

**RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, 26 MAY 2016, RPSC, 8 PM**

Present: Wendy Matthews (Chair), Mukhtar Ali, Maureen Atkinson, Lindsey Beagle, Paul Griffin, Stewart O'Malley, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Maureen Worrall, Paul Griffin, Alan Barratt.

Apologies: Sue Barber (unwell), Matthew McEvoy, Daphne Wood, Graham Young

Election of Chairman and Officers: from this point Wendy stood down from her role as Chair of RPRA. Graham Young was appointed Chair in her place: proposed Lindsey and seconded Paul. Wendy will be staying on the Committee and as Parish and District Councillor. Lindsey has taken over Graham's role as Treasurer.

In Graham's absence Maureen Worrall, as Vice Chair, took over the running of the meeting. She thanked Wendy for her determination, perseverance and ability. Wendy is a font of knowledge and she has taken the Association forward from a group dealing with smaller, local issues to one taking on national institutions.

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (22 March 2016): there was an amendment to the minutes: the previous meeting was 24 February 2016, not 2015. With this correction the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

2 Main Issues

Draft AGM Minutes, 28 April 2016: the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. Maureen was pleased with the very good attendance at the AGM but disappointed by the low key nature of the police report, which had been presented by a PCSO. Next year, we will push for a more detailed report from a full police officer, preferably the sergeant.

HS2/Heathrow Express: we have petitioned the House of Lords and Paul has petitioned on behalf of Iver. Iver Heath Residents' Association submitted independently. The status of both Residents' Associations has been challenged on the grounds that we were not affected any more than the general public: there were over 700 petitions and HS2 are challenging 400 of these. We are appealing against this bullying and we will not withdraw our petition. The status of both the Iver Communities Group and Iver Parish Council has been accepted. Our petition should be heard about the end of June. When representatives from the House of Lords visit we will need to organise another protest: Action: ALL

South Bucks District Council (SBDC) Local Plan: there were 7000 responses and the District Council is behind schedule. The next round of consultation will begin on 31 October and run for 6 weeks. There are scores of documents on the South Bucks website.

Iver Neighbourhood Plan: the Parish Council resubmitted the plan but Pinewood again objected. They want to be excluded. Again Pinewood did not object until the last minute. The Neighbourhood Plan will have to go ahead without Pinewood. A questionnaire will go out to the Parish in September following a consultation meeting.

Heathrow – Noise Issues/Local Focus Forum/ Community Noise Forum

Noise: Graham and Wendy attend various noise groups who have acquired some very knowledgeable people to challenge Heathrow PLC. But it is becoming clear that Heathrow have very little control over noise generating activity: airlines, CAA and NATS do what they like. No one body appears to oversee noise and there is frequent buck-passing.

Third Runway: Heathrow put out a press release recently, couched as a letter to the PM, setting out how they would meet all the Davies Commission criteria. Wendy has been to a councillors briefing: the £1bn compensation promised is in fact recycled money; Heathrow are proposing independent noise and air quality authorities, but they will be paid for by Heathrow. The former will be set up within the CAA or Environment Agency and the latter within the Environment Agency. Heathrow have bought 29 new noise monitors and we have asked for one here to get credible baseline data. Graham will attend the forthcoming Local Focus Forum for the community round Heathrow. The Community Noise Forum which we also attend is the overarching body looking at all current noise issues.

Ground noise: we have now established through a contact of Graham's that airlines definitely test outside the noise pens at night. Heathrow have never said this. However since we raised this issue with them noise has been decreased. We continue to question Heathrow on both ground noise and on-stand noise. We have challenged their paperwork which does not cover on-stand noise or airlines. We will continue to pressure them.

Khalsa School: the second High Court hearing will be at the end of June. The new Secretary of State, Gregg Clark, decided after the first appeal that the school can remain open. We are now going round same loop again.

Post Office: the Post Office counter will be moving into Costcutters, possibly in August. See also under Any Other Business.

Traffic/Parking - Action Plan: the 583 bus has been officially rerouted by the bus company as recently it was unable to navigate parked cars in Syke Ings. There is heavy traffic in Richings Way/North Park and hailing the bus on these roads is not acceptable. If the bus is permanently rerouted we will not get local roads salted in winter.

All agreed we need to push once more for an action plan to deal with parking on local roads. Everything has to go through Bucks County Council, including residents' parking and restricted parking times. It all costs money and BCC tell us they have none. Pending any decision on a station car park in Richings Park we will carry on and after discussion it was decided to concentrate again on residents' parking zones. This time we need to put the argument to residents street by street, house by house. Lindsey suggested setting up a working group. Wendy will look out the information template drawn up for the previous parking consultation. **Action: Lindsey, Wendy**

On Tuesday 21 June at 6 pm Iver Parish Council are hosting Heathrow Plc Chief Executive and officers at the Parish Council office in Iver High Street. They are looking HGVs and traffic. We are expecting heavy traffic in the High Street. **Action: ALL**

Overnight HGV parking is becoming an issue in many areas west of Heathrow. Langley Park Road, Sutton Lane and the A4 are some of the local roads affected. South Bucks District Council are collating information for the police and other authorities, and all were asked to report offending HGVs to Wendy. **Action: ALL**

Cemex: there was a good turnout at the recent presentation held at Richings Park Golf Club. Dominic Grieve attended. It is not clear how Cemex' time frames for excavating gravel on the site fit with those of WRAtH who are building the Western Region rail access to Heathrow.

3 Other Issues

Highways Updates: BCC Transport for Bucks are closing Thorney Lane North from about 31 May for one week for repair, and Richings Way/North Park from the Tower Arms to the

Golf Club for resurfacing. It is not clear what they are planning to do in North Park as it was only done resurfaced 18 months ago.

We have just had email notification from BCC that they are carrying out a traffic survey in Richings Park, Iver and Iver Heath. It is phase 1 of a traffic study and started on 19 May. It will take 12 weeks. Their attached report headed *Wexham and Ivers Local Area Forum: written update on Iver Traffic Study* states that the County Council recognises residents' concerns about the current traffic issues in and around Iver Parish, Iver Heath and Richings Park along with the future impacts from the various major infrastructure developments as well as growth being proposed as a result of future Local Plans. The report is on the Bucks website and Wendy will forward it to the Committee. **Action: Wendy.**

BCC state that Slough Borough Council are proposing to close Hollow Hill Lane temporarily to assess the impact of full closure. However Wendy has checked and they are not. The position needs to be clarified.

The updated study was scheduled to be presented at the next Wexham and Iver Local Area Forum meeting on 8 June. However this meeting has been cancelled because Ruth, our County Councillor, is not available. Lindsey and Paul are taking this up with Martin Tett at BCC to ensure that the meeting goes ahead with a deputy. The meeting is important to us as they are discussing this survey of our needs. **Action: Lindsey, Paul**

Area Round Shops – Planters/Clear Up/Residents' Garden: Lindsey will plant the tubs next to Costcutters in the next few days. Graham has arranged a photo opportunity by the new planters which have been paid for by the Heathrow Fund: Sunday 5 June 12 noon.
Action: ALL to attend

Thorney Sidings/Thorney Mill Road/Kingfisher Garden: Alan hopes to hear soon from the Environment Agency and Three Valleys Water about the water poisoning. The water company have been prosecuted and they need to pay compensation to the Agency.

Broadband: Lindsey went to a meeting in Amersham and discussed our lack of connectivity with representatives of Business First and BT. Random cabinets in several areas of South Bucks have been left out of the government-backed scheme and cabinet 9 by our Post Office is one of them. We are still part of the commercial roll out.

Air Sensa: the sensor is in place but the company are still working on the reporting system.

Notice Board: Wendy has asked the Parish Council to upgrade the Residents' Association notice board by the Residents' Garden when they upgrade the Parish Council boards.

Action: Wendy

SIFE (Slough International Freight Exchange): the decision has been delayed because of elections in Slough. Heathrow's Third Runway, if it happens, will take so long that SIFE will go ahead if permission is granted. We have no routing agreement and HGVs will go through Iver and Richings Park.

4 Date of Next Meetings: Thursday 23 June and Thursday July 28 2016. There will be no meeting in August.

5 Treasurer's Report: nothing to report. As noted above Lindsey will take over from Graham as Treasurer.

6 Planning/Enforcement: see list included in the agenda. No items were discussed.

7 Crossrail

Thorney Lane Bridge Works, Car Park, Station, New Works in Thorney Mill Road: work is ongoing. The path by the station is still not open as BT need to lay cables.

8 WRAtH (Western Region Access to Heathrow): we have not heard very much from them about their plans which involve closing Mansion Lane with no alternative route. As reported at our AGM the consultations led to over 700 responses which they are analysing. There has now been a full traffic count on the correct roads - Mansion Lane and Market Lane: the daily total is 8,000. We are waiting for further information from their traffic modelling system.

9 Report from Parish Council: see Iver Neighbourhood Plan in item 2 above.

10 Report from County/District Councils: nothing further to report. Martin Tett has now issued a paper saying he and BCC are in favour of creating a unitary authority. This is a change of heart and we await further information.

11 Any Other Business

Crime in Richings Park: the Post Office was robbed recently. A car was hi-jacked in Wellesley Avenue and the two culprits have been caught. A local resident in Syke Ings disturbed thieves attempting to steal tools from his van.

Cycle Lane from Iver Station to Iver Village: nothing more has been heard.

HGV Signs: the signs have been vandalised and we will get replacements. **Action: Paul, Graham.** Hopefully once the bridge work is finished HGV sat navs will revert to their previous settings and HGVs will be rerouted to major roads.

Street Lights: the lights outside Costcutters are being repaired but it is a lengthy process as they must go back to the manufacturers. Street lights have been cut off in St Leonards Walk and Lindsey is pressing to have them reinstated. Wendy reported that the Parish Council has recently changed contractors.

Grass Verges: those verges on main roads which do not present an obstruction could be left uncut in summer to increase biodiversity.

Wendy was presented with garden vouchers and a thank you card by Maureen Worrall on behalf of all committee members. She will continue to attend meetings.

The meeting ended at 10 10 pm