

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: Thursday 5th May 2022 7.30PM
Richings Sports Park

(KEY: BC: Bucks Council; IPC: Iver Parish Council; RPSC: Richings Park Sports Club; RPRA: Richings Park Residents' Association; IGNS: Iver Good Neighbour Scheme)

PRESENT: Cllr. Graham Young (Chair), Cllr. Wendy Matthews (IPC, BC), Joyce Young (Minutes), Nick Jones, Helen Pennie, Shantanu Tandon, Stafford Salt, Gurmail Dokal, Kavita Devi, Louise Stevens

APOLOGIES, Ged Weston (Vice Chair), Arun Gaur, Jim Skinner, Tina Heath,

NON-ATTENDEES: Sue Barber, Maureen Atkinson, Kam Khatkar

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes were agreed as accurate and approved. All matters arising are on the agenda.

Election of Officers

All are willing to stand again. Kavita and Gurmail asked what the process was for standing. They were advised that the process is set out in the Constitution which is on the website. Nick responded that if they wanted to step up to any role, they were welcome to do so, as most officers had been the only candidates.

The committee were elected nem con (no one contradicting/without dissent)

Highways update, verges, pavements and roads

Dog bins – Any bin can be used for dog waste. There is a new bin at the corner of North Park and Richings Way.

The bin that has disappeared at Kingfisher Gardens will be replaced and Bucks will empty it.

Drains – Wendy has checked, and all the local drains have been cleared, so the resident of Thorney Lane South should get no flooding from now on. If there are any drains that are still blocked, please let Wendy know. Wendy is looking into the areas round the drains on Bathurst Walk and Somerset Way

Rats – These are an environmental health issue, report to Bucks Council. This is a pay for service. Planters at the shops – no one knows who planted them, but they are looking nice.

Bollards – continue reporting the broken bollards on Fix my Street. Wendy will chase this up if she has a report number so send that to her if any reported Fix my street issues aren't dealt with.

Continue reporting whatever you notice. Some of the committee reported a swift response from the Council, whilst others said nothing had been done on things they had reported.

There is an app for Fix my street.

Wildflowers have been planted and in some areas are coming up.

Heathrow Rangers water the wildflowers at Kingfisher Garden with a bowser. Joyce will ask if they can do any other areas whilst the weather remains dry.

Gardening team and gardens

Kingfisher Garden This has been planted with wildflowers across the middle of it and brambles cut back. They are regularly visited by the Heathrow Rangers. Tree surgery has been delayed to sickness in the team but hopefully a new date will be set.

Wendy and Graham have been in touch with the contact at Colne Valley about the river clearance. and hope to meet at the gardens soon.

Joyce is now in regular contact with the Rangers and they are happy to plant trees in the Autumn wherever we want them. Suggestions were for trees that represented the country as it is Jubilee year, perhaps a Rowan or a Beech. Let Joyce know any other suggestions.

The Rangers will put the bollards in, as the concrete and bollards are now both at Jims' house next door to the garden. Hopefully this will stop the regular person who parks their car there.

Signs will also be put up saying, No parking please, wildflower area.

We hope to have an event to encourage people to come along to the garden in the summer, perhaps a picnic lunch? May be able to get the North Star to provide a small bar (Graham has an alcohol license)

Trees in the Park – The tree in the garden of the flats opposite the motorbike shop is now leaning over the pavement and is very unsightly as it is weighed down with mistletoe and a lot of it is dead. Wendy and Joyce have both reported it to Bucks as it has a Tree Protection Order (TPO) on it and the council can tell the owner to replace it. Joyce will circulate the email of the person to write to about it.

The Garden team are cutting the grass regularly and have a few more volunteers helping out. They are also planning to tidy up the Residents Garden this week.

Events team / Centenary celebrations

Date fixed for the first event of the centenary celebration. Display of photos, maps and memorabilia in the Sports Club opens on Friday October 28th with Joy Morrissey MP opening the event. Prices have been obtained for large A3 foam boards and the amount required is around £600. Display panels will also be purchased for the entrance hall. A grant is being sought for this cost. This will stay in place until October 2023.

Murder Mystery is now set for Friday 18th November at the Sports Club. Writing of the script is well on the way.

Quiz night March 3rd.

Hopefully St Leonards will do something around Easter time. The vicar has been contacted.

Sports Day in June

Final event September 23.

There will be a flyer going around when all dates have been fixed but each event will be publicised through Facebook and posters around the Park.

Next meeting of the events committee is Tuesday 17th May.

Treasurers and membership Figures report

Lots of subs coming in with an increase in Pay Pal subscriptions. All roads have had their envelopes and AGM notice delivered. All roads now have a steward.

All ticketed events that the RPRA hold have a pricing structure and a discount or are even free for members and this often encourages people to join up. There will be several events this year which may encourage more to join. Main objection to not paying appears to be apathy. Stewards are welcome to go back to their roads and encourage people to join, preferably using Pay Pal. The Loving Life magazine will refocus on this and the purpose of the Residents Association when it goes out.

AGM

This was held at the Sports Club on the 26th April. All committee members attended, as well as around 25 residents.

There was a presentation from SEGRO about the data centre on the site of Thorney Business Park, the RPRA needs to show that it is representative of the people who live here. We need to foster a sense of community spirit and that people know what the money they give as subs is spent on.

Should we be printing new membership cards? Some like having this as proof they have paid, but Shantanu keeps this record as well. Look into digital membership cards. Need to address GDPR issues.

ACTION Graham

Neighbourhood plan

Bucks have appointed an inspector and the referendum should start in the next few weeks which will also last for a few weeks.

Community Board

A bid for funding for Centenary events needs to be put in.

Planning

Link Park This was initially refused planning permission, but they have gone to appeal.

Thorney Business Park Detailed plans for this were given at the AGM by SEGRO. Wendy said the application was going to be in the next day. This will be for detailed planning for the first data centre and outline planning for the second and third. They will also apply for permission to improve the access road. It is thought that Quattro will leave the present site.

SEGRO have not responded to our request for an exhibition about their plans or the detail we requested or which companies would be moving out and which would be staying. Graham will contact them about this.

ACTION Graham

Pinewood have now decided that they want to replace their plans for a visitor centre with plans for new sound stages, a multi storey car park as well as an application for other facilities around Alderbourne Farm to be used as a back lot and half the area as a community resource. These will need new planning applications, but as they have already been given permission to build on Green Belt this will probably be agreed. The impact on the Green Belt will be bigger but possibly less traffic than a visitor centre.

It was asked if the intention was ever to build a visitor centre, but rather a ploy to get permission to build on Green belt? A certain amount of cynicism was expressed about this.

Pinewood have contributed very little to the community around it. As far as we are aware, only one amount of £1.000 has ever been given to the Colne Valley Trust. This should be remedied when the new planning applications are received and a robust bid for community funds should be part of the approval for planning permission.

Ridgeway have also looking to apply for a data centre on their site, although as there are residential properties on the site this may be difficult to achieve the security they need. There are also three more applications for data centres in Iver Lane, Seven Hills Road and Wexham, there will be an issue with the electricity they all require.

Any on Green belt are not likely to be approved, although Thorney and Ridgeway are not on Green belt land.

Thorney Business Park LLC are in advanced discussions with Network rail to have an entrance at the north of the station with a car park. This will be a very complex proposal as overhead cables will need to be moved and a bridge built.

Spiritual hub

The Resident's Association is still getting complaints from residents about noise and pressure is being put on us as to what we should do about it. The committee felt that this was now not their remit as we had done a fair amount of investigation and held a meeting with the Hub.

So far, some recordings of children playing had been produced by residents, but no excessive noise. As we had asked for a log of their complaints and this had not been forthcoming, most of the committee felt we should write to the residents to say that we have done as much as we can by facilitating a meeting with the leaders at the Hub.

However, it was felt by a couple of the committee that we should hold one more meeting with the Hub and discuss if actions they had promised to do had taken place and what issues the residents still had.

Their car park still has no planning permission, it was thought to be temporary but is looking more permanent.

Arun would be asked to arrange this meeting.

ACTION Graham and Arun

It was noted that the Hub had added an amendment to the planning permission for access gates that involved taking down the tree on their boundary. This was supposed to be replaced, but no new tree can be seen on any plan. It felt by the committee that we should write to object to this. The Chair will write but anyone else who would like to object should do so. Joyce will circulate the link to the planning application.

ACTION Joyce and Graham

Planning has also been sought to extend the kitchen and this was discussed as to whether this is solely for the church or for wider community event, and at what point may this be a commercial enterprise?

Date of next meeting Wednesday 15th June at 7.30pm at the Sports Club

Around the table

SMARTVILLE – it was discussed if any commercial sponsorship could be obtained, possibly from a local estate agent. Gurmail will look into this. ACTION Gurmail

Sunday 5th June Street parties can be held, and the Sports Club are looking to host an event. Picnics would be brought as well as tables, chairs, gazebos etc. Alcohol should be bought from the club bar.

They would like to get a band for this. Graham asked if the Residents Association could subsidise this if a grant wasn't available as all the money allocated to the Parish has gone to other events and this was a late application. The treasurer wondered if this was a good use of our funds which was discussed at length with some supporting and some having concerns, Wendy thought that we should be able to get a grant so it was agreed that we would help if it was needed.

Added - post meeting by Joyce – the defibrillator has now been found, new batteries and pads fitted and the loan machine is being returned.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm