

**RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, 15 December 2015, RPSC, 8 PM**

**Present:** Wendy Matthews (Chair), Maureen Atkinson, Alan Barrett, Lindsey Beagle, Matthew McEvoy, Stewart O'Malley, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Maureen Worrall, Graham Young,

**Apologies:** Sue Barber, Alan Barrett (for missing previous meetings because of ill health), Daphne Wood.

**1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (24 November 2015):** accepted as a true and accurate record.

**2 Main Issues**

**Heathrow Expansion:** the government has decided that the decision will be delayed until summer; air quality and noise issues are being investigated. The Parish Council submitted concerns to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Infrastructure and the Environment took note. Both Wendy and Graham have recently attended various HAL meetings but there is no further information. Heathrow PLC are very disappointed and are in limbo. They feel there is no clarity from government. Wendy added that the impression is that government will carry out another consultation. More and more information is coming out on the inadequacies of the Davies' Committee work. If the Third Runway goes ahead, we will be the next Colnbrook.

We are definitely on Heathrow's agenda for a bus through Iver and Richings Park. This has taken a lot of effort on our part as Bucks County Council (BCC) put forward no proposal and were not even aware of the existence of the development fund. In the meantime we will gather as much data as possible. We have met with the Heathrow noise monitoring team to discuss our existing ground noise issue. They now have the report from the golf club noise monitor. However Heathrow say the data is inadequate and cannot be correlated with LEQs (average noise levels on which noise contours are based). Lindsey added that the Air Sensa (see below) will also monitor noise.

**Meeting with Dominic Grieve:** Wendy was not able to attend. Graham reported on the meeting, held at his house on 10 December, 7.30 pm. We presented to him our petition against the Third Runway and he gave us a response. He seems to have no idea of the issues we are facing. Heathrow PLC had previously quoted South Bucks as being in favour. They need to come back to us with relevant postcodes to support this statement. Domonic stated that Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross residents support airport development, not realising just how much their quality of life will be affected.

Heathrow PLC's plan to move the logistics businesses from their current sites to Iver is still going ahead. We have still not had the promised map.

*Maureen Worrall left the meeting at this point to attend a prior engagement.*

Crossrail: Dominic promised he would meet an under-secretary of state with responsibility for railways to discuss the issue that the different competing projects were not coordinating their plans; joined-up thinking was essential and he would see it happened. We have seen no evidence so far.

**HS2 – Heathrow Express Langley Depot:** Dominic has no separate views. We have repitioned and now have a listing for appearing before the Committee of Inquiry on either 21 or 25 of January. There is a week of presentations and every other MP in the area is

petitioning except ours. We have no idea if BCC is going to support us on this either. The Clerk to the Committee has been persuaded to arrange a site visit: date tbc. We need a demonstration on that day at the Langley Depot site to show the strength of local feeling: between 8 – 15 January. We must persuade the Committee that HS2 have to make a contribution to the relief road.

**South Bucks District Council (SBDC) Local Plan:** the plan has been drawn up by BCC and SBDC and published for public consultation without any input from local councillors. SBDC has been scheduled to build 7800 houses over the next ten years. We could easily be subsumed by Slough who need our green belt for their development.

**Iver Neighbourhood Plan:** The Parish is drawing up its own plan and has engaged a planning consultant. There was some discussion on how best to encourage residents' participation.

On the positive side there will be publicity from Air Sensa about our use of their monitors. We are community forerunners on this. It is an affordable way of getting accurate air quality data. See below.

**Christmas Pavement Party:** Graham is arranging the event which will run from 10.30 – 12.30 pm on Saturday 19 December. Malik from Costcutters is allowing us to use the empty Panjam premises. He has tureens we can use for mulled wine. Wendy has emailed our shopkeepers. We have printed a poster and Malik has delivered it with the newspapers. We had £200 from last year's event, for which we were bankers, and there is nothing more for residents to contribute. Carols will be played by the Rotary Christmas float. All present were asked to attend from 9.30 am on the day. There are now lights on the pine tree in the Residents' Garden, thanks to Wendy's husband's car battery and Graham's ingenuity. If the lights are not on Graham asks that we let him know and he will recharge the battery.

Lindsey will arrange for the Residents' Association noticeboard to be repaired, although she would prefer it to be repositioned nearer Costcutters. **Action: Lindsey.** The Residents' Association garden gate is still awaiting repair – the handyman is ill.

### **3 Other Issues**

**Heathrow Local Focus Forum/ Airport Noise Forum:** nothing further to report.

**Highways Updates:** nothing further to report.

**Area round the Shops - Planters:** Graham is in the process of submitting an application to Heathrow Community Fund for funding. He has sent the application initially to the Groundwork Trust and Heathrow Community Fund for evaluation. He will then apply officially.

**Thorney Sidings/Thorney Mill Road:** Wendy has asked Enforcement Officers to inspect the Thorney Sidings site, on which a lot of money is being spent. There seems to be some debate about whether new operators will inherit existing constraints such as hours of work and number of HGV trips. We must be vigilant.

**Broadband:** at the meeting with Dominic Grieve, Lindsey reminded him about his promise to look at why we have been left out of BT's provision for the 'Connected Counties' scheme. He had forgotten.

**SIFE Appeal Hearing:** nothing further to report

**Air Sensa:** we need £10,000 to fully fund two more air quality sensors, including maintenance and data analysis services. The Parish Council have paid for the first, which will shortly be installed near St Peter's Church, Iver. Lindsey is keen on crowd-funding for the other two, as it is important that the community achieves this on its own.

**4 Dates of Next Meetings:** Wednesday 27 January; Wednesday 24 February 2016.

**5 Treasurer's Report:** Graham did not present updated figures – there is little activity at this time of year. Fewer residents however are renewing their subscriptions

**6 Planning/Enforcement:** of the list included in the agenda the following items were discussed:

Pump House, North Park: it has been confirmed that the property was rebuilt more than 4 years ago so no action can be taken.

#### **7 Crossrail**

**Thorney Lane Bridge Works:** the bridge should have been completed at the end of November. There is no rail service over Christmas.

**Car Park:** If a car park is opened there must be a parking scheme in force for local roads.

**WRAth (Western Region Access to Heathrow):** this has been reinstated and is in Network Rail's agreed list of projects to be developed between 2016 -18 and built between 2019 – 2021. There will be public consultations in February. However, the cost of a new bridge is now prohibitive and there is little chance of a relief road. The project states that they will 'improve' the capacity of local roads, although there are no details.

**8 Report from Parish Council:** nothing further to report.

**9 Report from County/District Councils:** nothing further to report.

#### **10 Any Other Business**

Evreham Adult Education Site: BCC want to close the site and the sports centre - the lease of the latter comes up for renewal in 2016. There are rumours that the site will be earmarked for Khalsa school, currently located in Stoke Poges.

Matthew reported that Crossrail's loss adjuster had inspected cracks in a property in Bathurst Walk and decided that they were not caused by work on Thorney Lane Bridge.

Maureen Atkinson reported that the road and pavements in Somerset Way were the worst for mud and puddles. Lindsey stressed that accidents must be reported and then BCC will finally send out the road sweeping machines. Neither BCC nor South Bucks District Council are proactive any more, just reactive. They are more likely to respond if complaints are made via Twitter or Facebook.

The meeting ended 10.10 pm with thanks from all to Wendy and to Graham for all their hand work in 2015.