MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Monday 12th October 2026, Hambleden Village Hall

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

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk
Buckinghamshire Councillor Mark Turner.
0 members of the public

Minute 10397
Public Question Time
None in attendance.

Minute 10398
To receive any apologies for absence
Cllrs Ashcroft, Taylor, and Hopkins.

Minute 10399
Declaration of disclosable pecuniary and personal interests by Members relating to items on the agenda
None declared.

Minute 10400
To confirm and approve the minutes of the ordinary Parish Council meeting held 14th September 2026
The minutes of the meeting held in September were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Minute 10401
Clerk and any Councillors if appropriate to report on matters arising and any updates from previous minutes which are not on the agenda
- Minute 10385 – Clerk has liaised with the Frieth resident regarding a memorial tree on the common land.
- Minute 10389 – Clerk advised Hambleden Youth FC of their successful bid; they gave thanks to the PC for their help. Other applications were contacted and further information submitted.
- Minute 10390 – the Standing Orders were altered to reflect the changes.
- Minute 10392 – detailed quotations were forwarded to Cllrs Hussey, Taylor, and House.
- Minute 10394.1 – Cllr Armstrong attended and advised new posts were needed; he has installed them.
- The 2 new noticeboards for Fingest and Skirmett have been received and will be installed.
- Clerk has liaised with parishioners regarding footpaths in the parish.
- Clerk advised Skirmett Village Hall that the PC would want the AED machine moved to the other side of the door at the hall, not across the road.
- Cllr Webb has been liaising with the Filming Department at Buckinghamshire Council regarding filming that took place in Hambleden. A donation has been made to the Film Fund via Buckinghamshire Council.
- The bench in Fingest was destroyed by a vehicle that left the road, an insurance excess of £100 will apply to claim on the PC policy. The bench was purchased in 2022 for the Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Armstrong has removed the damaged pieces.
- 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 10402
To receive updates if any from meetings attended since the previous ordinary meeting by Clerk and Councillors
Clerk has attended:
17/09/2026 – Scribefest
22/09/2026 – SLCC Clerks Meeting
24/09/2026 – Preventing Harassment at Work webinar
24/09/2026 – Martyn's Law updates webinar
Cllr Hopkins attended the "20 is Plenty" nationwide webinar.

Minute 10403

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

A meeting took place on 08/10/26. The group plan to create an action plan relating to the Biodiversity Policy.

Minute 10404

To consider grant applications from:

a) **Frieth CEC School PTA for £1000**
b) **Frieth Cricket Club for £10,000**

All in agreement to donate the following amounts from the Film Fund:

a) A sum of £200 to support the school library, to be paid directly to the school.
b) At this time, the PC feel unable to support the application as it shows little benefit to the immediate community and given the priorities and other expenditure within the parish.

Clerk to advise each party.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10405

To consider adopting a Sexual Harassment Policy

A draft policy written by Cllr House and the Clerk had previously been circulated, Cllr Hussey proposed amending to a general harassment rather than specific. Following updates to employment law, various new policies will be tabled for adoption over the coming months and existing policies to be reviewed.

Action: Clerk

Minute 10406

To consider works being carried out in woodlands in Frieth following correspondence from the contractor

The contractor for Hatchett Wood in Frieth contacted the PC with their plans. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to reply to the contractor advising that as the works had taken place, it was too late to be consulted for the PC's opinion, and whilst all concerned parties seem to be content we would like to see increased engagement with the community going forward and to ask that more care is taken over boundaries being correctly observed.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10407

To consider organising a screening of the film "People's Emergency Briefing" in the parish, to include a panel for audience discussion afterwards

Cllr Hussey reported the film is a number of experts discussing the current climate situation. It was agreed to proceed, with Cllrs noting there will be costs involved in the screening, notably expenses for the panellists and agreed a maximum spend of £350 from the Climate Change budget. Cllr Hopkins will organise a date. Cllrs will assist with advertising the event.

Action:Cllr Hopkins

Minute 10408

To consider a new website and ".gov.uk" email provider

To be further discussed at the next meeting.

Action:Clerk

Minute 10409

Finance:

a) To approve the accounts for September 2026 – *Approved and noted*
b) To approve payments for October 2026 – *Approved*

Accounts to be paid in October 2026

Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	1056.98
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	315.42
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	41.24
ACL Armstrong – lengthsman work	1980.00
Hambleden Village Hall – hire	36.00
M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean and open/close (invoice expected)	120.00
Cllr D House – chains at Frieth crossroads	8.98
SSE – lighting charges	170.22

Lloyds Bank – account charges	4.25
Total	**3733.09**
Balance as 1st September 2026	**26583.85**
Less September payments	(6134.99)
Income – second half precept	29500.00
Income – SSE Wayleave	2.00
Total as of 30th September 2026	**49950.86**
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Other Earmarked reserves	3500.00
Hambleden Parking fund	696.39
Unrestricted Reserves at 30th September 2026	**25754.47**

Film Fund

Total of all funds at 1st September 2026	13108.07
Hambleden Youth FC	(2000.00)
Lloyds – account charges	(4.25)
Total of all unreserved funds at 30th September 2026	**11103.82**
Reserve – Chilterns National Landscape contribution	(1000.00)
Total of all funds at 30th September 2026	**10103.82**

Savings Account

Total of all funds at 1st September 2026	**19086.73**
Interest	7.84
Total of all funds at 30th September 2026	**19094.57**

c) It was agreed to defer the matter until the November meeting, where Cllr Ashcroft can review and confirm.
d) Cllrs were reminded that the budget and precept will be set at the January 2027 meeting, and to consider any items or projects they may wish to include.

Minute 10410
Members questions: including any items for the next agenda

- 1. **Cllr Webb** – has been asked about the village parking sign, Clerk will re-send options.
- The grass-cutting maintenance schedule needs to be reviewed to ensure it remains appropriate and meets the needs of the parish.
- 3. **Cllr Armstrong** – raised the corner at Rockwell End that persistently floods. This is on the list for works to be carried out by the Capital Drainage team, but no date is known. Clerk to chase. **Action:Clerk**
- 4. Clerk to contact the Clerk of Medmenham Parish Council regarding queues of vehicles waiting on the main road to enter Danesfield School, to discuss the issue and establish whether any action is being considered to alleviate the congestion. **Action:Clerk**

Minute 10411
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/26/07057/FA – The Barn in The Wood Shogmoor Lane Frieth – Householder application for external cladding, construction of single storey lean-to side and rear extensions and front porch **– objection, this is inappropriate development in this location within the Chilterns National Landscape**

PL/26/06989/HB – 69 Hambleden Village Hambleden – Replacement of single window to match existing elevations and create uniformity **– no objection**

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

PL/26/02677/FA – Land East Of Bacres Lodge Skirmett Road Hambleden – Farm gate (retrospective) **– Approved**

PL/26/06174/KA – Selborne Frieth Hill Frieth – Pine Black dot (Front of property) - Light tip reduction by approx 3ft to the 5 lowest laterals, three growing towards the road and two growing towards the neighbouring property leaving tree at a spread of approx. 16 metres to maintain clearance from building and road and Field Maple Red dot (Front of property) - Raise epicormic and lower hanging growth up to first main fork, leaving a clear stem to maintain clearance to the road **– TPO shall not be made**

PL/26/05366/HB – Mill End Farm Henley Road Hambleden – Listed building consent for repair and improvement of barns **– Consent Approved**

PL/26/06685/KA – The Yard Hambleden Village Hambleden – Fell 1 x Leylandii (T1) as damaging rear old wall **– TPO shall not be made**

PL/26/06600/KA – Grebe Cottage Henley Road Hambleden – Fell 1 x Ash (T1) due to major dieback and fungus throughout tree and fell 1 x Willow (T2) as snapped in river and also blocking inspection on tunnel bridge which has subsidence **– TPO shall not be made**

Minute 10412
To confirm the date for the next meeting as:
The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9th November – Frieth Village Hall.

Minute 10413
To confirm the dates for the meetings in 2027:
Monday 11th January – Hambleden Village Hall
Monday 8th February – Frieth Village Hall
Monday 8th March – Skirmett Village Hall
Monday 12th April – Hambleden Village Hall
Monday 10th May to include Annual meetings – Frieth Village Hall
Monday 14th June – Skirmett Village Hall
Monday 12th July – Hambleden Village Hall
Monday 13th September – Frieth Village Hall
Monday 11th October – Skirmett Village Hall
Monday 8th November – Hambleden Village Hall
Monday 13th December – Frieth Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 21.38.

Signed …… Date ……