

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 15th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 6.00PM VIA ZOOM CALL

Present: Councillors Wendy Matthews (Chairman), Ann Mayling (Vice Chair), Chris Jordan, Carol Gibson, Kevin Brown, Peter Stanhope, Arun Gaur, Ciaran Beary and Julie Cook.

In attendance: Stephanie Bennett (Clerk), Jeremy Day (Deputy Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

Before the meeting 1 minute silence was held in memory of recently retired Councillor Reg Gould

C.087/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllrs Karanveer Bembey and Geoff Bennett

C.088/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None were received.

C.089/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Council was asked how it was intended to reach members of the community not on the internet who might wish to comment on the parking consultation. The Chairman explained that the proposals being consulted on were drafted by the residents associations who have consulted with the communities and that this was an informal consultation that had to be delivered within the requirements of the Covid regulations. There was information available online and posters were on the noticeboards. Any community member who wishes hard copies of the documents to be posted can phone up and the documents will be posted.

During public participation it was also emphasized that businesses need to apply for the grants; Cllr Cook will update the information to be made available on the council's website and facebook page.

Cllr Chris Jordan also advised that a major programme of pothole repairs was about to commence in this area.

C.090/20 MINUTES
Cllr Cook wished the minutes to be amended to state that Light up The Ivers was a joint endeavour with many volunteers

RESOLVED that

Subject to the addition of the above, the minutes of 11th January 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chairman

C.091/20

CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that the parking consultation of the Community Board was live and was being hosted by the Parish Council. This is an informal consultation and if it demonstrates community support a statutory formal consultation will be undertaken by Bucks Council.

We have received good news; the £36,000 grant application to assist in delivering the new footpath at Iver Recreation Ground has been approved and the deputy clerk is commencing the project. This is a well used facility and we believe the new path will be welcomed by many.

The vaccination programme in The Ivers is going well; if anyone feels worried that they might have been missed please contact the Chairman, Wendy Matthews, who will look into this for you.

The work at Iver Heath allotments is progressing albeit more slowly now as it is very muddy.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been released as a pre Regulation 14 consultation and everyone is encouraged to have a look at it. If people wish to see a hard copy please ring the office and one will be posted to you. Please consider completing the surveys or e mail or write to us to let us know what you think.

The elections will be going ahead on the 6th May and the election pack is available on the Electoral Commission website.

C.092/20

COMMITTEE MINUTES

The committee chairmen provided overviews on the agenda items that have been considered at the committees.

RESOLVED that

The minutes Facilities and Events of 20th January 2021, Open Spaces and Highways of 27th January 2021, Planning of 5th January 2021 and Neighbourhood Planning of 14th December, 2020 18th January, 2021 and 2nd February 2021 be agreed and signed.

C.093/20

MEMBER REPORTS EXTERNAL BODIES

Iver Heath Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Chris Woolley reported that the Committee had applied for all the grants it was eligible for and was in a stronger financial position than at the end of 2020. It had also taken the opportunity to have some works done. The Hall had a vacancy for an admin assistant

Iver Village Hall

Cllr Chris Jordan reported that the committee had also applied for all the grants

Colne Valley Regional Park

Cllr Carol Gibson reported that the restructuring work was ongoing and that funding had been secured to produce a new business plan with an emphasis on generating income. The work to tackle invasive species has stopped and CVP was objecting to the development applications of Pinewood and the motorway services.

C.094/20 COMMUNITY BOARD

Cllr Peter Stanhope reported that the sub group of Green Spaces was looking at a community allotment project, the Parking sub group had commenced the parking consultation and the Community Safety sub group was looking at speed and the Smartville CCTV project

Cllr Ann Mayling reported that the Covid Response and Recovery Group was looking at pro active work to support small businesses through training provision and a hot desking availability. The group is also looking at a local online shopping portal to promote small business. We are likely to be able to put in a bid to set up the training space and hot desking space.

Cllr Chris Jordan observed that it had been a very difficult year and that although the Community Board had been successful that was only through the efforts of the volunteers on the Board. The Chairman advised that it was clear that the Board would need to find ways to engage with the officers and get them to the Board meetings to assist and advise.

Considerable discussion then took place regarding the benefits of the Community Board and the barriers that local councilors and officers were encountering when dealing with Bucks Council. It was agreed that the Board needed to reach out to more community groups. Engagement and partnership working between the Board and the Council would need to be revisited following elections.

C.095/20 FINANCE

Council received the overall budget report to 31 January 2021, the clerks summary report, the list of payments over £500, the schedule of payments Oct 2020 – Jan 2021 and the ear marked reserves movement report to 31 January 2021.

RESOLVED that

The finance reports listed above be received

C.096/20 INTERIM AUDIT

It was noted that work was required to resolve the questions regarding Trust accounts

RESOLVED that

The Interim Audit report be received

C.097/20 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

RESOLVED that

- a. The draft Neighbourhood Development Plan be agreed
- b. A pre regulation 14 consultation be undertaken for a period of four weeks

C.098/20 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PARISH CHARTER

Considerable discussion took place regarding councillor's concerns with the draft charter. It was felt that it was inappropriate for The Ivers Parish Council and that it contained considerable gaps. It was also identified that all of the commitments set down in it were not being adhered to by Bucks Council. This is the time for partnership working and all councillors are disappointed in the delivery; the Community Board is not what was promised. Devolution is not what was promised.

It was also unclear as to the process if the Charter was not adhered to.

RESOLVED that

The Ivers Parish Council does not support the content of this Charter and directs the Clerk to respond with the Council's comment

C.099/20 HEALTH AND SAFETY

There are no accidents, incidents or previously unknown issues to report

C.100/20 POLICY REVIEWS

It was noted that policy reviews are needed. Cllr Brown volunteered to assist with the CCTV policy, Cllrs Cook and Beary will look at an environmental policy review, Cllr Jordan will look at a horse policy review, and Cllr Stanhope will look at the drone policy

C.101/20 COMMUNICATIONS

The Council wished to inform the community about:

- Business and organisation grants and how to access them
- The Neighbourhood Plan consultation
- The structure of the Council with the two new committees
- The Iver Recreation Ground path (once the design is complete)
- The Grange Farm decision

C.102/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that

the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as matters which will be discussed are confidential

C.103/20 DEBTORS

Council considered the debtors and it was reported that three of the opening debtors were due to sales invoice errors.

RESOLVED that

The opening debtors of £378 (£432-£36-£18), £5 and £852.84 be written off

The meeting finished at 8.00pm

Signed Chairman

Date