

HERMITAGE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Hermitage Parish Council held at
Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church, Hermitage, Berkshire RG18 9ST
on Thursday 20th March 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Cottingham, Cllr I Govier, Cllr D Brown, Cllr V Burgess, Cllr P Dick(7.30pm to 8.35pm),
Cllr J Rigby, Cllr A Goldsmith Ms N Pierce (clerk).

01.03.25 Public participation

One member of the public spoke about the forthcoming Hermitage community event and catering for the APA.

02.03.25 Apologies for absence

Cllr H Codling

03.03.25 Minutes of meeting held on 20th February 2025.

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

04.03.25 Declarations of interest

None.

05.03.25 Actions agreed and matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not referred to elsewhere and actions list

None.

06.03.25 Reports

6.1 District Councillors

Cllr. P Dick provided a report.

6.2 Chairman's report

Noted.

07.03.25 Planning

7.1 New Applications:

None.

7.2 Decision notices:

None.

08.03.25 Finance and report of Responsible Finance Officer

Financial position as of 28th February 2025

Balance carried forward (Inc. S106 contributions)	£225,011.99
Receipts to 31 st January	£89,851.73
Authorised Payments to 28 th February	£67,078.73
Payment not processed by 28 th February	£0.00
Balance in hand (total)	£247,784.99

8.1 Report of Financial Officer (Clerk's report)

Noted. No comments or questions.

8.2 Payments for consideration March 2025

Approved.

8.2.1	Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd monthly charge	£269.57
8.2.2	Grass maintenance/Contractor	£903.59
8.2.3	Cost of administration	£1,089.89
8.2.4	HMRC, tax and NI	£165.24
8.2.5	Tactical Management Ltd, dog bins (January)	£242.94
8.2.6	Hermitage Village Hall, APA room hire	£121.50
8.2.7	R G Consultancy Ltd, tree work Furze Hill	£3,300.00
8.2.8	R G Consultancy Ltd, tree work other open spaces	£2,280.00
Total	All approved, and endorsed online	£8,372.73

8.3 Direct Debits previously approved

Noted.

1&1 Ionos (website) monthly payment	£8.40
NEST monthly payment	£111.01

8.4 Receipts February 2025

None.

8.5 FWP report

Moved to April meeting.

8.6 CCLA mandate

Mandate completed with three signatories: - Cllr Cottingham, Cllr Brown, Cllr Burgess.

Correspondence: - Clerk

09.03.25 Burial ground

None.

10.03.25 Highways

Pothole/drain at the corner of Orchard Close has been reported to WBC.

11.03.25 Environment

11.1 Playgrounds

Cllr Govier spoke about the requirement to clean playgrounds, to be done in the spring. Clerk to liaise with contractor. **Clerk**

11.1.1 Councillor inspection reports

Circulated.

11.2 Furze Hill

To check tree works to enable payment to be approved. **Cllr Cottingham**

11.2.1 Recreation Ground

Gates latches need to be fixed. To liaise with Thursday team. **Cllr Cottingham**

11.3 Other open spaces: Dines Way, Lipscomb Close, Charlotte Close

Nothing general to report.

To check tree works to enable payment to be approved. **Cllr Cottingham**

11.4 Transfer of land off Pinewood Crescent: progress report

To liaise with solicitor for update. **Clerk**

11.5 Consider following up on the Berkshire Digital Infrastructure project with Vodafone to improve signal in southern part of the village

Clerk provided a report. To follow through with WBC. **Clerk**

11.6 Berkshire LNRS Public Consultation, to consider Hermitage PC response

Deadline to complete 24th March, will look at. **Cllr Cottingham**

12.03.25 Other matters

12.1 Village Hall:

Ian Govier attended the meeting. The committee is hoping to recruit new trustees. AGM 3rd April.

12.2 Defibrillator checks

Done.

12.3 APA 24th April

To liaise with contact about speaking at the APA on sport.

Cllr Cottingham

12.3.1 Consider suggested residents survey

To produce the residents survey for the APA flier with QR code.

Cllr Rigby/Cllr Burgess

12.4 Hermitage community village event 6th July

Cricket match between The White Horse and The Fox 6th July 2025 other activities at the recreation ground are planned for 8th July 2025. Cllr Govier to meet with planning group.

12.5 Pump Track

April agenda.

12.6 Hermitage Youth Football

Representative to speak at the APA.

12.7 To consider making a grant to the Green Fest taking place on April 5th

£50 approved. Clerk to make arrange payment.

Clerk

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

Correspondence noted on agenda.

14.03.25 Reports from Parish Council representatives who have attended meetings of outside bodies on behalf of the council

None.

15.03.25 Items to be raised by Councillors (information only)

None.

16.03.25 Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent (information only)

None.

17.03.25 Date of the next meeting

Thursday 17th April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Adelaide Room, Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 24th April 2025 at 7.30pm for 8pm start at the Village Hall, Hermitage

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.42pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____