

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: 27 June 2017, RPSC, 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Graham Young (Chair), Naz Akbar, Maureen Atkinson, Cllr Wendy Matthews, Matthew McEvoy, Lisa Popa, Gurjit Sandhu, Jan Wiseman (Minutes), Daphne Wood, Maureen Worrall.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mukhtar Ali, Cllr Paul Griffin, Tina Heath, Stewart O'Malley, Ged Weston

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Chris Jordan, Iver Parish Council (IPC) Cllr Luisa Sullivan (newly-elected to Bucks County Council, BCC) joined the meeting at 8.00pm

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (24 May 2017): an amendment is needed under 'Matters Arising and Other Issues'. The minutes stated that 'the HS2 Community Fund is being supervised by the Iver District Liaison Group, with IPC as steward.' It should have read: 'the fund is being managed by BCC.' With this alteration, the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. Jan would send a corrected version of the Minutes to Graham for the website. **Action: Jan**

MATTERS ARISING AND OTHER ISSUES

Graham reported that the Summer Fete, planned for 29 July, had been cancelled. It had been organised around the Hillingdon Community Band but the cost was prohibitive. It was hoped that there would be an event next year, planned in good time.

Paul's actions would be reviewed at the next meeting. Other actions and issues were covered in the discussions below.

Heathrow

Forums & Workshops Report: Wendy reported that both she had attended the Local Focus Forum. Heathrow will be carrying out consultations on their options in the Autumn. Heathrow's new Community Liaison Officer was not welcomed by forum members; he used to run the 'Back Heathrow' campaign. The planned HGV cargo centre has been postponed and will now form part of the Third Runway development.

Noise Forum: Graham reported. The Forum had previously been run by Heathrow who set the agenda. Heathrow agreed to allow time for presentations from local groups. Small subgroups were being set up and new endeavours started. There was shortly a meeting with Captain John Lowe, the promoter of the Heathrow Hub project. He is scathing about NATS and aircraft navigation, and he will advise groups on noise and routing. The International Airlines Group have stated that the Third Runway cannot go ahead with current skies and air routes. Wendy added that Heathrow expansion was not in the Queen's Speech. Dominic Grieve (our MP) has stated that he will oppose the Third Runway if air pollution is not dealt with correctly. Aircraft noise does not feature in their thinking.

Highways Updates – Verges, Pavements, Roads: nothing reported at the meeting

Area Around The Shops

Parking Consultation: Wendy and Graham had attended the Local Area Forum (LAF). BCC wanted to reallocate the funding ringfenced for this project on the grounds that, if the Thorney car park is approved, the Section 106 compensation money will be available to rectify our parking issues. The topic will be discussed again at the next LAF meeting in October, by which time a decision on the car park should have been made. Wendy asked that within the next two weeks all present email her with evidence of parking demand in Richings Park. **Action: ALL**

Clearing Around the Area: we need to follow on from the Clear Up organised by the Richings Park Village Action Group (RPVAG) on 21 May.

Broadband: nothing further to report and Wendy will chase this up. **Action: Wendy**

HGV Signs: in Paul's absence the action is carried forward to the next meeting. **Action: Paul**

Good Neighbour Scheme Update: Graham reported that to encourage demand the Scheme is now offering lifts to local hospitals. It will be publicised at the Iver Fun Day on 8 July. If there are enough drivers and capacity the Scheme will arrange lifts to local luncheon clubs. Publicity is an issue and surgeries are not very proactive. Maureen W offered to take flyers with her on her regular visits to the doctor. **Action: Maureen W**

Kingfisher Garden: Wendy reported that the Environment Agency had commissioned work on Colne Brook. At her instigation they have also looked at Thorney Brook, which (as previously reported) is stagnant, smelly and has no wildlife. They found that a local resident has diverted the brook into the koi carp pond in his garden. IPC have written to the Environment Agency stressing that action needs to be taken and RPRA have done the same.

Defibrillator: Jan reported on the sub-group fund-raising meeting held on 24 June. Proposed initiatives include:

Lottery: Graham asked the Committee for their approval to spend £120 pa on behalf of the Residents' Association on an on-going lottery licence; it can be used for future fund-raising projects. The Committee agreed to this expenditure. Ticket Prices: £2.50 or 5 for £10. Publicity: Parish Magazine, In and Around Iver, Facebook, Posters. Selling tickets to local family and friends could encourage community interest and cohesion. **Action: Graham**

Prizes - Financial Contributions from Shops: vouchers or cash donations. **Action: Paul, Tina and Maureen W.** Paul will also approach Relay on the Ridgeway Trading Estate.

Iver Parish Council/Heart of Bucks Fund: Jan will apply to both for funding, and also contact Luisa about the discretionary fund she holds as BCC councillor. She will also contact Martin Fagan at Community Heartbeat Trust, the leading charity in community defibrillation. She will find out more about what they offer. **Action: Jan**

Newsletter: Jan had circulated her draft. Naz will deal with the layout. Graham suggested that they should be seasonal publications, this one being the Summer Newsletter. **Action: Naz.** Committee members were asked to send Naz their photograph, to be published against their name. **Action: All**

Richings Park Village Action Group Report (RPVAG): Neighbourhood Watch: Gurjit reported 40 out of 66 houses I Syke Cluan had joined. He has sent them a newsletter. Gurjit will concentrate now on other roads. All coordinators have to be CRB approved, which takes time. The next Richings Pints will be on 21 July at the Tower Arms.

Childrens' Play ground: Graham is applying to the Heart of Bucks for funding. Other suggestions include: black tie event, crowd-funding. RPVAG will run the Fireworks Event with advice from Graham and planning will start with a working group in August. **Action: Graham**

TREASURER'S & MEMBERSHIP FIGURES REPORT: Matthew reported that prior to the meeting 188 households had paid their subscriptions. It is still low and we still need to push. Matthew will email road stewards their individual subscription lists. **Action: Matthew.** Membership Cards: stocks are low; Graham will collect a card from Maureen W and have a supply printed. **Action: Graham** There is £1,800 in the current account and £2,200 in the deposit account: total £4,000.

PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT

1 Local Applications Submitted: a list was sent out with the agenda. Proposed Flats in Bathurst Walk: Graham reported that we object where we can, but in this instance parking is within legal limits. Gurjit asked if sales could be restricted to private buyers only, not landlords. Wendy responded that this was not possible; it was not a planning consideration. The only option would be to appeal to the developer to act voluntarily

2 Breedon at Thorney Sidings: there had been a meeting of concerned Thorney Mill Lane residents. Luisa reported that she has written an objection. Details are on our website. An inconsistency was noted: Cemex' HGVs will not be routed along Richings Way or North Park. Breedon want to use both roads. There are not enough slots on the rail line. Luisa will have a meeting on 5 July with BCC officers managing section 106 agreements and with the officer dealing with Breedon. She wants to find out how the process works and what can we ask for in terms of compensation. We need to have early discussions so as to be well prepared.

Wendy added that no one from Richings Way or North Park had attended the meeting about Breedon. Their properties will be the most affected but despite our best efforts we have not been able to connect with them.

REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS: Luisa reported on BCC. Many groups are asking for new signage to direct and slow down traffic. BCC are insisting that there is no budget. We have asked BCC to use flailers to cut back hedges and so clear pavements but again there is no budget. Luisa is also pursuing action on the flooded pathway between Iver Station and Thorney Business Park. Luisa asked Graham on behalf of the Residents' Association to email key BCC members such as Mark Shaw and Martin Tett with an official request for the work. She will send their names and email addresses to Graham. **Action: Luisa, Graham.** Luisa is documenting formally what she is asking for on our behalf and the BCC responses. There is a threat to the existence of Iver Children's Centre and Luisa will alert us to proposed consultations.

Wendy, who is Chair of South Bucks District Council (SBDC), reported that the Local Plan is still moving forward. Iver is under pressure with demands from Slough and Hillingdon. No decision has been made by government about setting up a Unitary authority.

REPORT FROM IVER PARSIH COUNCIL: Wendy as Chair of IPC reported that work on the Neighbourhood Plan is ongoing. She asked all present to report any missing and damaged road signs to IPC. Recently many utility service covers in Richings Park have been lifted up, but not stolen. Again she asked all to report problems to the IPC office.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: Tuesday 25 July. There may be a single-subject meeting on August, to be confirmed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Gurjit: can we claim compensation for HGV-damaged bollards near the shops? Wendy replied that this is a perennial problem. We need pictures of the offence being committed to pursue

compensation with the company involved. HS2 £500k Compensation Fund: nothing further has been heard on HS2.

Wendy: Wendy will meet with WRAtH (Western Region Access to Heathrow) to discuss how to move forward on local issues.

Graham: Christmas Event. There will be a Christmas Event this year and a working group will be set up. **Action: Graham**

Daphne: hedges on North Park have still not been cut back. (See County report above). The white 'Richings Park' gate in Thorney Lane South has not been set up but on the other side of the road a replacement Bucks CC sign has been put in place labelled 'Iver Village'. We still need the white Parish Gate to be re-instated. **Action: Wendy**

Maureen W: we are still waiting for all the work reported to Wayne, our BCC local area technician to be done, including repainting the disabled bay outside the chemist's. Maureen W is keeping a list of the dates that BCC cut the grass; Wendy confirmed that Richings Park is classified as an urban area. She has also reported her concerns concerned about the long-standing problem of the banner on a property in Richings Way advertising a local business. Maureen W will attend the HS2 meeting on 18 July, as will Graham.

The meeting ended at 9 pm