



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 6th JANUARY 2020
AT ST LEONARD'S CHURCH HALL, ST LEONARD'S WALK, RICHINGS PARK**

Present: Councillor W Matthews, Chairman (Presiding)
Councillor A Mayling, Vice- Chairman
Councillor C Gibson
Councillor J Gill
Councillor R Gould
Councillor C Jordan
Councillor B Lidgate
Councillor S Lidgate
Councillor C Woolley

In Attendance: M Kennedy (Interim Clerk)

84. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman extended New Year's greetings to all Councillors and announced the funeral arrangements for past parish councillor Maureen Worrall and the death of Tony Wilson, a regular attendee of the Seniors Coffee Morning. Councillors paid their respects and stood for a period of silence.

85. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public were present. No representatives of TVP were available and no report was supplied. No District of County Councillors were present to provide a report. The Chairman announced that PCSO Ray Fisher has been transferred to Denham but will continue to operate in Iver as required; PCSO Alexandro (Alex) Hatz-Haralambou has applied to join the Met Police as a PC; and PS Anthony Mee is on paternity leave until April.

86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs G Bennett and J Bryson. Absent: Cllr K Bembe, N Harlow, and J Kaushal.

87. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

88. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 4 November 2019, be received, approved and adopted and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

89. CLERKS REPORT

Members had before them the report of the Interim Clerk. Arising from the report:

i. **NALC Spring Conference**

Details of the forthcoming NALC conference were report. No expressions of interest were voiced. It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

ii. **Disposal of Assets**

A former member of staff had asked to buy the ergonomic kneeling chair purchased specifically for the employee's needs, but which is no longer in use for a nominal fee. The Chairman reported an indicative price of £200 had been proposed although this was in some doubt given the Clerk's understanding that a nominal value had been suggested. It was **RESOLVED** that the offer be accepted, and that the item be deleted from the asset register, but that the Clerk be authorised to obtain the best price given that the chair has no value to the Council.

Clerk's post meeting note - A value of £50 has been agreed.

iii **Clock Tower**

The report gave details of the quotations sought for the restoration of the Clock Tower. In response to the Highways and Infrastructure Committee's concerns about the perceived high cost of scaffolding, revised quotations were obtained making use of a local company instead. Having regard to the revised quotation received and the comparative quotation from an alternative contractor, it was **RESOLVED** that the quotation in the sum of £4,380 plus VAT from Smith of Derby be accepted and that a 50% deposit of £2,415 be paid, in accordance with their terms and conditions, from the budget provision in 2019/20 the balance of £2,415 to applied as an earmarked reserve for payment when the work is carried out in late Spring 2020.

iv **Devolution of Assets and Functions**

The Council considered representations to the new Buckinghamshire Authority for the transfer of assets along with bids for the devolution of services having regard to the possible requirement for funding additional resources including staff. It was reported that the Buckinghamshire Authority is keen to devolve the management of open space land, village halls and community centres that have current community benefit to either parish councils or other local bodies that would increase local control over services and assets. It was **RESOLVED** that this Council submits an expression of interest for management of all open space land in the Ivers.

v **Financial Regulations**

Members reviewed its recently adopted financial regulations concerning the use of the Council's debit card and having regard to the NALC Model Financial Regulations on this aspect. In noting that para. 6.18 states that "any Debit Card issued for use will be specifically restricted to the Clerk [and the RFO] and will also be restricted to a single transaction maximum value of [£500] unless authorised by council or finance committee in writing before any order is placed", it was **RESOLVED** that the words "Chair and" in paragraph 6.15 of the Council's approved Financial Regulations be deleted, the revised section to read: *Any Debit Card issued for use will be specifically restricted to the Clerk and RFO and will also be restricted to a*

single transaction maximum value of £500 unless authorised by council or finance committee in writing before any order is placed.

vi **Permitted use of the Council's Debit Card**

Council reviewed its previously adopted policy on the permitted use of the Council's debit card having regard to the removal of all references to the Chairman from the revised financial regulations above. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council adopts the revised policy on the permitted use of the Council's debit card as set out in the Clerk's report.

vii **Christmas Lights Working Group and Donations to The Evreham Youth Group and Thames Valley Heartbeat**

Members were apprised of the Christmas Lights wash up meeting held on 19 December and the forthcoming meeting on 16 January. Council considered the appropriation of the proceeds raised at the Council's Charity Tombola in the sum of £330 to The Evreham Youth Group and the award of a donation of £200 to Thames Valley Heartbeat who provided first-aid cover throughout the event. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council awards donations of £330 to The Evreham Youth Group, representing the proceeds raised at the Council's Charity Tombola, and £200 from the event budget to Thames Valley Heartbeat.

viii **Banking Arrangements**

The Council considered the comprehensive report of the Clerk on alternative banking providers, the services, their charges and savings accounts offered. Following considerable discussion on whether the Council should invest in the Public Sector Deposit Fund, managed by CCLA, It was **RESOLVED** that the Council continues to maintain a current account with Metro Bank; opens a 95 day Business Savings account with Nationwide and deposits £100,000 in it and transfers £100,000 plus all available surplus funds to the CCLA Public Sector instant access Deposit Account the position to be reviewed in 6 months' time.

ix **BMKALC Conference**

The report gave a critique of the salient points arising from the conference on creating constructive community engagement. It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

x **Electronic Community News**

Opportunities for enhancing community engagement including the creation of a news website for the Ivers were discussed. Council supported the concept of growing our existing communication provision and further discussions will take place at the next Policy and Finance Committee on how best to take this forward. It was **RESOLVED** that £5,000 be added to the 2020/21 budget in support of this initiative.

xi **Health and Safety**

The Clerk gave an oral update report following the leak of water from the central heating system on 16 December. Although the old corroded pipework had been repaired water continues to flow from further pipework

buried beneath the flooring. The building remains cold with no heating save for portable electric heaters. A dehumidify has been hired to remove water penetration.

Two comparative quotations for pipework replacement and a new boiler install had been received. In noting that due to the age of the existing boiler a full replacement is highly recommended, it was **RESOLVED** that the quotation supplied by Plaskett Property Services in the sum of £7,885 +VAT be accepted; that the Clerk be delegated to expedite the work as quickly as possible and if necessary, resealing of the floor in the meeting room; and progress discussion with our insurance company on this matter.

xii **Grant Application Citizens Advice Bureau**

Members had before them an application for financial assistance towards providing a monthly drop in service within the Community Hub from 1st April 2020. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council awards a grant of £486 to the Citizens Advice Bureau as a contribution towards providing a monthly drop-in service at the Community Hub in Iver from the General Grants budget (as a section 137 payment).

90. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on the following matters:

- (i) The recent announcement by Heathrow that their DCO application will be delayed and consequently the building of the new runway;
- (ii) The award of distinction to Ian Hughes (Parks Service) in his Level 3 Certificate of Supervisory Management – Institute of Groundsmanship;
- (iii) The Inspector's decision to accept the Community Infrastructure Levy proposals. Report to a special meeting of SBDC in February for implementations thereafter.
- (iv) CEMEX meeting on 8 January at 1630.
- (v) Heathrow Community Liaison Meeting on 20 January at Richings Park Sports Club at 1900.
- (vi) The lease between the Council and the 1st Iver Scots for the Scout Hut in Iver Recreation ground is expected to be signed off by the Scouts Association Trust
- (vii) The unitary authority for Buckinghamshire has proposed a new Local Planning Committee for South Bucks consisting of 10 members. A strategic planning Committee for the whole of Buckinghamshire will also be established. The location of offices is unknown at this stage.

91. LAF REPORT

The Clerk updated Members on the progress made in the Council's bid for LAF funding for the lighting scheme in Iver Recreation Ground. As the remaining balance for the Wexham and Ivers LAF is £4,444, there was a realistic opportunity that the application would be favourably received. It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

92. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE CHAIRMEN OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS (Minutes had previously been circulated).

- a) **Highways and Infrastructure Committee**
It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways and Infrastructure Committee held on 6 November 2019 (Draft), and the resolutions therein be received and adopted
- b) **Planning Committee**
It was **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on the 12 November and 10 December 2019 (Draft), and the resolutions therein be received and adopted.
- c) **Amenities Committee**
It was **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on the 20 November 2019 (Draft), and the resolutions therein be received and adopted.
- d) **Policy, Finance & General Purposes Committee**
It was **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting of the Policy, Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 25 November 2019 (Draft), and the resolutions therein be received and adopted.

93. **IVER HEATH PAVILION WORKING GROUP**

The terms of reference for the Iver Heath Pavilion Working Group were presented to Council for adoption. Subject to the inclusion that the Working Group reports to the Amenities Committee, it was **RESOLVED** that the terms of reference for the Iver Heath Pavilion Working Group be adopted and that delegation be made to the Working Group to progress the project within the allocated budget.

94. **FEEDBACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Representatives on outside bodies submitted oral reports to the Council on the Colne Valley Park; The Ivers Members Liaison Group and The Ivers Good Neighbours Scheme

95. **FINANCE**

- a) The paperwork for the payment of accounts for November/December 2019 had been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** that payments as detailed be received and noted.
- b) The balance sheets and summary of income/expenditure for December 2019 had been circulated. It was **RESOLVED** that these papers be received, approved and adopted.
- c) The bank reconciliation statements for November/December 2019 had been authorised by Councillor Jordan prior to the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted
- d) Members had before them the revised estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2020/21 and accompanying detailed report of the Clerk. It was **RESOLVED**
 - (i) that the estimates of income and expenditure for the financial year commencing 1 April 2020 be received, approved and adopted; and

- (ii) that a precept of £614,160 be levied on South Bucks District Council for 2020/21.

Meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date of next meeting, Monday 2 March 2020 Iver Village Hall at 7.00pm.

DRAFT