

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2017, RPSC, 7.30PM

PRESENT: Maureen Worrall (Chair in Graham's absence), Naz Akbar, Mukhtar Ali, Maureen Atkinson, Cllr Paul Griffin, Gurjit Sandhu, Cllr Wendy Matthews, Ged Weston, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Daphne Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Chris Jordan, Cllr Luisa Sullivan

APOLOGIES: Tina Heath, Matthew McEvoy, Lisa Popa, Graham Young

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 25 JULY 2017: accepted as a true and accurate record

MATTERS ARISING AND OTHER ISSUES: HGV Signs. Step Properties Plc have agreed to give us £200 for signage reported Paul. Paul and Graham will walk round Richings Park and decide where to put them. It was decided to have normal standard graphic signs as many drivers do not speak English. The signs are for information only; they cannot be enforced.

HEATHROW

FORUMS & WORKSHOPS REPORT: Wendy reported on the Local Community Forum, which covers noise, land management, local transport and HGV problems in terms of parking and antisocial behaviour. She also reported on the Community Noise Forum: again all local communities are represented. The Forum insists that Heathrow Airports Ltd (HAL) is more proactive and provides them with information. However it is clear that HAL have very little control on routing aircraft. Third Runway: some parts of the DfT consultation will be rerun, taking 8 – 12 weeks; they have been judged not impartial enough. HAL's own consultation has been pushed back to February. This consultation is very important for us as it includes all land required not just for the runway but also relocating headquarters, Energy for Waste, and many other buildings currently in Poyle. The options for our area should be clear and we will have the chance to respond. HAL have finally agreed to install noise monitors here shortly - in Wendy and Lisa's gardens. We need baseline data to ensure we feature within noise contours and are included in the compensation packages. All were asked to complete the CAA Questionnaire forwarded by Lisa, deadline January. **Action: All**

HIGHWAYS UPDATES: VERGES/PAVEMENTS/ROADS: Wendy asked all to report falls caused by poorly maintained pavements to BCC Transport for Bucks (TfB). **Action: All.** Iver Parish Council (IPC) convened a meeting recently with TfB to discuss the dreadful state of the area. TfB were given a list of questions which they promise they will answer. Chris reported that he had surveyed damaged lampposts, road signs etc in the Ivers, including Richings Park and TfB now have a work schedule for this.

AREA AROUND THE SHOPS:

Clearing Around the Area: Richings Park Village Action Group (RPVAG) have had good turnouts at their monthly litter picking events and the next is Sunday 8th October: 12 – 2 pm. Jan asked about spraying weeds around the shops, near the junction with Syke Ings. Wendy replied that weeds in public places cannot be sprayed without a licence. It was agreed that after the October litter pick shop owners should be asked to clear the weeds on their own frontages, up to the dark brick line beyond which it is TfB's responsibility. **Action:** Ged, Gurjit. TfB have made it clear that they have no budget for weeding.

Planters Budget and Residents' Garden Budget: the invoice from Knights Garden Services, which included a quotation for further work, was difficult to analyse. For the future, it was agreed that we set a financial limit based on what was paid previously. IPC have written to Graham about the black planters near the shops. If they are sent an invoice they will pay for the plants and materials, with the Residents' Association arranging the labour. **Action: Maureen to discuss with Graham.**

Several residents are keen to plant trees to protect their verges reported Gurjit. Wendy will discuss with IPC offering sponsorship for tree planting. Residents must contribute to the purchase and also undertake to water the trees for the first two years. IPC are in contact with SBDC's arboriculturalist who could give advice on suitable trees. **Action: Gurjit and Wendy to discuss offline.** Mukhtar pointed out that large trees are a risk and where BCC are responsible for the planting they should carry out a risk assessment. He has repeatedly contacted them to cut back a fruit tree they planted on a neighbouring verge.

BROADBAND: nothing further.

HGV ISSUES: Paul will ask Costcutter to have deliveries made at the rear of their property. **Action: Paul.**

HGV SIGNS : see above

HGV RELIEF ROAD STATUS: Paul G reported on the Iver members' liaison group which he, Chris Wendy and Luisa attended. The relief road is a known issue and all are supportive but funding is the problem. Housing or economic development in the area would mean a contribution but it is a very-long term issue.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME UPDATE: Chris reported that it is going well with increasing numbers of clients. More drivers and coordinators are needed.

KINGFISHER GARDEN Ged confirmed that the garden was badly overgrown. It is the Residents' Association responsibility. Aggregate Industries used to look after it, then a friend of Alan Barrett's. Thorney could be asked to extend their litter pick to include clearing and cutting back the garden.

THORNEY BROOK: the Environment Agency will look at it when they have resources.

DEFIBRILLATOR: Luisa reported that she will make a £200 donation on behalf of BCC. Jan will contact Graham to let her have our bank details. **Action: Jan to contact Graham**

DEFIBRILLATOR REPORT FROM SUB-COMMITTEE: Jan asked the Committee to authorise the following decisions: RPRA to enter into a Managed Solution agreement with the charity Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) who will buy and install a Zoll A3 defibrillator plus cabinet for us, on the wall at The Chip Shop. We pay them the quoted price: £2,295. They buy and retain ownership of all the equipment and take on all liabilities including insurance, maintenance, paperwork, registration, governance. We also take out an annual Support Contract with CHT for all consumables: £150 pa. Wendy asked that we check that a non-incorporated body such as ours can enter into these agreements. With this caveat, the Committee authorised the decisions. **Action: Jan to contact CHT.** Fundraising would start shortly. We have £1,400 including Luisa's £200. We need another £1,200 to cover all costs.

SBDC LOTTERY: Chiltern and South Bucks have accepted the Defibrillator as a good cause. The first lottery tickets will be on sale on 25 October with the draw on 4th Nov.

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER: Jan had sent round the final draft for comments before the meeting. As there were no more amendments at the meeting she would email it to Graham for publication.

RPVAG REPORT: Gurjit reported on forthcoming events to raise funds for the children's playground at RPSC: Bollywood/Hollywood Dinner Dance on 14 October, which included a raffle and auction. If it goes well it may become an annual event. All tickets have been sold. Sunday 5 November, Bonfire Night at RPSC with stalls, BBQ, DJ. Ged is applying to the Heathrow Community fund for a grant, while Graham has applied to HS2. Equipment suppliers will come shortly to assess the site at RPSC and give us prices. Richings Pints is very popular, as is the Facebook group

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND: see above. Graham had briefed Maureen who made a statement on the use of the Residents' Association bank account which she asked be officially minuted.

The bank account can be used for Bollywood/Hollywood and other RPVAG projects, but if it arose that there was a loss, that loss would not be covered by the Residents' Association.

Graham was in the process of marrying up what had been paid in for Bollywood/Hollywood.

TREASURER'S & MEMBERSHIP FIGURES REPORT: carried forward in Matthew's absence.

PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT

1 LOCAL APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED.

1.1 SEE ACCOMPANYING LIST

Maureen W will send Wendy details of a neighbour who seems to be renting out an annexe. Maureen had reported it to Enforcement, who she felt had been fobbed off. **Action: Maureen W**

16 Somerset Way had applied for a side and rear extension and then demolished the house. Daphne had reported this too to Enforcement, in August, but nothing had been done. She will pass the information to Wendy. **Action: Daphne**

1.2 CEMEX STATUS: the initial liaison group meeting must be held before Cemex start work on the site. However there is no information on the website about what has already been agreed. The Bucks CC project manager has left. Wendy will chase Cemex again.

1.3 BREEDON APPLICATION: nothing further and this is still a big issue. It needs to be established how they have calculated the road capacity in terms of the additional HGV movements on our roads, with all traffic set to come through Richings Park.

1.4 FLATS BY THE STATION. There is now a second application: still 19 flats; 2 two-beds and rest 1 bed/single room. They are all on the site of two detached dwellings. Many residents have written to object. It is not scheduled for this month's planning committee added Wendy. Langley Fire Station might be approached for comment on our parking problems because of their difficulty accessing The Chip Shop fire. The number of objections will be shown on the planning website and hopefully it is more than ten.

1.5 NEW STATION BUILD: Wendy had met Transport for London, who are developing the station and who, as usual, know nothing about the area. The building is preformed and will arrive on huge low loaders in sections but there is no plan for HGV access. The existing station can continue while the new one is being built. Ground work needs to start shortly as the new station must be finished by December 2019.

1.6 THORNEY COUNTRY PARK

Wendy reported that BCC plan to fill up the lake with infrastructure spoil, then re-landscape the park which would be a recognised open space. This is another HGV issue: 160k HGV movements.

There is a planning application affecting land in Sutton Lane: to create hand standing for a container park on the private road leading to bungalows. **Action: All to object.**

REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS :

County: Slough master plan is due to be published on 27 September. It is an aggressive attack on our green belt, as it aims to develop the land between Langley and Richings Park.

Luisa reported that she was meeting our local area technicians: Wayne and Rosie. There is a backlog of repair work and reporting is not integrated. Residents constantly report the same thing, or report separately to Luisa as a councillor, and items by-pass the system. We need a proper system for recording and prioritising maintenance and repair work. Disabled lines/signs outside the chemist's shop still need repainting, reported Maureen W. The Local Area Forum are meeting on Wednesday 18 October, all are welcome to attend.

District: Wendy reported that the Local Area Plan will go out to consultation later this year. It will set out what development is proposed and where it will be sited.

REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL Local Neighbourhood Plan: only 500 questionnaires had been returned, very few from Richings Park. The results will dictate policies for the Neighbourhood Plan. Ged will push the questionnaire at Richings Pints.

Christmas Lights, 25 Saturday November, 4 – 6 pm: around Iver Village Clock Tower. Maureen W and Tina got everything they asked for; Richings Park will have new lights, and both the tree in the Residents' Garden tree and two others will be decorated.

Local Street Lights: Chris reported that IPC are responsible for 550 street lights in residential areas, and the programme of replacement will begin in Richings Park in October with Wellesley Avenue. IPC has applied to Great Western Railway for a grant for all roads that feed into the station. We need £37,000 in total. However if we do not get this funding roads will be completed one at a time as money becomes available.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: Tuesday 31 October 7.30 pm, RPSC

NEXT DOMINIC GRIEVE VISIT: Friday 12 January 2018.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Daphne had reported to TfB, yet again, the annual problem of overgrown trees affecting the footpath from North Park to Sutton Lane. Luisa stressed the need to keep reporting so that the work gets onto the schedule.

Maureen W was concerned at the height of an outbuilding going up in a neighbour's garden. It should be 1.2m at the eaves and contraventions should be reported to Enforcement replied Wendy.

Mukhtar asked whether Iver station will be open on Sundays with Crossrail and Wendy confirmed that it would.

Station Car Park Update: the application has gone in but has yet to come before the Planning Committee reported Wendy. We support approval.

Gurjit asked whether the Neighbourhood Plan would include improved parking in Iver High Street. Wendy added that with support from residents it would.

MEETING ENDED AT: 9.50 pm