee would be paid in instalments.. Planning consent would be applied for once the design had been approved by the Committee. The Chairman reinforced the view that the Council would do anything it could to help, because the project is such a worthwhile asset for the Village.

Mr & Mrs Tattersall voiced their concerns over the proposed extension of the property adjoining them which, in their view, would seriously affect their way of life. The Chairman said that the Council had not yet received the planning application, but this might be due to the unusual Council circumstances. When the application came before the Council they would take the views of Mrs & Mrs Tattersall into consideration. Mr Webb mentioned that, if there were other serious objections it was open for him to call the matter to Committee.

The Chairman of the Horticultural Society suggested that there should be two Council notice boards to help bring the Community together. It would also be a benefit to have an updated website.

There have been problems with walkers parking cars at he Village Hall, partly due to West Berkshire Council sanctioning the use of car parks at Village Halls.

**10. Minutes of the last meeting held on April 19<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

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

**11. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not dealt with elsewhere.**

It was noted that a payment of £12,304.60 had been paid for the installation of a single point swing at Pinewood Park.

## 12. Planning.

### i Appeal decision.

06/01255/FULD

Land at Oaklands House, Hermitage.  
Erection of new house  
**Appeal dismissed.**

### ii Decision from the Planning Authority.

07/00391/HOUSE

Birchwood, Chapel Lane, Hermitage.  
Single storey extension.  
**Application approved**

### iii New planning applications.

07/00841/HOUSE

Ivy Wood, Westrop Green.  
Workshop / Office.  
**No objections**

07/01035/FULD

Hermitage garage, Newbury Road.  
New three bedroom detached dwelling.

**Objections –**

1. **Overdevelopment**
2. **Dangerous access.**
3. **Loss of neighbours' privacy**
4. **Intrusive to environment**

07/01076/HOUSE

The Yews, Newbury Road.  
Conservatory.  
**No objections**

### iv Other matters.

#### i S.106 Agreements.

WBC has issued guidance notes on the ways in which S.106 contributions from developers may be spent.

## 13. Highways.

WBC.

### i S.I.D. usage.

WBC enquired about Insurance cover for Parish Council members operating S.I.D. Adequate Insurance cover exists under the Council policy.

### ii Footway widening in Hermitage High Street.

Notification of work to commence on widening. The previous Parish Council has had a considerable input into the scheme, and the work is based on that.

## 14. Finance.

### i Receipts.

To be advised on receipt of Bank statements.

### ii Payments.

None could be authorised until the new Bank Mandate had been registered by the Bank of Scotland.

iii Request for a Grant.

A request had been received from CCB.

It was decided that all grant requests would be dealt with at the November meeting in time for the budget setting the Precept for 2008 / 2009.

**15. Burial Ground.**

There was no report.

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

Most correspondence had been directed to WBC Legal Department and would be available after the appointment of the Clerk.

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

There were no items raised.

**18. Date of the next meeting.**

**Thursday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.45pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church.**

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Chairman

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Date