

IVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2nd February 2009 held at Iver Village Hall (Coppins Room) at 7.30 pm

Present:-

Mr J Wilson (chairman)	Mrs P Leech	Mrs P Roberts
Mr D Adlam	Mr D Clark	Mrs C Mowat
Mrs S Lidgate	Mr W Lidgate	Mrs R Vigor-Hedderly
	Mr A Oxley	

In Attendance:- Mrs G Collins (Clerk)

124 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – There were 4 members of the public in attendance. Concern was expressed about the blocking of a right of way – footpath 15. Also the towpath is being used by motorbikes which then come into the fields where footpath 15 is. Residents also mentioned a path that has been used for many years which links fp 14 and 15 but is not a right of way. This is now impassable. Names of people willing to say they have used the path for a long time were passed to the Clerk. The chairman said that the Clerk would inform BCC rights of way and the IDCA footpath secretary and the Colne Valley Groundwork Trust as well as the police to see what could be done about these issues.

The chairman reminded members that a letter had been circulated from Chief Inspector George Wrigley who had now moved on to be Superintendent.

The County Councillors present, Mr Oxley and Mr Lidgate, reported on the sharing of services by BCC and SBDC and the outsourcing of some backroom resources such as IT, finance, HR. This had all been agreed by the County but not yet by the District Council. The 2.5 million pound setup costs would be borne by the County. For the Built Environment Ringway Jacobs will replace Fitzpatrick. The highways technicians will remain employees of BCC but some other employees will transfer to Ringway Jacobs. A decision on waste disposal had been delayed until after June.

Mr Lidgate reported on the disruption to waste collection by the snow and said that there were 2 issues. One being the difficulties with getting the large lorries on the snowy roads but also that the waste sites at High Heavens and Wapseys Wood were closed and so there was nowhere to take the waste. Decisions were being made about how to catch up on the collections once the snow cleared.

125 Apologies were accepted from: Mr Bradford, Mrs Gibson, Mr Gidar and Mrs Watkins and District Councillor Simon Bullock.

126 Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda – there were none.

127 RESOLVED to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held 5th January 2009.

128 Resolved to note the report of the Clerk as follows:

- Footpath request by the Parish for 4 paths to be designated in Richings Park. The Clerk confirmed with the Council that as the Parish Council had requested these there would be no objections.
- The planning application for 1 Copse Wood was going to the District Council planning committee on 11th February and it was agreed that Mr Lidgate would attend and speak on behalf of the Parish Council.
- Hunting for Ancient Trees in South Bucks – find out more at Black Park between 10 and 1 on 14th March.

129 Chairman's Report. The chairman reported that he and Mrs Lidgate had attended the Sheeshmahal appeal and that the applicant had won. He reminded Councillors that 80% would need to attend training on the Power of Well Being once sessions were available if the Council wanted to implement it. He had received a letter about the fatal accident in Bangors Road South and the resident wished to see if some signage could be erected to make people aware of the concealed entrances in that area. The MP and head of transportation at BCC had already been informed. Mrs Vigor-Hedderly said that she would see if she could get some speed limit enforcement action on Bangors Road South. On 10th February Iver and District Countryside Association would be presenting some paintings of old Iver by Eleanor Moor (7.30 pm at Iver Village Hall). SBDC are consulting residents on the Council Tax proposals. Dudley Mills of Kebbell Homes had requested speaking with the Parish Council about some proposals for development. Clerk was asked to invite him to a future public session of the Parish Council. The opening ceremony for the Thornbridge Road shops new parking improvements will take place on 23rd February at 3 pm.

130 Resolved to receive and adopt the minutes of the following committee meetings:-

- (a) Planning Committee 8th January 2009 and 29th January 2009
- (b) Highways & Partnerships Committee 21st January 2009
- (c) Amenities Committee 14th January 2009

131 Pinewood Project – no parish councillors attended the second stakeholder meeting on 21st January. The chairman reported that Pinewood still intend to put a planning application in by Easter.

132 Parish Plan – progress report from the Working Group. Focus Group meetings to be held 3rd, 4th and 5th February. Report to be written and circulated to SBDC and the rest of the Parish during March. Will have to be approved at the meeting on 9th March. Noted.

133 Office Move – noted that the office move will take place on Wednesday 4th February with the telephone lines being moved on 5th February and computers, CCTV and photocopier installed on 6th February. There should be little interruption to business as telephone lines will be diverted to mobiles although email will probably be down between 4th February and 6th February. Resolved to approve external signage as appended to the agenda in white on purple. Resolved not to provide a ramp for the Committee Room as there is wheelchair access via the front door. Costings to date were circulated (appended) and approved. It was resolved to order the Committee room table in wood veneer.

134 Office Opening Ceremony and/or Civic Reception – resolved that the clerk should organise the office opening and invite the newspapers and councillors along with staff. Chairman to officially open the office with a high profile press coverage but low key in terms of numbers. Resolved that the Civic Reception should be held after the annual meeting on 9th March and there would be no Parish Council meeting in March. Requested that Mrs Watkins with assistance from Mrs Roberts and Mrs Vigor-Hedderly arrange it. Budget is £2,000

135 Simon Hill – the chairman expressed the Council's sympathy to the Hill family on the loss of Simon and said what a great help he had been to the Parish over many things over many years. Resolved to put a plaque up using the preferred design (approx. £300 depending upon wording) from the 3 quotes that the Clerk provided. Mrs Lidgate to find a suitable location, perhaps near the Service Tree that he planted in Iver Heath Fields in his memory or make some other gesture in recognition of the work that he did for the Council in the Fields and other areas that are owned by the Parish Council. Mrs Lidgate would speak to the Friends of Iver Heath Fields and to Diane Hill.

136 Heathrow Third Runway – report of the chairman on the recent government decision and the circulated BCC press release. Resolved to take no action.

137 Carnival – a report was given by Pat Leech (chairman of the Carnival Committee) on the plans for the carnival and evening event on 6th June 2009. It was agreed that Iver Recreation Ground could be used for the event provided the necessary Temporary Events Notice was applied for and all the risk assessments and insurances were in place. It was also confirmed that the Parish Council would grant £3,000 to the Carnival Committee as this had been budgeted for.

138 South Bucks Partnership Committee – terms of reference were received. Resolved that Julian Wilson would be the representative and Carol Gibson the Deputy.

139 Circulars List for January 2009 – resolved to receive and note (appended to agenda).

140 Correspondence for action:

a. Land at Swan Road – to note that the District Council has established a purchase price for both pieces of land in Swan Road. There may be overages to pay to a previous owner if the land is developed (even a burial ground constitutes development). The District Council is looking at giving the Parish Council a 99 year lease at a cost of around £4,000 a year but with an annual increase in line with RPI. The District would like the Parish to agree to take on the lease at completion of the purchase. (Details of the site and requests from SBDC and response so far were received and noted). Resolved to agree in principle to the proposal by the District and confirmed agreement with the Clerk's correspondence with the District so far.

b. Finance Training – for Clerk's and Councillors and administration staff covering annual return, section 137, PAYE, members' allowances, VAT and an open forum. £55 including lunch 9.15 – 1 pm at Winslow on 16th March. Resolved to approve the attendance of Finance Assistant.

c. Towards a Vision for Green Infrastructure in Buckinghamshire – resolved to state that the Country Parks in South Bucks are important to the Parish and we would want to keep and protect them. *Mrs Vigor-Hedderly left the meeting at this point (9.30 pm)*

d. Iver allotment ponds – noted that Groundwork Colne Valley will be doing some works at the ponds at the end of January/beginning of February: re-excavate and re-profile to give a more natural appearance with a sinuous outline and sloping edges and lined to ensure they hold water year round and backfilled with

subsoil. Locally sourced plants will be put in during the spring.

e. Road Closure – resolved to make no objections to closing the carnival procession route from Ford Lane to Evreham on Saturday 6th June from 12 noon until 1 pm.

f. Consultation on a code of recommended practice on local authority publicity – response by 12th March. Resolved to make no comment.

g. Consultation - Community Action – briefing on Sustainable Communities Strategy – a Rural Perspective – document to enable us to make a response to the Local Strategic Partnership’s consultation at County and District level – **Buckinghamshire in 2026, how will it shape up** – copy enclosed. Resolved to make no comment.

141 Accounts:

- a. Resolved to authorise payment of Accounts for January in the sum of £55,420.20 net (appended)
- b. Resolved to receive income for January in the sum of £2,335.19 net (appended)
- c. Resolved to receive and approve recent bank statements. Signed by the chairman and clerk.

Date of Next Meeting - resolved that the next meeting would be the annual meeting to be held on 9th March 2009 and would be followed by a reception to thank those that have worked with the Parish Council either as partners or volunteers. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 6th April.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed Chairman Date