

**RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2018, RPSC, 7.30PM**

*(KEY: BCC: Bucks County Council; SBDC: South Bucks District Council; IPC: Iver Parish Council)*

**PRESENT:** Maureen Atkinson, Alan Barrett, Cllr Paul Griffin (SBDC), Tina Heath, Cllr Wendy Matthews (SBDC, IPC), Gurjit Sandhu, Ged Weston, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Graham Young (Chair),

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sarina Ghai, Shantanu Tandon, Cllr Luisa Sullivan (BCC)

**APOLOGIES:** Dilnaz Akbar, Matthew McEvoy, Lisa Popa, Dmitry Reshetov, Maureen Worrall,

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (23 Jan 2018):** accepted as a true and accurate record.

**MATTERS ARISING:** see below.

**HEATHROW** John Reid of SBDC has been invited to our 20 March meeting (see below Dates of Next Meeting).

**Forums & Workshops Reports:** no one could attend the local focus forum last night reported Graham and Wendy.

**Expansion Consultation** an event is taking place in Richings Park: Friday 2 March 10 – 5 pm at RPSC. Lisa's document makes it clear we are opposed to Heathrow expansion; Graham had circulated it to all Committee members. Only two were able to attend the 21 February meeting set up to discuss our approach to the consultation. The consultation is informal only. As Lisa's document makes clear, we must object to all the options: we do not want a Third Runway at all. As far as development on local land is concerned we will put forward our own views: a prestigious development such as an airline HQ might be acceptable but we will not consent to becoming a car park, fuel depot etc.

The Residents' Association recommendation is that we do not answer the consultation questions but ask residents to respond with an individual email putting forward our own views. If the event is poorly attended Graham will write and send out a guidance email. **Action: Graham**

Heathrow is working on the issue of litter with 'Keep Britain Tidy' and Graham attended a recent meeting. They have a fund of £200k. How do we change behaviour? If an area looks nice it is less likely to be littered. There is a possibility of a team of roving rangers to help prettify areas. Graham raised the issue of our shops at the meeting and representatives from Heathrow will come out and look at the area.

Graham also raised the issue of illegal pop-up long term car parks, about which Heathrow representatives at the meeting said they were unaware. Again they will come out and look. We would like Heathrow to start a campaign to warn people about using these scam car parks. SBDC Enforcement are aware of the illegal car parks in our area.

Lisa reported that the SBDC Waste Contracts Manager also attended. She is putting together a programme and will apply for money for South Bucks. Financially it is more efficient to put in place something that will replicate across the area.

**HIGHWAYS UPDATES: VERGES/PAVEMENTS/ROADS**

Bathurst Walk pavement resurfacing has been completed although work on the Old Post Office flats has meant an area had to be dug up. Luisa has walked Richings Park with Wayne, our Area Technician. They are prioritising footpaths such as Somerset Way. However there is an issue: tree

roots have lifted the pavement. If trees have to be felled residents will need to agree. Wendy responded that there is a technical answer to this issue, which has happened before. There were questions from Committee members about the absence of an enforcement process to reinstate footpaths after building work. Both Wendy and Graham have been pushing for action for several years but BCC won't give SBDC permission to include this in their planning process. However, all residents are asked if possible to take photos of areas before building work begins to provide evidence and then we can push again for reinstatement.

**Area Around the Shops – Clearing Around the Area:** RPVAG's next 'Richings Sparkle' is planned for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March (see also RPVAG below). Ged reported that emails to SBDC do get results. Shops litter bins are full. Shantanu asked about repairing bollards. Wendy replied that they were bespoke and are cast metal. Some can be put back but many have been damaged and BCC have no budget. Shantanu also asked about signage on the motorbike shop. Wendy responded that planning consent did not require a sign.

**PLANTERS & RESIDENTS' GARDEN (Maureen Atkinson):** Maureen will do all the planters, when the weather improves. IPC pick up material costs for the metal planters.

**BROADBAND:** Cllr Ray Sangster, SBDC, has been writing to BT. In March/April broadband will be installed in cabinets in our area. Cabinet 9 has now been moved and has electricity, and BT are about to connect the broadband cables.

## HGV ISSUES

**HGV Signs:** informal signage will continue to be used. It was acknowledged that local police do not have resources to monitor the situation.

**Relief Road Status:** on going. It is mentioned in the BCC Freight Strategy which is on the BCC website.

**GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME update:** Graham reported that there are 12 drivers now, the latest going through CRB checks. The local Gudwara runs a Sunday minibus service. They have asked if other schemes could make use of the minibus and Graham has been in touch with them.

**KINGFISHER GARDEN: Maintenance:** Alan reported that Robert will continue to work in the garden from mid-March. Alan will ask him about putting in expense claims as it is important that he is reimbursed. **Action: Alan**

**Thorney Brook:** Enforcement have been into one property and found nothing. They then tried to access a neighbouring house but access was refused. Official action will now be taken to Contact the owner. Alan stressed that the watercourse needs to be cleaned out. Wendy responded that we need to work with the new Groundwork Waterways Officer. Once we have defined what we need, we can begin to apply for grants.

**DEFIBRILLATOR:** the defibrillator has been installed outside The Chip Shop and is 'rescue ready'. It has been registered with the ambulance service. Ged has produced a press release for the Slough Observer, In and Around Iver and other publications. Jan will ask Matthew to pay the Community Heartbeat Trust invoices. She will also push them for a date for training courses, ideally in RPSC and in about one month. Jan will ask whether a defib poster might be put up at Iver Station. **Action: Jan**

**NEWSLETTER, Spring Issue:** Jan reminded Committee members that items will be needed for the Spring Issue. Graham added that the paper Newsletters had proved popular.

**Constitution Sub-Committee:** Ged reported that he, Wendy, Maureen W and Jan had met and there are a few ideas to feed back to Graham before they come to the Committee. Ged is working on a one-page summary of our purpose and a new logo. He will set up an on-line subscription payment system for the new membership year. All changes to the constitution will be brought to the April AGM. Action: Ged, Graham.

#### **RICHINGS PARK VILLAGE ACTION GROUP (RPVAG) REPORT:**

**Children's Playground – Progress Report** The playground will hopefully be in use for the summer. There is some admin arising from HS2 funding. The supplier and layout have been selected. Ged's article is in this week's Slough Observer.

**Events:** Sunday 18 March 'Richings Sparkle' and Friday 23 March 'Richings Pints'. Ged's schedule of events has been sent out to the Committee.

**TREASURER'S & MEMBERSHIP FIGURES REPORT:** none. Matthew is ill.

#### **PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT**

**1 Local Applications Submitted** none brought to the meeting.

**1.2 Bathurst Close Status:** the planning application has been accepted. It is not clear what this means for access to Bathurst Close.

**1.3 CEMEX Activities:** there had been a regular meeting this week with Cemex' management team at which Tina's issues were raised. Their site manager has resigned. Cemex may start work near Bathurst Walk in April but we have had restrictions imposed and they have six months only to do the excavation and restore the site. Tina's view of the site is restricted as the bunds have grown higher. She reported that recently bin lorries have been going on site three times a week to empty bins; this seems strange. However bin lorries do have a legitimate reason to access the site. The Sutton Lane junction must be improved but Slough are not responding and Cemex' work may go ahead regardless of the breach to the planning regulations.

**1.4 Thorney Country Park:** Luisa reported that Martin Tett, BCC Chair, has confirmed that the team and contractor have been on site and found that there is railway access into the park. BCC Cabinet are now convinced that the project can take place off the road. But we have not seen any clarification that time slots on the railway are actually available. It is clear that this project will go forward and we need to shape the proposal.

**REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS:** see items above

**REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL:** see items above. There is a Parish Meeting on Monday 5 March. All are welcome.

**DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:** 20th March 2018, 7.30 RSPC.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** Alan: street lights in Thorney Mill Road, which were turned off in 2012. At that time the light at the junction with Thorney Park Golf Club was left on but now it's not working. Luisa has raised the issue of lighting at BCC. Initially there may just need to be a replacement bulb. But it is important that junctions are lit. There are overgrown hedgerows too and Alan was asked to report this on the BCC Transport for Bucks website. There is a link on the IPC website. **Action:**  
**Alan**

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm.