

## REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 starting at 6:00pm and finishing at 7:30pm (circulated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025)

**PRESENT** Bill Ronald (Chair)  
Polly Hogan (PH; Vice-Chair)  
Emma Abbott (EA)  
Paul Binney (PB)  
Franky Cookson (FC)  
Nigel Williams (NW)  
The Clerk (PS; TC)

In attendance: Katrin Harding (KH; WBC), John Merkel (JM), Richard Murdock (RM), Bob Nancarrow (BN), Frances Plowman, Jacky Ronald, Felicity Rutland, Marilyn Sermon, Pat Sly (PSI), Wayne Smith (WS; Thames constituency), Adam Toop (AT) and later Ron (RE) and Angie Emerson, Sue Laing (SL) and John Laing (JL)

### **045/25: APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **046/25: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **047/25: MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

It was AGREED that BR be authorised to sign the minutes for the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (with APM), 10<sup>th</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

### **048/25: MATTERS ARISING & ACTION LIST**

All actions taken in April 2025 were noted, as was the RPC-RFA-Copas meeting to take place the following day at 4pm. TC suggested that it might be useful to move forward on Lockdown Lodge at the meeting. AT said that the effect on the Hambleden lock-keeper was also relevant. It was noted that on advice from WBC Electoral the Cllr vacancy caused by the moving away and resignation of Peter Grace was not notified on the website and noticeboard.

### **049/25: CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS**

PB proposed BR as Chair and this was seconded by FC. He agreed to accept the role of RPC Chair. NW proposed PH as Vice-Chair and this was seconded by FC. She also agreed to accept this role.

### **050/25: CIL**

Account activity was noted and approved. It was noted that two larger dog waste bins had been purchased. There was AGREEMENT that one should be placed near Leander and there was discussion about where the other one should go. KH said near Hambleden Lock would require easy access. There was discussion about Ferry Lane logs. TC said he would ask Charlie (the only contractor available locally) to do this by the end of the month. £1500 had been set-aside for this purpose. TC to organise installation of signs, larger dog-waste bins in May 2025 along with Ferry Lane log moving.

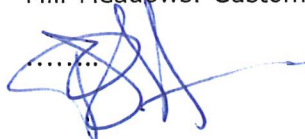
### **051/25: FINANCE**

Account activity was noted and approved.

### **052/25: Historic Boat Museum**

The Chairman welcomed AT to the meeting (along with JM. He invited AT to introduce himself and his new venture. AT distributed some photographs and spoke about his interests and how he hoped the collection would help residents and visitors understand local historic boats and their role. He described how the ex-Hobb's site was developing. A new mezzanine floor now looked out over the Thames to Mill Meadows. Customers could there enjoy culinary and entertainment

Chair



9<sup>th</sup> June 2025

opportunities. BR thanked him for a fascinating presentation, wished him well and looked forward to hearing more good things in due course.

**053/25: PLANNING**

The meeting considered 25097 (Listed Building Consent Notification for 5 Remenham Terrace, White Hill). TC AGREED to circulate any details.

TC asked JM if he had any comments about RFS/2023/088840 Warren House, Wargrave Road where enforcement was awaiting compliance.

TC said that the owner of 5 Horseshoes Field reported that an ancient horse chestnut had died. WS reminded the meeting that a WBC map showed all protected trees in Remenham. BR suggested that following last month's decision, residents should be invited to look at the map and suggest any unprotected trees in the parish that would be worthy of new TPOs. FC and EA wondered how much protection TPOs actually provided. BN wondered whether damage of protected trees might be a criminal offence.

**054/25: WEBSITE**

The meeting noted April 2025 website activity.

**055/25: LICENSING**

The meeting noted the letter in the Henley Standard from RE and the outcome of the Remenham Club licence application.

**056/25: TRAFFIC, HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

TC said he had reported an advert on Highways land in Remenham Church Lane near the entrance/exit of a footpath to Wilminster/Henley – saying that it was a safety issue for walkers, cyclists and vehicles. PSI said this was very dangerous.

**057/25: ANY OTHER MATTERS:** BN described a number of highways issues where he thought outcomes were required. TC said RPC had been pestering WBC Highways with these for 18 months. WS said that WBC Highways had issues. BN said that a 20 mph zone on Remenham Hill would be useful. He also mentioned the matter of flooding and oak parking posts in Culham Lane. Subsequently TC agreed to benchmark times of response/action by WBC Highways (APPENDIX 1).

**058/25: DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next RPC meeting would be at 6pm on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 in the Parish Hall

**059/25: APM Notes:** Notes on the APM starting at 8pm on the same day are found in APPENDIX 2.

**ACTIONS:**

BR/PH to have meeting with Copas

TC to

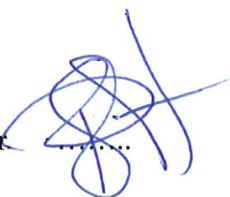
organise installation of signs, larger dog-waste bins in May 2025 along with Ferry Lane log moving

circulate details on 25097 (Listed Building Consent Notification for 5 Remenham Terrace, White Hill)

circulate the WBC tree-protection map for Remenham and invite residents to suggest any unprotected trees in the parish that would be worthy of new TPOs

benchmark WBC response/action times on highways issues using the case of Culham Lane with its flooding and no-parking posts

Chair



9<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## APPENDIX 1. Benchmarking WBC Highways Response

TC subsequently looked at planning records for near the original entrance to Aspect Park Golf facility. In 2012 planning application 122384 went in to WBC/Wargave for a new entrance from Culham Lane with walls/gates (that was not in the end built). It focused on the impact of an enlarged entrance on this road at the Wargrave-Remenham boundary. It allowed oak posts on the verge. It required no work on highways drainage (only for foul water from the security lodges). This TC thought became the entrance to Stowdes and Hamilton. He asked Wargrave PC, WBC Planning and WBC Highways whether there had been a condition in an application for Park Place that had required work on improving road drainage in Culham Lane. He asked what their records showed. He planned to ask WBC Highways to take action and thought this might be a marker to reveal times for outcomes to be reached.

## APPENDIX 2 Notes on APM meeting starting at 8:00pm; finishing at 8:45pm

**Apologies for absence:** Paul Binney

**Signed notes for the 2024 APM:** These had already been approved at the earlier RPC meeting

**Remembering Sarah West:** BR reminded the meeting of Sarah's many contributions to the Parish and gave examples of how she had been a very hands-on Chair of RPC, personally challenging Copas and ringing the Remenham Hill night-club owner directly to ask about more thoughtful customer parking. He asked the meeting to a drink a toast in her memory.

**Chairmans Report:** BR thanked Cllrs for giving their time freely to work for the good of the community. It was thought the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) by WBC would be in early June. He asked residents to be realistic about what could be achieved. He outlined the finances of RPC and that the intention was to lower reserves, the ratio of resrves:expenditure and keep precept increases modest. In 2024-2025

Starting March reserve	97796
Precept	29721 (2%)
CIL-VAT-interest income	28905
Non-infrastructure expenditure	39581
CIL expenditure	0
End March reserve	116840

**Comments from the Floor:** JL said there had been discussions with TC on the edge of highways where there was a significant drop. BR said that there had been delays at Highways on getting the chicane barrier repaired near Remenham Court and had been surprised to learn that WBC Highways had been waiting for dry weather. JL asked whether residents might act. TC said that occasionally WBC did act quickly as with the water leak at the rear of the Little Angel. RM asked whether there was sign of activity at the Foxhaven site. WS said he thought this was an issue of people buying land/property and then biding their time before starting any building. RE thanked BR and RPC Cllrs for significant progress in the last year – far more he thought than in previous years.

Chair



9<sup>th</sup> June 2025