

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

Held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026, Frieth Village Hall

PRESENT: Mr A Armstrong – Chair, Cllr S Webb, Mr C Hussey, Mr G Hartley Russell, Mrs A Hopkins, Mr D House, Mr S Taylor.

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk

Cllr Mark Turner – Buckinghamshire Councillor

Acting Sargent Caitlin Neal – Thames Valley Police, Neighbourhood Marlow (part)

2 members of the public (part)

### **Minute 10274**

#### **Public Question Time**

- A resident asked questions about superfast broadband and potholes. Cllr Turner advised that City Fibre were awarded the broadband contract, but he is unaware of the roll out dates. Clerk advised to report any potholes via Fix My Street, and that she has reported the poor temporary repairs that have been carried out recently.
- Sergeant Neal introduced herself to the PC and advised she and the team are happy to attend events in the parish where possible. Cllr House reported to her that several nitrous oxide gas canisters are regularly found in Frieth, particularly around the sub station at Moor End. TVP want to try and identify the offenders; she asked for any locations and times when canisters are found to be forwarded to her. A resident commented that there is a lot of fly tipping in Frieth too. The police can be contacted for non-emergencies via [marlow@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto:marlow@thamesvalley.police.uk). Emergencies should be reported on 999 or 101.

### **Minute 10275**

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

Cllr R Ashcroft.

### **Minute 10276**

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

None declared.

### **Minute 10277**

#### **To confirm and approve the minutes of ordinary Parish Council meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

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

### **Minute 10278**

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

- Minute 10208 – the contractor has confirmed that the posts will be replaced at the end of the week. The weather last week made the work difficult, and temporary traffic lights have been set up 12/01/26.
- Minute 10264 – letters have been drafted to be sent to Emma Reynolds, MP.
- Minute 10266 – Clerk has ordered the new noticeboards.
- Minute 10267 – the MVAS has been delivered and will be installed around the parish. Cllr House has taken it to be put in Frieth initially.
- Minute 10269 – Clerk will order Foamex signs and the posts for them to be displayed on.
- Action:Clerk**
- Minute 10270.1 – Clerk emailed the former Covenants Officer and the National Trust.
- Minute 10270.2 – Clerk has reported to Highways.
- Minute 10270.3 – Clerk reported once again the rusted sign to Rights of Way.
- AED machines have been checked and reported to The Circle. The Fingest AED is still offline, as is the Hambleden AED following the expiration of the pads at the end of December. Clerk has chased for the delivery of both sets of pads which are from different suppliers.
- 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 10279**

**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:

10/12/2025 – SLCC Branch Meeting

12/12/2025 – Cllr Hussey attended the launch of the Bucks and Milton Keynes Local Nature Recovery Strategy. He will forward links to the online version and the guidance notes.

**Minute 10280**

**To discuss the vacancy in the North Ward; to consider co-option of the vacancy**

An election has been called; this will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Any interested party can find details of how to submit their nomination on the [Buckinghamshire Council Elections page](#). Please [contact the Clerk](#) or [an existing Councillor](#) for further information, and details can be found on the parish Council website – [North Ward Elections](#).

**Minute 10281**

**To receive any updates from the Climate Change Working Party; to discuss any other matters relating**

Cllr Hopkins reported the next working party meeting will be held in February due to diary clashes. The letters to Emma Reynolds MP will be sent this week.

**Action:Clerk**

**Minute 10282**

**To discuss the parish Planning Statement and the production of an Executive Summary**

All in agreement with the proposed summary, Clerk to place on the website.

**Action:Clerk**

**Minute 10283**

**To consider a logo for the Parish Council for use on official documents**

It was proposed to find further alternatives from the suggestions provided. Cllr Hopkins will ask a parishioner if they able to assist.

**Action:Cllr Hopkins**

**Minute 10284**

**To discuss planned maintenance tree works on behalf of SSE at Pheasants Hill Common**

Clerk advised that a representative from SSE has confirmed that works will be carried out to ensure the safety of the lines, following repeated power cuts in Pheasants Hill. The road closure of Bottom Hill will be late February until the middle of March.

**Minute 10285**

**Finance:**

**a) To approve the accounts for January 2026:** Approved and noted.

Accounts to be paid in December 2025:

Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	1022.96
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	316.09
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	40.40
Mrs L Coldwell – WFH allowance and 2025 overtime	586.60
C J Balkwell – Pheasants Hill common hedge cutting	110.00
SSE – electricity charges July	149.43
SSE – electricity charges August	160.50
SSE – electricity charges September	170.18
SSE – electricity charges October	194.97
SSE – electricity charges November	204.90
SSE – electricity charges December	221.08
SLCC annual subs	200.00
Hambleden Valley magazine subs	30.00
Elan City – MVAS	2987.99
Frieth Village Hall – hire for all 2026 meetings	150.00
Buckland Landscapes – grass maintenance	1387.50
M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean and open/close	150.00
Lloyds Bank – account charges	4.25
Information Commissioner – data protection renewal fee	52.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>8138.85</b>
<b>Balance as 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025</b>	<b>81778.86</b>
Less December payments	(3830.58)
<b>Balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025</b>	<b>77948.28</b>
Of which CIL Funds	3653.95
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Other Earmarked reserves	3250.00
Hambleden Parking fund	696.39
<b>Unrestricted Reserves</b>	<b>50347.94</b>

#### Film Fund

Total of all funds at 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	17836.32
Lloyds – account charges	(4.25)
<b>Total of all funds at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025</b>	<b>17832.07</b>

**b) To nominate a Councillor to check and approve the bank reconciliation for December**

It was resolved to defer for Cllr Ashcroft to check at the February meeting.

**c) To set the draft budget for 2026/2027**

A draft budget had been circulated; minor amendments were made including the addition of £3700 for election costs. The budget was set at £59,000, which is a slight deficit budget and an increase representative of inflation.

**d) To set the precept demand to Buckinghamshire Council**

It was resolved to set the precept demand at £59,000 which amounts to £69.04 per band D household, an increase of £1.81 per band D household.

**Action: Clerk**

It was agreed that the invoices to be paid by the Clerk via BACS.

#### Minute 10286

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

- 1. **Cllr Webb** – reminded Cllrs about the meeting in Henley on 15/01/26 to support the Henley Fire Station. Clerk will advertise on the website and Facebook page.  
**Action: Clerk**
- 2. **Cllr Hopkins** – raised the potholes between the Yew Tree pub and the cottages on Frieth Hill, along with damaged kerbstones due to parking. Clerk has already forwarded to the Local Area Technician who has said she will attend to see what action can be taken.
- 3. **Cllr House** – following the works that took place to the willow tree at the crossroads in Frieth, will the piece that was cut off be removed? Cllr Armstrong said he has organised for someone to attend to quote to clear and remove the debris.

#### Minute 10287

##### Planning

##### 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:

[PL/25/4817/TP – Gite Adeline Skirmett Road Skirmett](#) – Reduce back up to 5 branches by 3 metres as directly touching the electric wires. and remove one branch from the opposite side of the tree to retain correct cosmetic balance x 1 Beech – **no objection**

[PL/25/6160/KA – The Barn Hambleden Village Hambleden](#) – T1. Robinia. Full canopy reduction by 2 metres, T2, T3. Walnut. Take laterals back to old cuts. 1 metre, T4. Chestnut. 20% thin, T5. Willow. Pollard (3-6m, back to original cuts) – **no objection**

[PL/25/5590/FA – Bradstone Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Changes to external materials including roof finishes, changes to fenestration, proposed new outbuilding, changes to landscaping and new vehicular entrance gate – **no objection**

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

[PL/25/3590/FA – The Flat Roofed House](#) – Replacement of existing vehicular and pedestrian access gates (retrospective) – **Conditional Permission**

[PL/25/4346/TP – The Yew Tree Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Tip reduce lowest section by approximately 1m and 1.5m on longest laterals and carry on up tree to form a spiral shape leaving a bigger top to form a bird, to ensure clearance from lorries and return back to shaped feature x 1 Yew (T1) – **Refuse permission**

[PL/25/5877/KA – Hambleden Sports Club Rectory Hill Hambleden](#) – Tip back by up to 1.5m and crown lift to 4m from ground level, leaving a spread of 7m to 4 x Horse Chestnuts (T1 to T4) to prevent vehicle damage to limbs – **TPO shall not be made**

[PL/25/5035/FA – Orchard Cottage Nixey Lane Frieth](#) – Single storey front extension – **Conditional Permission**

An appeal to the Planning Inspectorate has been made with regards to planning application [25/06137/FUL](#), APP/K0425/W/25/3375513 – Rockwell End House Farm Rockwell End Lane

**Minute 10288**

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

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

The meeting was closed at 21.07.

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