

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING 8 PM THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2014, RICHINGS PARK SPORTS CLUB

Present: Wendy Matthews (Chair), Maureen Atkinson, Alan Barrett, Matthew McEvoy, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Maureen Worrall, Graham Young

In Attendance: Ray Sangster, new Parish Councillor (a co-optee) replacing Alan Oxley

Apologies: Chris Sprules, Daphne Wood. Daphne will not be able to attend future meetings because of a diary clash

Absences: Sue Barber, Karanveer Singh Bembey, Bhagat Hundal, Pandeep Khatker, Judy Teader

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting: accepted as a true and accurate record

2 Matters Arising and Other Issues:

2.1 Heathrow/Noise/Davies Report: a public meeting was being held at RPSC on Tuesday 4 February 2014 at 7.30 pm. Questions had been sent in advance to Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL). The Davies Commission report made it clear that the cost and impact of moving the M4 and M25 motorways had not been taken into account. There was a good deal of interest from outside groups whose representatives would attend, as would the police. Our MP, Dominic Grieve, had promised a statement for the meeting. Graham reported that he had asked Paul Griffin (Iver and Richings Park District Councillor) to set up alternative meetings for Iver Village and Iver Heath as the Sports Club could not hold all those who wanted to come.

HAL would also be asked about the Hub Station option, which would be terminal 6. Boris Island, the proposal to build a new airport in the Thames Estuary, affects us too as it has a massive Park and Ride at Iver. A facilitator is coming to the public meeting to manage any conflict.

There were many inconsistencies in the HAL proposals but it was acknowledged that Richings Park was too small on its own and we would need to collaborate with other interested parties to get a co-ordinated approach.

Alan added that more detailed plans were needed in order to see which roads and houses were to be destroyed. Wendy replied that we had a student whose University project was on just this issue. Alan pointed out that the Thorney area had no information at all and it was agreed that the HAL map did not show Richings Park in any detail.

A great deal of paperwork was on the Hillingdon Council website. HAL had booked RPSC for an Open Day on Thursday 27 February 12 – 8 pm (ie ending just before the next Residents' Association meeting – item 3 below.)

On the current noise problem, the low frequency, persistent vibration at 5.30 am was caused by roll-start, and reverse thrust affects Thorney and Iver Village. Heathrow had always denied that these were issues.

2.2 HGV CCTV: no progress. **Action Wendy:** remove from Agenda.

2.3 Highways Updates – Leak Old Slade Lane: still ongoing. Cameras had been put down and the drains flushed. However, there was no further progress. Zoe at BCC had been very helpful but she was being moved on and we would have a new area technician.

- 2.4 Area Round the Shops – Parking/Planters/Trees:** planters - action from Graham was pending. **Action: Graham.** Parking – the 11- 12 noon restriction in Bathurst Walk was being enforced by a new team. The parking consultation was still pending but it would happen as one was being carried out for Iver Village.
- 2.5 Meeting Dominic Grieve MP re Heathrow:** see item 2.1 above.
- 2.6 Thorney Sidings:** Wendy reported that she had seen a lorry there earlier in the day. However we had been assured categorically that no lorry movements would be associated with moving rubbish piles. Schenker, the owners, were still looking at a train removal of the rubbish and if there was no action BCC would take action.
- 2.7 Khalsa School:** permission to make the site permanent had been refused by SBDC mainly on Highways grounds. There would almost certainly be an appeal hearing. Slough Council want their new secondary schools to be in South Bucks, saying that they had no more room.
- 2.8 CQC Wexham Park Hospital Meeting:** two very poor Care Quality Commission (CQC) reports had been widely reported. The second one found no improvement. The CQC would come back. They also wanted to consult with hospital users and a meeting was being held on Wednesday 29 January 10 am Burnham Park Hall, Burnham. Details were on the Residents' Association website. The issue of the merger with Frimley Park Hospital on 1st April was raised -what would be the impact on services at Wexham?
- 2.9 Homeless Shelter:** the proposed use of St Leonard's Hall as a temporary winter night shelter for the homeless was no longer happening.
- 2.10 New Refuse Collections/Bin Storage:** Matthew suggesting asking residents, where possible, to move their two large wheelie bins to the back of their properties. Smaller households could ask for smaller bins. South Bucks District Council would take the old boxes if residents rang them. The new collections would begin on Monday 24 February and our new collection day had changed from Tuesday to Monday each week.
- 2.11 Verges/Pavements/Roads :** verges: all agreed that many were in a terrible condition and the recent bad weather had made things worse. Wendy hoped to raise the matter with Zoe, or her replacement (see item 2.1 above), at Buckinghamshire County Council. Pavements: Wendy reiterated that BCC would not make the District Council put the reinstatement of pavements into planning conditions. However next year the Local Area Forum (LAF) priority was pavements and three areas in Richings Park could be nominated. Roads: as reported in previous Minutes (items 2.3 28/11 and 2.3 19/12 13) North Park would be dug up by SSE early in 2014 to replace the main supply cable, which had been failed, and subsequently the road would be resurfaced by the Highways authorities. Potholes: Graham asked that potholes be reported on line (Fixmystreet.co.uk, or Potholes.co.uk) as recommended by the Telegraph motoring correspondent. If registered, BCC might be forced to pay compensation for car/wheel damage.
- 2.12 Sunday Train Petition:** Graham had set up a web petition which to-date had 170 signatures. Every name added raised a notification to the Great First Western customer services feedback site. He had been in contact with customer services to ask their view but had had no response. He had also tried their Facebook pages, where their representative admitted that there was a 5 day backlog at customer services. Graham had asked for a meeting with timetabling to show them the petition and Slough Observer had also picked it up. The Residents' Association was supportive of Graham's efforts but Matthew added that it had been 47 years since there was a Sunday service and that 3 peak time trains which stopped at

Iver had been taken out last summer. There was an additional issue: Crossrail would not necessarily make us a stopping station.

3 Dates of Next Meetings: Thursday 27 February and Thursday 27 March (not 28th as in Agenda) 2014, 8 pm RPSC

4 Treasurer's Report: the Detailed Statement December 2013 to January 2014 showed a starting balance of: £4995.90. With expenses of £398.19 (net £288.05) and income of £110.14 the January balance was: £4707.85. Expenses included £227.15 for renewing the insurance, and £63.25 for Christmas food and drink at the December meeting.

5 Planning/Enforcement: Pinewood New Development: the appeal hearing had ended and a report would be sent to the Secretary of State on or before 14 April, with the result due on or before 14 July.

Old Post Office Development: planning permission was refused as parking was not compliant with district standards in terms of number of spaces per dwelling, and there had been no schedule 106 payments.

Cape Boards: another application for 24/7 operation from Rhodes was going through again. We had a slot to raise residents' issues at the planning meeting and Hillingdon recommended refusal.

Mansion Lane Caravan Site: another planning application for expansion.

6 Heathrow/Hub Station/Crossrail:

Crossrail, Thorney Lane Bridge: planning permission had been granted and work was scheduled to begin at Easter with a temporary bridge, for which landowners' permission was required. The existing bridge would be demolished at Christmas and the new bridge reinstated at Easter 2015. Wendy would find out what would happen to the current pedestrian bridge. **Action: Wendy**

WRAtH: an announcement was due on 23 Feb about the proposed. The Western Region Access to Heathrow was due for completion in 2020/1.

7 Cappagh/Aggregate Industries/Lorries: see also item 5 above.

The Nationwide Platform planning application had been rejected on appeal. The inspector did a very thorough report and verified the residents' issues for himself. The application had been turned down because of its significant impact on the lives of locals and this set a precedent.

Cable laying the business at Thorney Business Park was storing enormous cable drums coming in on lowloaders from the M4. However when the cable drums were sent to sites there was a routing issue as the special wagons needed were bigger and wider. The only possible exit was through Bangors Road South but the road would need to be closed during the process at a cost to the business.

8 Report from Parish Council: discussion on the ongoing issue with dog poo.

9 Report from County/District Councils: issues as reported above.

10 Any Other Business: the lamppost at the bottom of Syke Ings (no. 10, 19 Dec 2013) repaired

Travel Alert : a gypsy funeral w/c 27 January 2014 at St Peter's. Vans might pull onto Thorney Lane North site opposite Ridgeway (no. 5, 19 Dec 2013.)

The meeting ended at 10 pm