

Hethe Parish Council

The Annual Meeting of Hethe Parish Council

Tuesday 12th May 2026 held at 7.30pm In Hethe Village Hall

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

In Attendance: D Jakeman (Clerk)

- 1. Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman.** Cllr. Mrs Elkington proposed that Cllr Wallace continue as Chairman seconded by Cllr Mrs Ramsey. Cllr. Mrs Elkington proposed that Cllr. Mrs Ramsey continues as Vice Chair. Seconded by Councillor Mrs Hartwell.
- 2. Vacancy For a Parish Councillor** The Parish Council has a vacancy for a Councillor. If anyone is interested in this role, please contact the Parish Clerk or Cllr. Wallace Chairman.
- 3. Election Of Sub Committee Village Hall and Planning Committee.** It was agreed that Councillor Mrs Ramsey would continue to be the PC representative on the Village Hall committee. The Planning Committee was agreed as Cllr. Tweedle, Wallace, Overton with Cllr Mrs Elkington as Chairman.
- 4. Apologies** Cllr Overton (Holiday)
- 5. Declaration of Interest**
- 6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (20th January 2026) & AGM of the Parish.** Members agreed the minutes of both meetings, and the Chairman signed the minutes.
- 7. Matters Arising**
- 8. District & County Councillor**
- 9. Open Forum – For Residents to raise issues.** John Schutz from the Village Hall committee came to ask the PC if they could mention to their contacts that the hall had very competitive rates for hire. He explained that the hall had lost the line dancers to another venue and the committee are trying to find other groups to hire the hall so as not to run at a loss. He explained that business rates, broadband, oil & water had all increased in price mostly above inflation. The hall has recently installed a new boiler which they can control remotely which will help a great deal during the winter months. Members agreed to promote the hall with friends and family etc.
- 10. Annual Governance Statement** The Chairman read out the questions on the governance statement and the full Council agreed the statements.

- 11. Certificate of Exemption** The Parish Council had total receipts of £20,586 and total expenditure of £12,077 members agreed that they would like to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review as the income and expenditure was not over £25K. The receipts figure is high because the PC received a grant for the kick wall which is due to be installed in June 2026.
- 12. Approve Accounting Statements, Accounts 25/26** The Clerk went through the accounting statements which balanced to the cash book and the bank. Members agreed the accounts and the information would be displayed on the Council website for residents to view.
- 13. Recreation Ground, General Maintenance and Play Park** The kick wall is due to be installed on the 16th of June. We are still waiting for a quote to come back to fix the zip wire and upgrade the seesaw. It was agreed that a different approach would be taken with the street furniture. Most of it is wooden which costs a lot of money to maintain, most of the street furniture would no longer be varnished and the PC will look to replace it with plastic seating which does not require ongoing maintenance. The Clerk to obtain a quote to varnish the seat in front of the Church and the notice board.
- 14. Clerks Report** Cherwell are holding the Parish Liaison meeting on the 10th June 2026 at the Castle Quarry offices in Banbury. Cherwell business awards close on the 29th May. Financial payments OALC £228, Dog Waste £151.01, OPFA £50, HMRC £137.80 Countrywide £432, Insurance £769.29, Clerk £513.02 and we have received the first half of the Precept £5,500
- 15. Puy du Fou** Members had noticed that some remarks had been made on the Tourist website, nothing further to report.
- 16. Warehousing Near Baynards Green** Planning permission has been refused by CDC. Nothing further to report.
- 17. Locked Land** No further updates
- 18. Agenda Items for July Meeting** To be with the Clerk by the end of June.
- 19. Date of Next Meeting** 14th July @ 7.30pm in Hethe Village Hall.