

Minutes of the THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL - meeting held on Monday 18th May, 2020 commencing at 6.00pm – via Zoom Video Conference

Attendance:

Cllrs Wendy Matthews, Ann Mayling, Carol Gibson, Chris Jordan, Geoff Bennett [from 6.50pm] and Chris Woolley

Also in attendance:

Stephanie Bennett [Clerk], Martin Haley [Administration Officer] together with 9 members of the public.

Minutes taken by Martin Haley.

C.001/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

C.002/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made and no requests for dispensation received.

C.003/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No items were raised

C.004/20 MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the Council held on 4th May, 2020 be agreed subject to amendment of minute 130 that states 8 units to be replaced in Mansion Lane, this should read 7 replacement units. The Chairman signed the minutes.

C.005/20 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman explained that as a consequence of COVID 19 and the new regulations, Towns and Parish Councils are not required to hold an Annual Meeting of the Council and that existing arrangements would be carried through to May 2021. Further announcements:

- Iver Heath Pavilion – Work in progress but contractors have discovered both dry and wet rot requiring additional work. The next part will be to look at interior decoration.
- Iver Heath Play Area – the contractor will commence work on the 1st June
- Heathrow Airport Expansion – The Operator together with co Proposers of the scheme have been granted leave of Appeal, against the High Court judgement and a provisional Court Date has been set for October.
- Western Rail Link to LHR [WRLHR] – Network Rail are understood to be continuing with the scheme, regardless of the current situation, and the Development Consent Order is being applied for in July. The plans do not appear to have been amended and no provision has been made for mitigating the closure of Mansion Lane/Hollow Hill Lane at Chequers

Bridge through to Langley. The Parish Council will be taking this up with both our new MP – Joy Morrissey and Tan Dhesi MP for Slough.

- o Local Plan – former South Bucks and Chiltern District Council Hearings and examination by the Planning Inspector which were scheduled for March 2020 were postponed by the Inspectorate. This has now been dealt with as Written Representations, and the Inspector has indicated that, in his view, the joint plan would fail as the duty of care to co-operate with Slough Borough Council has not been evidenced.

C.006/20 COMMITTEE MINUTES

- a. **Planning Committee** – The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Cllr Gibson, reported that the meeting scheduled for the 31st March was not held but details of applications were circulated to the Committee and responses were ratified in the Council Meeting of the 8th April. Minutes of the 28th April were circulated.
- b. **Amenities Committee** – Cllr Mayling presented the Minutes of the 18th March and said the Council had now discussed a future use Agreement with Delaford Colts and the Football Association, and whilst recent events have now overtaken matters, the discussion were pragmatic and will be good for resumption of operations.
- c. **Policy Finance and General Purposes Committee** - Cllr Mathews presented the Minutes of the rescheduled meeting of the 28th April.

RESOLVED that

the Minutes, as presented to Council by the respective Committee Chairman, be agreed.

C.007/20 MEMBER REPORT EXTERNAL BODIES

Iver Heath Village Hall and Iver Village Hall – Cllr Woolley and Cllr Gibson advised no meetings held in either Hall over the past period and the halls are currently closed.

Grundon Waste and Recycling - Cllr Mathews confirmed no meetings held over the past period, but Grundon and the Environment Agency have now applied to vary their licence to treat and process destruction of tobacco related products recovered by HMCE and also deal with COVID 19 waste. It was also noted that the Planning application [with Slough Borough Council] for repositioning/relocation of the site in light of Heathrow Expansion plans are now on hold.

Colne Valley Park – Cllr Gibson advised that the Park has reopened but the Car Park at the Denham is still closed. LHR has now removed funding and support under its community programme. Online training courses are still taking place with posters displayed advertising these programmes that include schemes for families and children to participate during lockdown. They are also looking at work needed to repair and restore damaged created by the HS2 scheme.

Iver Good Neighbours Scheme – Cllr Jordan said that whilst the demand for its services during lockdown had been reduced, they were still having some requests. Many of the drivers and the administrators are also undertaking volunteer scheme for the current COVID 19 community care programme.

Local Area Forum - Cllr Mathews confirmed that the body had ceased to exist following the inception of the new Buckinghamshire Council. A Community Board is to be established to replace the former LAFs. IPC had received notice of funding for replacement and upgrade of lighting at the Jubilee Pavilion, prior to the end of the LAF.

C.008/20 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

The Clerk reported that Council is awaiting the results of the notices of vacancies and that if no election is called the council will need to consider co-optation at it's next meeting. Given the current situation and the date of the next election, the normal six month disqualification for non-attendance/participation via Zoom would make little difference as the consequence of which would only increase the number of vacancies.

RESOLVED that

- i) Absences would not bar participation through to the end of the current session

C.009/20 COVID 19

- a. **Community Work of the Council** - The Chairman reported an increase in the number of Community Care Kits distributed last week to 156 (these included the school requests for families in need) and that the scheme has increased the volunteer assisting with distribution, and is receiving new donations of fresh fruit and vegetables. The Chairman also reported on:
 - Support of IGNS with the supply and delivery of meals.
 - Operation of Call line (with reduced calls for new calls for assistance) is still operational.
 - Signposting Business to find local funding
 - Buckinghamshire Council now moving forward to produce COVID 19 scheme response for "new normal" for the Council and partners to call on assistance and possible funding streams.
- b. **Preparation of the Council for a return of "new normal" operations:** The Clerk reported that the Office has been reconfigured so all staff could work in accordance with self distancing. The Committee room has been made available as an Office for the Clerk and 1 Assistant Clerk. Perspex screens have been ordered for reception. With regard to staffing and operations:
 - Groundsteam now back on daily working and are not doubled up in vehicles
 - New requirements and terms of use governing operation of the Hub will be needed as it is not large enough to accommodate many people within social distancing.
 - Power assisted door will be required as staff member will not be able to assist less-abled residents
 - Need to look banking, payment receipts, printing request (items transacted on behalf of Buckinghamshire County) and other services for residents.
- c. **Council to consider proposal for local Charity:** The Clerk gave details and rationale behind proposal to set up a Charity (with Councillors as Trustees) to deliver community wellbeing improvements with partner agencies and funding partners.

RESOLVED that

- i) the Clerk to progress with a scheme to prepare the Council to be in a position to resume “new normal” operations outlined above
- ii) the Clerk to prepare a proposal to be considered by Council for a new charity focussed on improvements of Community Wellbeing

C.010/20 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Terms of Reference for new Neighbourhood Planning sub committee were circulated and discussed. It was felt appropriate that the Sub Committee will operate with a maximum 13 persons in total and will report to Policy, Finance and General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED that

The Terms of Reference of the Neighbourhood Planning Sub Committee be agreed and that the sub committee report to the Policy, Finance and General Purposes

6.40 pm Councillor Geoff Bennett joined the meeting

C.011/20 FINANCE

The following documents were received:

- a. **Schedule of Payments for April 2020:** Presented in a new format for ease of reference and reconciliation. Payments have been signed off by 2 Councillors prior to circulation. **Noted and agreed to accept and approve the schedule of payments** for April 2020 as listed.
- b. **Year End Accounts for 2019/20** were received from the clerk
- c. **Outrun Report for 2019/2020** was received from the clerk

These reports provide increased transparency and the Council expressed its thanks to the Clerk for the work in presenting same.

The clerk was requested to clarify if the LAF funding for lights has now been received.

RESOLVED that

- i) The schedule of payments be agreed
- ii) The End of Year Accounts and Outurn Report be received
- iii) All funding remaining be allocated to new specific ear marked reserves
- iv) Outurns of 2019 – 2020 be allocated to general reserves in consideration of unknown costs related to Iver Heath Pavilion refurbishment and changes to the Council infrastructure to meet Covid 19 requirements.

C.012/20 INSURANCE

The Clerk reported that the current Policies are due for renewal from the 1st June and quotes are provided.

The current providers have quoted £2,224.00 for the vehicle and machinery insurance for the year and £7593.30 for buildings and operations insurance for the year. Given the need to undertake a review of insured value during 2020 – 2021 it was felt that agreeing a 1 year policy was the best option for the Council.

RESOLVED that

Existing policies to be renewed for the quotes given for a period of 1 year

C.013/20 MEETINGS

The Clerk reported on the increase of workload and decision making of the Council and proposed that the work of the Policy, Finance and General Purposes Committee be merged into Council and for meetings to be held once a month on the third Monday.

RESOLVED that

The Policy, Finance and General Purposes Committee work be merged with Council

C.014/20 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Clerk reported that the specification for Christmas Lights was incorrect and that the quotation process needed to be rerun with a revised specification. It was requested that the Clerk repeat the process and submit a new report to Council as soon as possible

C.015/20 WEBSITE AND PRESS RELEASES

It was agreed that the following would be produced and disseminated:

- COVID 19 Response and update
- VIDEO on production of Community Care Kits to be published on all media platforms
- Neighbourhood Planning is commencing
- The groundsteam are back at work full time and looking after the public spaces

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.20 pm

Signed by the Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Date and time of next meeting:

Via Zoom Video conference – Monday 22nd June at 6.00pm

