

Hethe Parish Council

Minutes From Hethe Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 7.30pm In Hethe Village Hall

Councillors Present S Wallace (Chair) Mrs J Elkington, Mrs S Hartwell, D Overton,
M Tweedale, Mrs J Ramsey.

In Attendance: D Jakeman (Clerk)

1. **Apologies** Cllr Boon.
2. **Declaration of Interest**
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting 15th October 2024.** Members agreed the minutes and the Chairman signed the minutes.
4. **Matters Arising Water at the allotments.** The Clerk has received a reply from Carter Jones and members felt that this could be investigated further by Carter Jones and the clerk was asked to write a follow up email. **DJ**
5. **Open Forum**
6. **District Councillor**
7. **Warehousing Near Baynards Green** Cllr Overton informed the Council that this may come about in the distant future, it is unlikely to happen soon due to issues with power and sewage. The grid does not have enough power to run a large site like this. **DO**
8. **PUY du Fou** Cllr Overton & Cllr. Mrs Elkington attended a private meeting with the developers. It is going to be built on prime agricultural land if planning is passed. The development will need power and sewerage, and roads put in. The thinking behind the developers is people will go to Bicester Village then come to the park. There are several issues to overcome with this development before it reaches planning. **DO JE**
9. **Recreation Ground and General Maintenance** The hedge to the side of the field by the path needs cutting back and some general work on the trees, pruning etc. Bollards to also be replaced. A Compliant has also been received about dog mess by the trees at the top of the field on the right. **DJ**
10. **Play Park & Kick Wall** We have applied for a grant to help with paying for a kick wall. We are still looking at designs for a kick wall and talking to the children of the village. The play park equipment will be serviced during the winter months. **DJ JR SW**

- 11. Parish Precept 2025/2026 & Review of The Clerk's Salary.** Members went through the budget for the coming year, we are hoping to be able to obtain some grants for some of our project work. Most of our costs have gone up and are predicted to go up during 2025/2026. Members decided to set the precept for the coming year at £10,250 and the clerk salary would be increased by 5%.
- 12. Clerk's Report** VE Day is on the 8th of May 2025, & 7th & 8th June is The Big Lunch. 2025 is also the 200th anniversary of the Modern Railway. B4100 road closure is in March. Gigaclear have also sent a letter to residents. Financial payments were agreed for ICO, £35.00, Clerk £739.60, Navitas Design £88.19.
- 13. Community Speed Watch** Cllr Tweedale is going to put a letter on the website to ascertain the interest of volunteers to take this forward. An update will be provided at the next meeting. **MT**
- 14. Locked Land – To Consider acquiring this land** We have applied for a grant so we can take this project forward. The Clerk will look at obtaining some costing for land clearance. Cllr Wallace to draw up a plan for the allotment beds etc so that we have more detail which will enable us to obtain costings for the work. **SW DJ**
- 15. EV Charge Points** We now have a few companies that are providing this. You need to agree to them using the land for a period, and they install the equipment and the parish, and operating company will receive a small payment every time they are used. We are waiting for a proposal to come from the operating company which also includes other parishes to make the project viable. Cllr Wallace will update as information becomes available. **SW**
- 16. Smoke Free Community Fund – Play Park** A small grant is available for putting up signs for no smoking at the play park. Members discussed this and decided that most parents are responsible, and not smoking at the play park. It was therefore decided that signs were unnecessary.
- 17. VE Day, The Big Lunch 2025 & Anniversary of the Modern Railway, 200 Years** Members discussed these national events, and it was decided that we may put on an event to celebrate VE Day. Cllr. Mrs Ramsey to discuss with Village Hall Committee. Volunteers of help for these type of events would be most welcome. The Parish Council decided to give a grant of £50 towards equipment needed etc should we have an event. **JR**
- 18. Systems Of Internal Control** Cllr Tweedale agreed to take on this role.
- 19. Agenda Items for May Meeting** To be with the clerk by 8th May 2025.
- 20. Date of Next Meeting** March 18th AGM Of The Parish.