



HAMSTEAD MARSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 20th March 2025, at 7.30pm at Hamstead Marshall Village Hall.

Those present at the meeting:

Councillor Anne Budd (Chairperson)

Councillor David Hadnutt

Councillor Steve Masters (Vice Chairperson)

Camilla West – Parish Clerk

2 members of the public attended.

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 The chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were apologies from District Councillors Denise Gains & Dennis Benneyworth

2.0 Parish Council Governance

2.1 No Declarations of members' interest were declared.

2.2 Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16th January 2025 were approved and signed.

Proposed by Councillor Masters and seconded by Councillor Hadnutt.

2.3 No Matters arising from the minutes were received.

2.4 **Parish Council Vacancy's** – Councillor Budd is optimistic that a new councillor will join in May. Councillor Budd will also ask the owner of Good Hope Farm.

2.5 Parish Clerk Annual Performance Appraisal and recommendation salary increase

The Chairman reported that she and the Parish Clerk had spoken over Skype and reported that Clerk has done a thorough job this year and is always on the end of the phone/or on email and is willing to help whenever needed. The Clerk is committed to the community and therefore the Chairman recommended a £1 increase in her hourly rate.

All agreed & was Seconded by Councillor Hadnutt.

3.0 Planning

3.1 24/02131/CERTE Elm View – Change of Use, agriculture to horticulture, approved

3.2 23/02596/FULMAJ Longcose Farm

Councillor Budd has sent in HMPC's Objection to the above planning as agreed with the other Parish Councillors. The objection is to the number of plots that they have applied to have on the site and is not against travellers having their way of life. Councillor Budd spoke with Parishioner John Handy before submitting and they both agreed that it would lead to more urbanisation

of the area if it was approved. Councillor Budd reported that she had sent a copy of the objection to Enborne PC and no thank you has been given.

Councillor Masters area what the allocation of units on traveller's sites is in general? Tony Vickers explained that the allocation of the number of units on sites is covered under the law but in different policy documents and it was unlikely that the planning inspector will make any changes to the local plan to reflect a reduction in units. Tony Vickers will go to the planning meeting and suggested it is likely to go to judicial review.

3.3 25/00429/HOUSE 3, Elm Cottages, application for a single storey side extension.
Councillor Hadnutt reported that it is a small single dwelling extension using sympathetic materials. Nothing negative about the planning.
All agreed – no objections.

4.0 Reports

4.1 District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Tony Vickers reported that there was 1 month left to respond to the publication of the public draft of North Wessex Downs 5year Plan. There will be lots of changes.

West Berkshire Council Executive meeting agreed to back the proposal to create a new larger Unitary Authority with Vale of White Horse & South Oxfordshire Council; it will now be called Ridgeway Council.

The Local Plan will be ready for adoption in June. It was reported there were no vacancies in the Police and the Police Neighbourhood will now include Wokingham. There has been a 17% increase in Rural crim and a decrease in rural crime being solved. It was reported that the Police are using drones and to have more tracking devices on smaller equipment.

One big change is that Local Council's will be able to set their own planning fees. Landowners won't be able to change the Hope Value of Land. It's being discussed about removing planning committees for planning of over 100 houses, nothing has been agreed yet. Councillor Budd raised concerns if the above is approved as parishioners would lose their 'democratic voice' if removed.

Councillor Budd reported that she has written to District Councillor offering her support and she will continue to review all the documentation.

4.2 Parish Councillor Report

Councillor Budd reported that she has received feedback from local Parishioners with regards WBC's amalgamations with Oxfordshire Councils. They are worried that the structure will work and that any democratic voice will be lost due to the amount of people the new structure will be covering.

District Councillor Tony Vickers said that there are lots of discussions going on at the moment with authorities in Berkshire and Oxfordshire. Councillor Budd

said that she will help the elderly parishioners to have their voices heard with any matters of concern.

4.3 Community Emergency Planning Group

The Chairman reported that a team of 5 parishioners has been formed and are working with Dave Glover from TVP to form the Emergency Plan. The template is being worked through and when complete it will be sent to WBC. TVP have made no additional comments to the documents.

5.0 Potholes

5.1 Councillor Budd reported that potholes are reappearing along Holtwood Road due to utility companies not repairing the road properly when they have completed works.

Councillor Masters asked who is responsible for ditch clearing around Good Hope Farm as part of the field on the east side of the road was now a pond. Councillor Masters will speak to WBC.

6.0 Speedwatch in Hamstead Marshall

6.1 Not many sessions due to the weather, but more will be planned for the spring. It was agreed that signs should be put up at the entrance to the village.

Parishioner Chris Moss reported that a car hit a hedge at a residential property in a 'tight' part of Hamstead Marshall. The owners are concerned about the speed of the vehicles going through the village. It was reported that there wasn't a lot the PC could do but we would go and see them to listen to their concerns.

7.0 Finance

7.1 Status of HMPC Lloyds Bank Treasurer (Community) Account of March 10, 2025, £13,365.03

7.2 Status of HMPC Lloyds Business Instant Account of March 10, 2025 £3,863.27

8.0 Invoice and Payments

Payment's report. The following payments were approved.

20/01/2025	Hamstead Marshall Village Hall.	Ref: village meeting, January 16, 2025. Additional heating requirement.	£10.00
27/01/2025	Mrs Camilla West	Clerk's salary	£357.00
30/01/2025	Red Tax Ltd	Payroll Service	£12.00
24/02/2025	Hamstead Marshall Village Hall	Meeting of the Community Emergency Planning Group February 23, 2025	£10.00
27/02/2025	Mrs Camilla West	Clerk's Salary	£357.00
28/02/2025	Red Tax Ltd	Payroll Services	£10.00
28/02/2025	Lloyds Bank	Community Account Service Charge	£4.25

Proposed by the Councillor Hadnutt, and seconded by Councillor Masters

10.0 Close of meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.40pm

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 7:45 pm, following the Annual Assembly meeting at 7:15pm, 2025 in the Hamstead Marshall Village Hall

Date:

Signed:

Print name: