

MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 13th April 2026, Frieth Village Hall

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

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk
Cllr Mark Turner – Buckinghamshire Councillor
1 member of the public

Minute 10320

Public Question Time

The new Chair of Governors from Frieth School attended to introduce himself.

Minute 10321

To receive any apologies for absence

None received.

Minute 10322

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

Cllr Armstrong declared an interest in agenda item 14, the draft lengthsman schedule.
Cllr Hartley Rusell declared an interest in planning application PL/26/00090/FA, Skirmett Village Hall
Cllr Taylor declared an interest in the correspondence received from Frieth Village Hall about the car park.

Minute 10323

To confirm and approve the minutes of ordinary Parish Council meeting held 9th March 2026

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

Minute 10324

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

- Minute 10293 – Clerk ordered 2 additional posts which have been installed, and the invoice paid between meetings.
- Minute 10312 – Clerk has circulated a draft schedule, to be considered at this meeting.
- Minute 10313 – Clerk forwarded the letter to Buckinghamshire Council.
- Minute 10314 – Clerk has requested quotes for filling in the potholes only. Clerk wrote to the village hall, the Church, and the school regarding the car park.
- Minute 10317.2 – Clerk chased Buckinghamshire Highways for when the hedge will be cut back.
- Minute 10317.4 – Clerk advised TVP of new locations that NOS canisters have been found.
- AED machines have been checked and reported to The Circle. The Hambleden AED is offline, however pads have been replaced in the Fingest machine. Clerk has ordered 2 additional sets, which are on back order for the other machines which will need replacing before the end of the year.
- Road closures have been placed on the website and Facebook page.
- Clerk has begun the work for the AGAR and internal audit.
- 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](#).
- The light in the toilet in Hambleden is not working, despite another change of lightbulb. The village hall caretaker has obtained a quotation for £75 +VAT to supply and fit a replacement light. A new toilet roll holder has also been ordered, and the toilet roll deliveries have been cancelled until 2027 due to the amount of stock held.
- Cllr House – Frieth crossroads the willow tree has not been tidied up. Cllr Armstrong has a quote for it to be removed; he will circulate to all.
- The workmen for SSE at Pheasants Hill Common are agreeable to installing a gate, Cllr Armstrong will contact to see when this will be done.

Minute 10325

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:

20/03/26 – Cyber Resilience for Councils webinar

31/03/26 – 21st Century Clerk webinar

Minute 10326**To receive any updates from the Climate Change Working Party; to discuss any other matters relating**

Cllr Hopkins reported that at the most recent meeting the upcoming visit from our MP was discussed, which is all in hand and will be confirmed with their office. The leaflet about water is being drafted, Cllr Hopkins is with another member attending a screening about water in Henley.

Thanks were given to Frieth resident Judith Charlton, a member of the Working Party who has designed a new logo for the PC to use on documents.

Action:Cllr Hopkins/Climate Change Working Group

Minute 10327**To confirm payment to Frieth Village Society for the wildlife meadow; to receive any updates**

Cllr Lilley reported that he is waiting for quotes for hedgerows cutting and signage. Money has been saved this year by not cutting the field but using animals and grazing. All in agreement for payment to be made, Clerk to organise.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10328**To discuss the response from the Department of Transport regarding traffic in the parish**

Cllr Hopkins said that she was grateful that the Minister acknowledges that rural roads are the most dangerous type. Whilst the letter seems supportive, all the measures are the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council who have not been supportive of either a reduction in speed limits or traffic safety measures. The road safety report that was completed several years ago has never been shared with the PC. It was proposed to write to Buckinghamshire Council, asking again for assistance and detailing what measures have been put in place already such as the MVAS and Community Speedwatch. It was agreed by all to order another 100 wheelie bin "20 is Plenty" stickers.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10329**To consider a grant request from Frieth Cricket Club**

Item deferred until May meeting.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10330**To consider installing additional litter bins in Frieth; to consider installed a covered bin at the play area at Ellery Rise, Frieth**

All in agreement to purchase and install a covered bin for the play area. Film Fund money.

All in agreement for the Clerk to obtain quotations for the installation and waste collection of 2/3 additional bins in Little Frieth.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10331**To consider the resurfacing or pothole fixing in Frieth car park**

A lengthy discussion ensued, including correspondence from Frieth CEC School and Frieth Village Hall who are both unable to offer any financial contribution. Repairing the potholes will be a temporary fix and work will be needed again in 12 months time. It has been confirmed that the car park is a PC asset. It was agreed that Cllr Ashcroft will look at the accounts for what can be spent this year, and one further quotation will be obtained if possible along with chasing for the pothole only repair quote. The Chairman confirmed that a decision will be made at the next meeting.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10332**To confirm the purchase of a new MVAS machine following a successful grant funding bid to the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner**

All in agreement to purchase immediately in conjunction with FVS, as a better deal has been offered for purchasing 2 units.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10332**To consider the draft lengthman schedule**

Updates are needed to the grass cutting schedule in relation to the number of cuts made, and the areas included.

Action:Clerk/Cllr Armstrong

Minute 10333**Finance:**

a) **To approve the accounts for April 2026:** Approved and noted. It was agreed to ask for a reduction to the email hosting charges following the recent 8 day outage.

Accounts to be paid in April 2026:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order) | 1022.96 |
| BC Pension Fund (via standing order) | 316.09 |
| Mrs L Coldwell – expenses | 63.21 |
| Vision ICT – new email address | 8.00 |
| The Acorn Workshop – new noticeboards | 3144.00 |
| SSE – maintenance contract | 324.97 |
| Vision ICT – email hosting charges | 240.00 |
| Rural Services Partnership – annual subs | 66.16 |
| Buckland Landscapes – grass maintenance final | 1387.50 |
| Frieth Village Society – wildflower meadow | 1000.00 |
| SSE – lighting charges | 182.76 |
| M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean and open/close | 150.00 |
| Lloyds Bank – account charges | 4.25 |
| 20 is Plenty – wheelie bin stickers | 150.00 |
| Total | 8059.90 |
| Balance as 1st March 2026 | 34822.58 |
| Less March payments | (3599.21) |
| Balance as of 31st March 2026 | 31223.37 |
| Of which CIL Funds | 3653.95 |
| Church Wall reserve | 20000.00 |
| Other Earmarked reserves | 3500.00 |
| Hambleden Parking fund | 696.39 |
| Unrestricted Reserves | 3373.03 |

Film Fund

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Total of all funds at 1 st March 2026 | 19323.57 |
| Lloyds – account charges | (4.25) |
| Total of all funds at 31st March 2026 | 19319.32 |

Savings Account

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Total of all funds at 1 st March 2026 | 30016.03 |
| Interest | 11.51 |
| Total of all funds at 31st March 2026 | 30027.54 |

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

Cllr Ashcroft checked and confirmed the reconciliation.

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

Minute 10334**Members questions: including any items for the next agenda**

- 1. **Cllr Hussey** – at the end of March, Cllr Webb had reports of sewage from a manhole in a field in Hambleden, she organised for Thames Water to attend who did so within 2 hours. He expressed his thanks to her for organising a solution.
- 2. Regarding the email outage, he asked if Cllrs are happy with the service that is being received now it is fixed? Clerk to write asking for reassurances that this will not happen again.

Action: Clerk

- 3. **Cllr Armstrong** has the new noticeboards in his possession and will organise installation.
- 4. **Cllr Webb** – the pothole in the centre of Hambleden village was repaired.
- 5. **Cllr House** – a resident approached him regarding a fire in the woods at the campsite in Frieth. The resident reported it to Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue.
- 6. **Cllr Hopkins** – has been approached by residents about the damage to the verges at Innings Gate that occurred when trees were planted. The Clerk reported this to the LAT at the time as it is Buckinghamshire Highways land.

- 7. The SSSI in Frieth is not being maintained properly, a resident has reported to Natural England and has been assured that the status will not be removed.
- 8. **Cllr Ashcroft** – has a response been received from Planning Enforcement about the stables in Hambleden? Clerk does not believe so but will check. Any enforcement issues take a long time currently.

Minute 10335

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/26/02387/VRC – Training Centre Henley Management College Greenlands Henley Road Hambleden](#) – Variation of condition 7 (awnings) attached to planning permission 25/06250/LBC (Listed building application for repairs and alterations to Greenlands Building: repairs to west portico and addition of awnings to south elevation) to allow for a revised awning design along with heater and lighting positions – **no objection**

[PL/26/01676/FA – Greyholme Spurgrove Lane Frieth](#) – Erection of a single-storey side extension – **no objection**

[PL/26/02432/KA – Flat 5 Hambleden Mill Henley Road Hambleden](#) – H1 Leylandii Hedge – Remove – **no objection**

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

[25/06138/FUL – Main Barn And Grain Store Rockwell End House Farm Rockwell End Lane Rockwell End](#) – Change of use of an existing agricultural barn to a mixed use of agriculture and private use only equestrian (retrospective) – **Conditional Permission**

[PL/26/00148/FA – Hamblebrook House Rectory Hill Hambleden](#) – Replacement conservatory – **Conditional Permission**

An appeal to the Planning Inspectorate regarding planning application [25/06137/FUL](#), APP/K0425/W/25/3375513 – Rockwell End House Farm Rockwell End Lane was allowed by the Inspector.

An appeal has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate regarding planning application [PL/25/4483/AGN](#) – Land at Spurgrove Lane.

Minute 10336

To confirm the date for the next meeting as:

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 11th May, to include Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meetings – Skirmett Village Hall.

The meeting was closed at 21.41.

Signed Date