

IVER PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the **POLICY FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** was held on **WEDNESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2008**, commencing at 8 pm at **Iver Village Hall**.

MINUTES

Present:- Mr Adlam (chaired the meeting), Mrs Vigor-Hedderly, Mrs Lidgate (arrived 8.10 pm), Mr Lidgate, Mrs Mowat, Mr Gidar,

In Attendance:- Mrs Collins (Clerk), Mr Bradford (to give information about item 124 at the invitation of the chairman).

116 Apologies for absence were received from: Mrs Watkins, Mr Oxley, Mr Wilson

117 Disclosure of interest in items on the agenda. There were none.

118 RESOLVED to sign the **Minutes** of the meeting held on 21st November 2007.

119 Clerk's Report. There was none.

FINANCE

120 RESOLVED to receive and approve recent bank statements from the Bank of Ireland and Barclays – chairman signed reconciliations.

121 Budget Monitoring – RESOLVED to approve the budget for 07/08 to 31st December 2007. The Clerk was asked to produce a report on the cost of the maintenance team and associated costs.

122 Internal Audit – RESOLVED to receive half yearly report and approved the audit plan for end of year 07/08 – appended.

123 Purchase of Larger Parish Council Van – RESOLVED to purchase a second hand van outright from either Swains or one other reliable supplier to be notified to the Clerk by Mr Lidgate up to a price of £8,500. Clerk to inform the Committee of the final choice prior to purchase. Noted that this would be after the appointment of a Grounds Maintenance Supervisor. Clerk was asked to consider a high top with no roof rack.

124 New Pavilion Iver Rec – to consider a £400,000 contribution to the building, assuming that the FA funding covers the other £400,000. Detailed report from the Iver Rec Group was unavailable and so it was agreed that no decision could be made and requested that a feasibility study be provided before this matter is considered again by the Policy Committee.

TRAINING and ADMINISTRATION

125 Municipal Mutual Scheme of Arrangement – there was no report available

126 NALC Local Leadership in Action Conference -30th January £141 per delegate. Nobody at the meeting wanted to attend but it was agreed to ask councillors at the next full parish council meeting.

127 Local Government Pension – Training Event 15th February – 1 delegate required. Noted that the Clerk would attend.

128 Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007. New test. Noted that it would be advisable to get the risk assessments up to date. **RESOLVED** to employ Nick Fisher as a consultant to ensure that all risk assessments are in place for the land and premises of the Council as well as the works undertaken. Agreed an hourly rate of £13 with a top budget of £2,000 although the Clerk anticipated that it would be less than this.

POLICY

129 Youth Work – Sally Tugwell – report attached to the agenda was noted. Targets for next 8 weeks are: Pinewood project/Chalfont project with Drugs Awareness; Feb half term activities and clear up day at Iver Rec; detached work in Iver and Iver Heath on Thursdays or Fridays; holiday activities for Richings Park youth. The Clerk was asked to thank Sally and inform her that the Council is pleased with the way things are progressing.

130 Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk – Resolved that the Clerk should agree the details with chairmen of Committees. Final document appended.

131 Transport Petition and Review of access to public transport in general for the Parish – it was agreed that the matter should be referred to full Council to decide whether to pursue a sponsored taxi scheme and if so how to progress this.

132 Bucks County Council Highways – received an update on the costings of taking on some devolved functions from BCC and agreed to employ Nick Fisher to carry out the work for 2 days per week for a trial period of six months if possible using the small parish council van.

133 Review of Council Calendar of Meetings and suggested revisions. A report was tabled (appended) showing a comparison with other councils' number of meetings and a report detailing suggestions as to how the number could be reduced for Iver Parish. It was agreed to make a recommendation to full Council that:

- planning meetings should be reduced to one per month and consider applications that will meet SBDC timescales. Addition meetings to be called if something of great importance comes in.
- Policy & Finance, Amenities and Road Safety & Lighting Committees reduced from 6 to 5 per annum,
- Iver Heath Sports Association reduced from 4 to 2 per annum,
- Iver Heath Fields Liaison Group from 4 to 2 per annum,
- Iver Rec Group to remain at 4 per annum whilst the new pavilion project is being discussed but then reduced,
- full Council meetings reduced from 11 to 10 per annum (missing out a meeting in December).
- HR reduced from 3 to 1 per annum (with additional meetings called as necessary)

This relieves the Clerk of attendance at 6 meetings per annum and the Deputy Clerk (or whoever is appointed in a support capacity) of 14 meetings per annum. It relieves Councillors of 24 meetings per annum.

134 Communities and Local Government Consultation on Code of Conduct – for response by 15th February. **Noted that Mrs Watkins has this for comment at full Parish Council on 4th February.**

135 Iver Heath Recreation Ground/St David's Close boundary – it was agreed at Amenities to repair the fence by erecting stays that should be painted white or yellow to prevent tripping and to use anti climb paint at the top with appropriate signage. This has been ordered. The clerk has sent copy correspondence and photographs to the Council's solicitors for information at this stage to cover the Council and a holding letter has been sent to Rightscope because this could escalate. To decide what action to take now with Rightscope regarding getting some money back towards the expense caused by the wall coming down. Item deferred.

136 Lea Barton and Iver Rec Access – Kebbell Homes have asked permission to put services under the footway at the edge of the access road. Plan appended. Resolved to refuse permission unless compensation is negotiated.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 10.15 pm and the rest of the items deferred to the next meeting and staffing matters to the HR committee

PROJECTS

137 Christmas Lights – (a) to consider any issues raised following the Ceremony on 1st December that need to be taken into account next time and to appoint a Working Party for the next event. (b) to agree what to do with donations taken at the ceremony.

138 Carnival – 13th September 2008. To clarify and re-confirm the work to be undertaken by the Clerk.

139 CCTV at Iver Heath – quotes to be circulated. Report by the Clerk and Cllr Adlam.

140 Market Town Health Check – to decide whether to pursue this avenue. If so then someone needs to get a group of keen people together to action it.

141 Lights at Iver Heath Village Hall Car Park with CCTV mounted – to agree whether to request from full Council that reserves be spent on upgrading the columns to make them less likely to be vandalised. Also Clerk to report whether funding is available from other sources.

142 Part II –To Resolve that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

143 Staffing Issues.

Next meeting 19th March 2008

Signed (Chairman)

Date