

## **MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025, Hambleden Village Hall

PRESENT: Mr A Armstrong – Chair, Cllr S Webb, Mr C Hussey, Mr G Hartley Russell, Mr R Ashcroft, Mrs A Hopkins, Mr W Holmes, Mr S Taylor.

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk

2 members of the public (part)

Buckinghamshire Councillor Mark Turner

### **Minute 10159**

#### **Public Question Time**

A member of the public attended to discuss planning application 24/07254/FUL.

### **Minute 10160**

#### **To receive any apologies for absence**

Cllr D House.

### **Minute 10161**

#### **Declaration of disclosable pecuniary and personal interests by Members relating to items on the agenda**

Cllr Ashcroft declared an interest in planning application 24/07254/FUL.

### **Minute 10162**

#### **To confirm and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held in April were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **Minute 10163**

#### **Clerk and any Councillors if appropriate to report on matters arising and any updates from previous minutes which are not on the agenda**

- Minute 10140 – a page has been added to the website about the Film Fund. A brief article has been placed in the Hambleden Valley magazine, which will be included in the June edition. Notices have been placed in the noticeboards with a QR code to scan which takes you to the new page on the website.
- Minute 10127 – 8 responses were received following request for views about the school expansion.
- Minute 10128 – Clerk with help from the temporary assistant Clerk has put up the speeding posters designed by children at Frieth CEC School in Fingest and Skirmett. These are in borrowed frames, the PC needs to find a contractor to make some for them.
- Minute 10148 – Clerk has made contact with contractors for fixing the noticeboards and also with companies for new noticeboards. Future agenda item.
- Minute 10150 – Clerk is waiting to hear back for quotations to move the gate at the Ellery Rise field.
- Minute 10151 – Clerk has confirmed with the Bisham Nest Box Group that they can install the boxes, once agreement is reached with the Church.
- Elections took place on 01/05/25, 3 new Parish Councillors were elected to the North Ward, the South Ward was uncontested. Cllr Mark Turner was re-elected as Buckinghamshire Councillor for the Chiltern Villages.
- Clerk has reported a footpath in Frieth to Rights of Way at Buckinghamshire Council.
- Clerk has been in touch with Fix My Street due to incorrectly receiving reports from residents. Clerk has actioned these reports with the LAT too.
- Clerk has requested analytical reports from the website to see the amount of visitors.
- Clerk continued to promote the local elections on the website and social media.
- Clerk responded to emails from residents on a variety of matters including the elections, footpaths, and highway issues.
- AED machines have been checked and reported to The Circle.
- Road closures have been placed on the website and Facebook page.
- Clerk has reported various potholes, damaged signs, blocked drains and faded white lines around the parish. This can be done by anyone via [Fix My Street](#).

### **Minute 10164**

#### **To receive updates if any from meetings attended since the previous ordinary meeting by Clerk and Councillors**

Any slides have been circulated to the Councillors, Clerk has attended:

23/04/25 – Clerks Meeting

23/04/25 – Frieth Village Society AGM

The Chairman moved agenda item 13, Planning up the agenda.

**Minute 10165**

**To consider all recent applications received from Buckinghamshire Council detailed and any other planning applications submitted and published on the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Portal between the circulation of the agenda and the meeting:**

[25/05765/FUL – Disborough Cottage Main Road Rotten Row Hambleden](#) – Householder application for construction of two storey rear extension, entrance porch and fenestration changes – **no objection, however we note that another smaller household in the parish will be lost for a larger property.**

[24/07254/FUL – Janets Cottage Pheasants Hill Hambleden](#) – Householder application for construction of front entrance porch – **The parish council still objects to this application. The Chilterns Design Guide states that any porches must be in proportion to the house, the pitch should match the main roof and to retain the front door. These are historic cottages, and the symmetry of them would be upset should it be approved. The proposed porch is too large for the size of the property. We also object to the proposed window as this will overlook the neighbouring property.**

[25/05964/LBC – Mill End Farmhouse Henley Road Hambleden](#) – Listed building consent for refurbishment, repair and maintenance including replacement of certain windows and doors (part retrospective) – **no objection**

[25/05946/PNP6A – Land At Innings Road/Spurgrove Lane Innings Road Frieth](#) – Prior notification application (Part 6, Class A) for the proposed creation of private way – the Parish Council have not been consulted on this application, so any comments may not be taken into consideration – **The Parish Council, along with many residents in Frieth, object to this proposal. The hedgerow in question appears to fulfil the criteria on the Government website of being protected due to length, location and importance (ancient, on the Tithe Map from 1845 and within the section there are at least 7 woody species). We would ask for further investigations into this to ascertain if it is. There is an existing access route that could be used, in a manner that will not cause harm to the National Landscape and the rural character and landscape of the lane.**

Buckinghamshire Council have requested Further Details to be Submitted regarding this application.

[25/05875/LBC – Varnells Hambleden Village Hambleden](#) – Listed building application for works to roof comprising replacing delaminated, missing or broken tiles, securing loose and slipping tiles where necessary. Using handmade clay tiles to make up any shortfall. Replacing defective laths with treated battens, install insulation and membrane, repair and repaint ornamental fascia and replace guttering with same materials (part retrospective) – **no objection**

**Planning Application Decisions made since the date of the last Parish Council meeting – for information only:**

[25/05371/FUL](#) & [25/07372/LBC](#) – Shoot Lodge Hollow Lane Rotten Row Hambleden – application for construction of two storey front extension, first floor rear extension, replacement glazed infill and window alterations – **applications refused**

[25/05407/FUL – Middle Cottage Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Householder application for construction of outbuilding for home gym/office – **application permitted**

**Minute 10166**

**To receive any updates from the Climate Change Working Party; to discuss what if any actions the Parish Council can do to respond to the Climate Change emergency**

Cllr Hopkins reported that the PDF is still being drafted, there will be another meeting to finalise imminently. The Working Party will also discuss the degradation of hedgerows and verges in the parish.

**Minute 10167**

**To discuss Pheasants Hill Common and next steps including applying for an adverse possession order**

Cllr Hussey has read through a historic file passed to him from the Clerk regarding the Common and gave an update on what measures had been taken in the past. An adverse possession claim had previously been lodged but fell at several hurdles. He will scan the contents of the file and forward to Cllrs. A discussion on further steps to be taken at the next meeting.

**Action: Cllr Hussey**

**Minute 10168**

**To consider a grant application from Frieth CEC School PTA for £500**

Cllr Webb proposed donating £500 from the Film Fund, seconded by Cllr Hartley Russell. Cheque to be signed at this meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**Minute 10169**

**To consider the expansion of Frieth CEC School following correspondence from Frieth residents and what if any further action to take**

Clerk received 8 representations following a request on the website, social media and the Frieth Village Society newsletter for residents views. Of these, 3 were positive, 2 neutral recognising the difficulties and 3 were negative. All in agreement to take no further action but to continue to liaise with the School when necessary. Cllr Hopkins has had confirmation from the Headteacher that there will be no further expansion.

**Minute 10170**

**Finance:**

**a) To approve the accounts for May 2025:** Approved and noted.

Accounts to be paid in May 2025:

SSE – lighting charges (cheque already signed and posted)	304.66
Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	991.30
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	306.31
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	42.57
Buckland Landscapes – grass maintenance	1387.50
Hambleden Village Hall – hire	36.00
M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean and open/close	120.00
Lloyds Bank – account charges (via direct debit taken automatically)	5.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>3193.91</b>
<b>Balance as 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025</b>	<b>58801.42</b>
Less April payments	(7384.57)
Income - First ½ precept	28500.00
<b>Balance as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b>	<b>79916.85</b>
Of which CIL Funds	3653.95
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Other Earmarked reserves	3250.00
Hambleden Parking fund	912.39
<b>Unrestricted Reserves</b>	<b>52100.51</b>

**Film Fund**

Total of all funds at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2025	19123.30
Lloyds Bank – account charges	(4.25)
<b>Total of all funds at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025</b>	<b>19119.05</b>

**b) To receive the Internal Auditors report:** Noted.

**c) To complete Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/2025:** Completed.

**d) To approve and adopt the accounts for 2024/2025 in receipts and payment format:**

Approved and adopted.

**e) To complete Section 2 Accounting Statements of the AGAR:** Completed.

**f) To confirm the dates for the period for the exercise of public rights:**

Confirmed as 03/06/25 – 14/07/25.

**g) To nominate a Councillor to check and approve the bank reconciliation for April:**

Cllr Ashcroft checked and approved the April bank reconciliation.

**Minute 10171**

**Members questions: including any items for the next agenda**

- 1. **Cllr Hussey** will draft a response to a local solicitor who was approached for legal help regarding Pheasants Hill Common.
- 2. **Cllr Webb** – a great job had been done on the yew trees in Hambleden churchyard by Cllr Armstrong, the Church have passed on their thanks. She also gave thanks to local resident Tom Lumley for the work voluntary he is carrying out in the churchyard. Removal of ivy from the churchyard wall to be added to a future agenda.

- 3. **Cllr Armstrong** – received a telephone call from a representative of Remenham Parish Council regarding the possibility of power from the River Thames, a project that would need input from both PCs for it to be viable. He has advised that a proposal would need to be sent for the PC to consider. Cllr Hopkins will forward details of a similar proposal that took place in Henley.

**Minute 10172****To confirm the date for the next meeting as:**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Frieth Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 22.02.

Signed ..... Date .....