

**IVER PARISH COUNCIL  
HIGHWAYS & PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE**

A Meeting of the Highways & Partnerships Committee was held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2009 commencing at 8.00 pm at the Committee Room, Parish Council office, 63 Chequers Orchard

**MINUTES**

**Present:-** Mrs Vigor-Hedderly (chaired the meeting), Mrs Lidgate, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Leech, Mrs Watkins, Mr Wilson, Mrs Gibson

**Absent:** Mr Adlam

**In Attendance:** - Mrs G Collins (Clerk to the Council).

Also 25 members of the public with regard to item 21 – the removal of the the 459 bus route. Members of the public were given 15 minutes in total to air their concerns and the following issues were noted:

- Mrs M Smith (Iver Lane residents and the WI). Iver Lane will have no access to bus services at all without a mile walk approx. This will mean many people will be housebound.
- There are 4 buses a day Monday to Friday at present on the 459 route. The proposed 140 service will only have 2 buses a day to get to Slough or Wexham Park Hospital (but if you get the second bus to Wexham Park Hospital you have only one hour there before returning on the last bus back to Iver). One hour is barely long enough to walk to the ward you want and back again as the hospital is very spread out. Effectively only one bus to the hospital. The same applies to shopping in Slough except that you only get 45 minutes in Slough if you catch the second bus of the day. Effectively only one bus.
- All of the residents said that they do not want to shop in Slough anyway. It is too big and the shops are too spread out to make it viable for those of limited mobility or who are elderly and frail or with other disabilities. Langley has some facilities but not shoes and clothes and hearing centre and other specialist shops that are available so close to the bus stop in Uxbridge. Also Uxbridge has more seating for those who need it.
- Mrs Hedger (Croft House sheltered housing) – residents at Croft House use the bus to Uxbridge as they can't walk around Slough. Shops are too spread out – bank, post office, food/clothes. No seating in the Observatory and very little in Queensmere. She has contacted Dominic Grieve MP and the Bucks Free Press will be attending a public meeting at Croft House as soon as she gets a date for this from Andy Clarke at BCC who has agreed to attend.
- Mrs Sibley of Iver Lane – many people will be housebound as the 459 passes their doors but the 58 and the 140 and London Transport is about a mile walk.
- Brian Little from Iver Village said that the proposed new timetable is incomprehensible and it excludes being able to get back to Iver after about 2 pm. There are no buses to Uxbridge which offers more facilities and better shops than Slough.
- Eddie Wood of Richings Park said that the 459 is not much of a bus service as it is but it is infinitely better than the proposed 140. There is no other way to Uxbridge other than by the 459. Uxbridge is the nearest centre for facilities and the quickest to get to unless you have to get the 140 to Iver and then change buses to the 58 in the future or get the train to West Drayton and then a bus into Uxbridge. Trains are not free for pensioners whereas buses are.
- Judy Teader – The proposed 140 bus is a poor bus service. All bus services in South Bucks are poor compared with London Transport which is only 2 miles down the road.
- Rose from the Post Office in Richings Park said that pensioners come on the bus to get their pension and shop in Richings Park and then get the bus back to Iver. Richings Park is not walking distance from the village and also the other post office in Iver Village is too far for some people to walk as well.
- Graham Young from Richings Park said that the need for transport to Wexham Hospital is recognized but this proposed timing is not convenient for when people want to travel. Connection to Uxbridge underground travel makes much more sense. The station in Langley and Slough is on the same line as Iver so no benefit in getting residents to places that they could not reach from their local station.
- Tony Keywood from Richings Park asked what analysis has been done for usage of the bus to Uxbridge or to look at the population of the area in terms of age and mobility?
- Alan Carey editor of the Parish magazine and from Iver Lane said that the reason given for this is to save money but more money is being spent on bus routes in High Wycombe, Aylesbury, Amersham/Chesham

as we constantly see from the news releases and so why do they cut a route from an area that has so little public transport access anyway?

- Maureen James of Iver Lane and representing the Mother's Union with 40 members who are all pensioners who use the 459 to Uxbridge regularly. She said it gives them the freedom and ability to go out which is being taken away from them.
- It was pointed out by all present that over 60s may get free bus passes but they still pay Council Tax. The whole point of the government giving free bus passes was to enable them to get out without using cars but this defeats the object if every time they become the main users of a bus that it is removed from service.
- One resident said that she was told by Andy Clarke at the County Council that pensioners are subsidized enough and they should use the dial a ride facility or club together for a taxi. It was pointed out that dial a ride although it sounds wonderful is not really for everyone over 60 as you have to book it way ahead and it takes away spontaneity and also if too many pensioners use it then it will not be available for those who are very disabled and really have to use it. Also we are informed by residents that many taxis do not take wheeled shopping baskets. Also the wheeled shopping baskets would limit the number of residents who could club together to take one taxi.
- Mrs Gibson (parish councillor) pointed out that the 140 and 58 connecting times at Iver make for waiting of more than 15 minutes if residents wish to change buses to enable them to get from Richings Park to Uxbridge.

17 **Resolved to receive apologies for absence** from Mr Oxley

18 **Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda** – there were none

19 **Resolved to sign the Minutes of the Highways and Partnership meeting** held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009 (previously circulated).

20 **Goods Vehicle Operator Licences. The following were noted with some concern at the number of applications amounting to over 50 new vehicles possibly on the local roads.**

(a) – a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009 from Morgans Airport Services Ltd requesting a licence for one goods vehicle to use Unit 5C The Ridgeway, Iver, Bucks, SL0 9HX. Letter sent to residents in Thorney Lane North.

(b) – a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009 from FET Logistics Ltd requesting a licence for four vehicles and two trailers to use Thorney Business Park, Thorney Lane North, Iver, Bucks, SL0 9HF. Wendy Matthews (chairman Richings Park Residents Association) and Ruth Vigor - Hedderly (County Councillor) were notified.

(c) - a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009 from TNT Post UK Ltd requesting a licence for twenty six vehicles and twenty trailers to use Unit 1 Ridgeway Industrial Estate, Thorney Lane, Iver, SL0 9HX. Letter sent to residents of Thorney Lane North

(d) – a notice appeared in the Bucks Advertiser on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 from Ethos Recycling Ltd to change an existing licence to add an operating centre at Court Lane Industrial Estate, Court Lane, Iver, SL0 9HL for twenty three vehicles and four trailers. Wendy Matthews (chairman Richings Park Residents Association) and Ruth Vigor -Hedderly (County Councillor) were notified.

(e) – a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009 from Ontime (Thames Valley) Rescue and Recovery Ltd to change an existing licence to keep an extra trailer at 5-7 Court Lane, Iver, SL0 9HL. Wendy Matthews (chairman Richings Park Residents Association) and Ruth Vigor - Hedderly (County Councillor) were notified.

(f) - a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009 from APEX Salvage Ltd requesting a licence for two vehicles to use Unit 42 Thorney Business Park. Thorney Lane North, Iver, SL0 9HF. Letter sent to residents of Thorney Lane North.

(g) - a notice appeared in the Slough Observer on 21st August 2009 from O'Hara Waste Management Ltd requesting a licence for ten vehicles and two trailers to use Wood Lane Farm, Wood Lane, Iver, SL0 0LD. Letter sent to residents of Wood Lane. Ruth Vigor -Hedderly (County Councillor) was notified.

(h) - a notice appeared in the Bucks Free Press on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2009 from Andrew Robert Moore requesting a licence for one vehicle at Copse Hill Farm, Denham Road, Iver Heath, SL0 0PG.

21 **Review of Bus Services in Iver and Richings Park** – Transport for Buckinghamshire propose to discontinue service 459 to Uxbridge and replace with bus from Iver to Slough via Wexham Park

Hospital, response required by 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009. The chairman pointed out that the County Council subsidise the bus services and have to make cuts in spending this year. The other County Councillor Mr Lidgate is in support of the protest as is Mrs Vigor-Hedderly in her County Council capacity as well. She has spoken to the portfolio holder for transportation about the matter. Residents are urged to write letters of objection to BCC with a copy to the parish council. Resolved that the Parish Council will send a letter of objection incorporating points made by residents with a copy to the MP and to David Shakespeare of BCC. Clerk to draft the letter incorporating all the objections and points of concern for residents. Clerk to email Andy Clarke and copy in Jim Stevens to see if he will come to the parish council meeting on Monday evening and also ask them to hold a public consultation on the proposals.

- 22 **Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic Order 2009** – 7th September 2009 (for one day) Thorney Lane South, Iver at the Railway Bridge Crossing Point. Noted.
- 23 **Bus stop cage for Iver Village High Street (opposite Village Hall)** – A favourable response from Parking and Traffic. The Bus Stop Clearway can be implemented without a Traffic Regulation Order as a 24 hour Clearway. Any different hours require a Traffic Regulation Order and the local residents may want to park there out of hours. They could object if they have no alternative parking. Resolved that the bus cage should only prohibit parking during times that buses operate.
- 24 **Light PC31, Rowan Gardens, Iver Heath** – Replaced damaged lamp post on grounds of safety. Noted.
- 25 **TSID** – (a) new sites were noted; Iver Lane, next to Church; Langley Park Road, Wood Lane, near Wood Lane Close; Church Road, near Five Points; Bangors Road South opposite Norwood Lane. See attached for complete list of approved sites. Clerk was asked to see if 2 sites could be found on any one stretch of road so that 2 could go up on the same road at once as a second reminder to motorists of the speed.  
(b) **TSID in Swallow Street** – should the Parish TSID be placed in the location where the BCC one was damaged (cost of repair £246.87). Resolved that it should be used in this location.
- 26 **Community Gang** – proposed work from week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009, list attached. Noted.
- 27 **Traffic Calming Fund** – For Schemes that fall within £1,000 to £50,000, information attached from BCC. Noted.
- 28 **Community Speedwatch** – To note Thames Valley Police want the Richings Park Resident's Association to suspend the Speedwatch Scheme whilst they establish the official operating policy. Can the Committee assist in speeding up the process. Clerk to write to the police to ask how well the project is going and how successful it has been and what is happening in the future with the ongoing programme.
- 29 **Street lighting** – current contract expires 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Resolved to advertise for tenders using current specifications and contract using the cheapest possible newspaper advertisement.
- 30 **Project Pinewood signs** – the question was discussed about whether to leave the signs opposed to Project Pinewood on street furniture in the parish contrary to the Agency Agreement with Buckinghamshire County Council, which delegates the function of removal of fly posters and other illegal signs that are erected within the public highway or attached to street furniture, to the Parish Council. Resolved to instruct Nick Fisher (the highways worker) to leave the Stop Project Pinewood signs on parish council lighting columns but to remove them from County Council ones. Also to request that members of the public should erect signs on their own property where possible.
- 31 **Chairman's Report** – the chairman reported that BCC now have all information from the police relating to accidents that the police attended within the parish. PC Caroline Taylor collated all this information. There will be a review of the A412 and a minor review of Langley Park Road following this information.

Next Meeting date 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009

Meeting closed at 8.57 pm

CHAIRMAN