

## IVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Annual Meeting of the Local Government Electors for the Parish of Iver** held at Iver Village Hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 8 p.m.

Present: Mr J Wilson – Chairman of the Parish Council chaired the meeting.

Approximately 70 members of the public including Parish, District and County Councillors  
Mrs S Moffat ( Clerk to the Council)

The Chairman opened the meeting by reading the Statutory Notice.

**Apologies for absence:** Insp Cook, Dominic Grieves MP, Mr Lamb, Cllr Bullock, Cllr Puddifoot, Mr and Mrs Griffiths, Mr Smith, Mr Dunleavy, Mr Dashper, Mr Ambler, Mr Peters, Mr Furness and Mr Marchant.

1. **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 be confirmed and signed after amending two names that were misspelt.
2. Matters Arising from the Minutes: There were none.
3. Chairman's Report: The Chairman commented on and detailed the interesting work of the Council during the past year (a copy of which is appended to these Minutes). A summary financial report was circulated (appended to these Minutes).
4. General Discussion and Question time: The Chairman said there would be a Civic Award Ceremony after this meeting in recognition of the volunteers in the Parish who have given freely of their time to help the community.

General Questions were as follows:

Mr Kennedy asked why, in these austere times, the precept has increased next year by 2.5%? Mr Wilson replied that the Council did not want to exceed the 2.5% but it was necessary to make a slight increase largely due to the new pavilion that is being built in Iver Recreation Ground.

Another member of the public raised the problems of parking at Thornbridge Road. Mr Wilson replied that the Parish Council will ask the police to monitor this particularly during the rush hour and will enquire about the outcome of the consultation carried out by Bucks CC on this matter.

Mr Sands raised the problem of lack of internal lighting of the traffic 'islands' in the middle of the road at Wood Lane and Church Road. Mr Wilson will report these faults to Bucks CC.

Mr Gourd raised concern about the possible closure of Iver Heath library which is the last remaining library in Iver Parish. Mr Wilson responded that there have been meetings about this to try and arrange for volunteers to run the library so it should not close.

Mr Beeston asked for new bus shelters in Church Road. Mr Wilson replied that there was no money in the budget for these.

Mr James raised concern about the amount of traffic congestion in Iver High Street. Mr Wilson said the lorries are getting bigger and more frequent and he cannot see any improvements in the future unless a relief road is built but this has not been included in the current Planning Core Strategy.

Mrs Kennedy reported that she had found 15 Audi cars parked in Swan Road which she was fairly certain came from the Audi garage. A public car park should not be used for running a business. At the proposition of Mrs Watkins, seconded by Mr Kennedy, it was agreed to send a letter raising this objection to the manager of the Audi garage.

Mr Kennedy commented that with regards to installing new bus shelters, he would suggest making representation for monies due to Iver under Section 106 improvements in order to purchase new shelters.

Mr Kennedy asked if the Parish Council have plans to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee and the 2012 Olympics next year? Mr Wilson responded there were no plans as yet for the Queens Diamond Jubilee. With regards to the Olympics, Mr Lidgate responded that the Parish Council is hoping to organise an event with Wexham Parish Council to include a 'Fun Run' along the route used for the Olympic torch in the 1908 Olympics. Anyone wishing to help organise this event will be most welcome.

Mr Black pointed out that in the Chairman's report there was no mention of older people. Mr Wilson replied that the Parish Council has been talking with Age Concern to discuss how we may provide help for older people but there is no particular strategy. However the Parish Council is keen to work with other organisations concerned with older people.

Mr Graham reported that the HS2 will not go through Iver but the link line to Heathrow may affect Iver which will present possible concern in the future.

The Chairman thanked those persons present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.45 p.m.

This was followed by a Civic Award ceremony in recognition of valuable voluntary work undertaken in the Parish. The following recipients received this certificate:-

EDDIE WOOD	(Speed cameras in Richings Park)
PAUL GRAHAM	(work undertaken for the I& DCA – Iver & District Countryside Association)
GWEN WILLIAMS	(Treasurer of Heathway & Iver Heath Ladies Groups)
MARGARET SMITH	(Iver WI & for her community work)
SUE WILSON	(Treasurer of Iver Heath Village Hall)
KEITH MOUNTENAY	(Chairman of Delaford Colts FC)
KATH HORLER	(Chairman of Heathway Ladies Group)
SHEILA TREGUNNA	(Secretary of Iver Heath Village Hall)
ANNETTE GILMAN	(Choir Director of St. Margaret's Church)
CHARLIE MUNGAI	(excellent work he carries out in the Parish keeping the streets clean)
MARGARET BOWERS	(Richings Choral Society & Choir)

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011

**Iver Parish** which comprises the areas of Iver, Richings Park, Iver Heath and Iver West has a population of about 10,000 people which is about one sixth of the population of the district of South Bucks.

**The Council comprises:** The council is comprised of 14 councillors, 6 from Iver Heath, 1 from Iver West, 7 from Iver and Richings Park. The council has a full time clerk and two part time assistant clerks, a maintenance team of two full time maintenance employees, one part time employee undertaking highways work funded by the County Council and one full time youth worker. Our clerk is also the clerk to Dorney Parish Council for which we charge them a fee. We have 4 Committees covering Policy, Amenities, and Highways and Partnerships which meet 5 times a year and Planning which meets every three weeks. We also have 1 sub committee and 5 working groups.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010-11

The Council has taken a lease from the District Council to look after a piece of land in Swan Road, Iver, with a view to it being used either for leisure activities and/or later as a new burial ground. The Council aims to improve the appearance of the areas owned by the parish council such as Swan Road, Iver Heath Fields, Cottage in the Woods. The Council is still committed to reducing antisocial behaviour and vandalism. To do all this, the Council pays half the cost of an extra Police Community Support Officer, a full time youth worker and a maintenance team .

### WHAT DO WE DO?

#### Policy

The Council is in the process of producing a new Parish Guide this year which will be a source of information for residents until 2013. We have expressed an interest in purchasing Thorney Park if Bucks CC decides to sell this land in the future. Recently the Council has joined the Local Area Forum and has been successful in receiving grants from delegated budget for special projects. The Policy Committee set the budget for 2011-12 at £373,076 which was approved by Council. It has renewed the Service Level Agreement to undertake work at St Peter's Churchyard and renewed the Memorandum of Understanding with Thames Valley Police Authority to continue supporting a PCSO. Also the Council has agreed to support Stop Project Pinewood and Mr Wilson will give evidence at the Inquiry in opposition to such a large development.

#### Amenities

The BMX track in Iver Rec is now opened and has been well-used by the youth in Iver. Harding's Row Nature Reserve is well worth a visit and there will be a 'Volunteer' day in the near future. It has recently received a £4000 lottery grant for a water and wildlife project. Soon we should know if we have been successful in achieving a grant for the new pavilion at Iver Rec. It is looking hopeful and if we do get the go ahead it will at last mean that this 8 year project will eventually reach completion. The allotments at Iver Rec and Iver Heath are now well used. The Christmas lights were turned on at the ceremony at the end of November and these, together with the hanging baskets in the summer, brighten up our village.

#### Road Safety & Partnerships

Although there has been the improvement to the parking around the shops in Thornbridge Road, parking restrictions are still needed. The Devolved Highways work is going well and Trevor Sargeant, the Highway's Worker, works 2 days a week carrying out much needed improvement works such as cleaning signs, removing flytipping and cutting back overgrown vegetation. The Parish Council has worked hard to improve the bus service and we now have the No.58 bus running on Sundays. Street light are still getting knocked down and replacement costs are £800 each time.

#### Planning

The HS2 will not go through Iver but will take in parts of Denham. The Core Strategy has been passed by the Planning Inspector and the Council did respond to the consultation but still no likelihood of a relief road in Richings Park.

Crossrail plans were approved last year and as a result the Dog Kennel bridge has now been removed. Heathrow Rail Hub is not expected to come to fruition.

.

**Website**

The Parish Council website provides much information about the parish and the activities of the council. It also has the facility for organisations to advertise their events on the social calendar.

[www.iverparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.iverparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The Chairman expressed his thanks to – the Clerk and Assistant clerks, Maintenance and Highways teams, Youth Worker, Vice Chairman, Chairmen of Committees, Councillors, Partners of Councillors who let them out to attend meetings. He also thanked those District Councillors who have attended to give us information and County Councillors who get our voice heard at County Hall. The chairman went on to thank helpers at the office, working group members, Police and PCSOs and Iver Educational Trust.