

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, 22 MARCH 2016, RPSC, 8 PM

Present: Wendy Matthews (Chair), Mukhtar Ali, Maureen Atkinson, Lindsey Beagle, Matthew McEvoy, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Daphne Wood, Maureen Worrall, Graham Young

Apologies: Sue Barber (unwell), Stewart O'Malley for this meeting; Lindsey Beagle for the previous meeting

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (24 February 2015): the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

2 Main Issues

HS2/Heathrow Express: the draft Bill has just been published.

Wendy, also our District Councillor, attended the Bucks County Council (BCC) HS2 meeting on 24 March. She subsequently reported back by email to the Residents' Association Committee and this was discussed. The Committee agreed that the Association would petition the House of Lords against the HS2 Bill on community benefit grounds and authorised Graham Young to act as the Agent with Wendy to deposit the petition for which the closing date is 18th April. Action: Wendy/Graham

South Bucks District Council (SBDC) Local Plan: it is becoming clear that this is a more complicated process now and is being driven by Chiltern District Council. The plan is often inaccurate about our area. We must fight to prevent them from earmarking local land for housing development. Surrounding areas such as Slough and Windsor & Maidenhead are keen to encroach on our green belt. This is not just the infilling of small pockets and we will lose the defining features of our villages.

Iver Neighbourhood Plan: work is in hand to resubmit the plan.

Heathrow – Noise Issues/Local Focus Forum/ Community Noise Forum The Community Noise Forum have set up five working groups and we are sitting on two: Wendy on Health Aspects and Graham on Noise Measuring & Effective Monitoring. Heathrow PLC have already employed consultants and have data on health issues relating to noise but they have shared nothing to-date. There was a meeting at Graham's house on 29 February to discuss ground noise and general noise issues.

Local Focus Forum: as required by law, Heathrow PLC's CEO John Holland Kaye attended. There were many challenging questions from the floor. In a press release this week Heathrow PLC state that they have a new tool to reduce emissions. Buried in the detail is a further statement that they intend to build an off-airport distribution centre. We are still waiting for a map from a previous meeting about the proposed logistics hub at Thorney. We must keep a close eye on these proposals.

Khalsa School: SBDC and Stoke Poges Parish Council will challenge the decision and we will await the outcome. In the meantime, Bucks County Council have designated Khalsa as the nearest local secondary school, effective from 2017. This has implications for transport.

Post Office: the post office is moving into Costcutters and a formal consultation process is underway. We will have longer opening hours.

Colne Valley Park: we have received their newsletter. Graham was asked by Wendy to remind them that we need to renew our subscription. Action: Graham

3 Other Issues

Highways Updates: Bucks County Council is not easily contactable and Twitter is still the best option. They have filled in the drains on Richings Way and fixed the drain in North Park.

Area Round Shops – Planters/Clear Up/Residents’ Garden: some good news: £500 has been granted by the Heathrow fund and we will buy planters. The gate to the Residents’ Garden is now being repaired – the workman has been ill.

Thorney Sidings/Thorney Mill Road/Kingfisher Garden: more and more licences are being issued for HGVs on the former Aggregates site. The Thorney Mill Road Crossrail depot is very messy and muddy. Wendy has taken it up with Network Rail.

Broadband: nothing further. Lindsey will go to the forthcoming meeting.

Air Sensa: a new unit with more functionality is now in place by the church. The company are currently building a ‘dashboard’ so that we can put out live information. Paul Griffin is building the website *AirAware Iver*.

Notice Board: Lindsey has given Wendy details about a company which can repair the noticeboard. Action: Wendy. Lindsey will keep the Richings Park noticeboard updated. Action: Lindsey

4 **Date of Next Meetings:** AGM: Thursday 28 April, Thursday 26 May 2016

5 **Treasurer’s Report:** nothing further

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

The Bull: an application for a change to a restaurant/café.

7 Crossrail

Thorney Lane Bridge Works, Car Park, Station, New Works in Thorney Mill Road

There was no new information at the Crossrail presentation in the Residents’ Garden held on Monday 21 March. The possible station car park will be where the compound is now. However Wendy is concerned that nothing appears to be happening.

WRAtH (Western Region Access to Heathrow): the consultations have been disastrous as WRAtH’s team put their traffic monitors in the wrong place: Hollow Hill Lane feeding onto Langley Park Road instead of Mansion Lane. We accept that they must close Mansion Lane but they need to provide an alternative for the large amount of displaced traffic. We want the relief road to go underneath the mainline. It is essential that all challenge the proposals. Action: All to respond and encourage others to do so, either using the forms on WRAtH’s leaflets or respond online on their website: deadline 4 April.

8 **Report from Parish Council:** nothing further

9 **Report from County/District Councils:** nothing further

10 Any Other Business

Daphne complained about the mud in North Park, both road and pavements, and the traffic cones at the entrance to Richings Park.

Lindsey suggested setting up a Richings Park Community Working Group to improve the appearance of the area so that it looks as if we value it. There was a discussion and some felt from past experience it was likely that only the same few people would be involved.

Matthew reported a train cancellation on 29 February: the day's last Great Western stopping train, the 23.49 from Paddington. The 00.34 was not stopped at Iver to drop off the 4-5 affected passengers and they had to get off at West Drayton and take cabs. The same train was cancelled a week later and then the 00.34 did stop. Matthew has reported the matter to Great Western.

Wendy will stand down as Chair after the AGM. She will stay on the Committee. All thanked Wendy for her hard-work, perseverance and commitment.

The meeting ended at 10 pm.