

**THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES AND HIGHWAYS  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00PM  
VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

**Present:** Councillors Kevin Brown, Ciarán Beary, Julie Cook, Peter Stanhope, Michael Sullivan, Stuart Mills, Peter Kinchin

**Apologies:** Councillors Michael Sullivan, Wendy Matthews

**Absent:** Cllr Sam Bacchu

**In attendance:** Jeremy Day (Deputy Clerk)

**336/21        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interests were declared.

**337/21        PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were two members of the public attended the meeting.

**338/21        MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDED that**

the Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chair.

**339/21        CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Grounds Team

A new member of the Grounds Team will commence employment on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November resulting in the team now being fully resourced.

Grounds Team Training Schedule

The training schedule is being developed in conjunction with the team and will be actioned over the winter months

Plant & Equipment Maintenance Schedule

Now fully implemented and servicing of all equipment is now underway.

Iver Village Road Safety Audit

The road safety audit relating to the Community Board proposed parking scheme is now being submitted to Bucks Council for formal consultation.

The Parish Council must encourage business owners to participate fully in the consultation process.

#### Roadworks

Swan Road has been resurfaced and Slough Road resurfacing is imminent.

340/21

#### **‘ACCESS TO ALL’ AT RECREATION GROUNDS**

The report from the Deputy Clerk was received. It was agreed to separate the ‘access for all’ element from the need to keep those out of recreation grounds who abuse or damage the facilities for others. It was noted that a short term and long term plan was needed to satisfy both these elements. It was agreed to take steps to learn best practice from other organisations including local facility providers. It was also pointed out that the RADAR key scheme was a viable option.

#### **RECOMMENDED that**

the Deputy Clerk seeks advice from professional sources including the Disability Alliance as well as visits the facilities at Langley Park and brings findings and recommendations to the next Open Spaces & Highways Committee meeting.

341/21

#### **SWAN MEADOW**

The committee discussed the future of Swan Meadow and highlighted that as potential re-negotiation of the cost of the lease should be considered. A discussion took place concerning use of Swan Meadow and could it be used for temporary village parking. The Deputy Clerk, working with Cllr Julie Cook will determine some questions around viability for answering and report back to the next meeting for consideration.

It was agreed to keep the current log seating at Swan Meadow as there was significant attachment to it but signage should be placed there making users aware of the condition of it. The Deputy Clerk was asked to explore options of alternative benches and to see what options were available through the Sawmill at Black Park (a Men in Sheds project), local carpenters and to see if local children via the school could come up with some design ideas.

**342/21**

**RUBBISH BINS & DOG WASTE BINS**

The report from the Deputy Clerk was received. After discussion it was felt new rubbish bins were required at both Recreation Grounds in the Parish now.

**RECOMMENDED that**

9 new rubbish bins are purchased (5 for Iver Recreation Ground and 4 for Iver Heath) at a cost of £1,165.59

After discussion regarding Dog Waste Bins the Deputy Clerk will address the issue of new rubbish bins where ordinary waste and dog waste can be deposited with the Waste Management Team at Bucks to be placed at the two suggested locations.

**343/21**

**STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME**

The report of the Deputy Clerk was received. The order is placed and the current lead time being requested from SSE Contracting. It was highlighted that the floodlights at Iver Heath Recreation Ground are not functioning properly. The Deputy Clerk has reported this to SSE Contracting.

**RECOMMENDED that**

The Deputy Clerk submits the suggested locations to SSE Contracting so they can start surveying in advance of the delivery of the lights and commencement of the work.

**344/21**

**IVER HEATH COPSE**

The report of the Deputy Clerk was received. It was stated that the purpose of the fencing was to mark our boundary of ownership and this should continue. Long term consideration should be given to hedgerow boundaries with possible funding from DEFRA. In the short term the 3 bays of railings that have been stolen could be replaced by wire as opposed to wooden railings. Cllr Peter Stanhope agreed to supply the Deputy Clerk with details of some fencing options.

**RECOMMENDED that**

The Deputy Clerk to look into wire replacing the wooden rails as an option.

**345/21 UPDATE FROM OPEN SPACES & HIGHWAYS STRATEGY WORKING PARTY**

The notes of the last meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 were received.

**346/21 CYCLE MOUNDS AT IVER AND IVER HEATH RECREATION GROUND**

It was highlighted that both of these facilities has been previously highlighted as risks on the RoSPA reports and therefore a decision as to what to do was necessary. After discussion it was agreed that consideration to be given to removing the mound at Iver Heath Recreation Ground and a metal curve structure be installed for use with skateboards. At Iver Recreation Ground it was highlighted that the current cycle mound is used but does need significant maintenance. It was suggested professional help could be sought to improve / re-design this facility. It was agreed to refer these back to the Strategy Working Group and the Iver Heath Charity Working Group for further exploration.

**347/21 ELECTRIC CHARGING POINTS**

Following discussion, it was felt that this should be explored further and Peter Kinchin brought to the committee's attention a Government Scheme that funded 100% of installation (70% upfront & 30% on completion). Cllr Peter Kinchin agreed to forward the information to the Deputy Clerk for review and the matter to be brought back to a future meeting.

**348/21 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL HGV PROJECT 2022**

Cllr Julie Cook updated the committee on a recent meeting she had attended concerning a project managing the flow of HGV through Waddesdon (North of the county) managed by Graham Hilary at Bucks Council. The activity monitors where the source of the HGV traffic is and whether it starts in the area or simply pass through. The Project will grow in 2022 and it was suggested we could do some pre-work by identifying the locations / roads across the Parish where we have heavy flow of HGV traffic. Cllr Julie Cook will continue to keep the committee updated on developments of this activity.

**349/21 PINCH POINT PAVEMENTS**

The committee were shown video footage from Cllr Kevin Brown of several near misses lose to the roundabout at Iver Lane, Iver High Street

and Bangors Road North involving large lorries. It was agreed to pass this footage to Thames Valley Police.

**350/21**

**STREETLIGHT CONTRACT**

The Deputy Clerk reported that the current contract with SSE Contracting which started in May 2019 is due for renewal in April 2022. The Deputy Clerk had already identified some potential tenders but given the value of the contract use of Contract Finder would be necessary. The Deputy Clerk will continue to do the preparatory work to bring to the next Open Spaces and Highways Meeting.

**351/21**

**JAPANESE KNOTWEED UPDATE**

The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal update reporting that both sites had been visited by Japanese Knotweed Limited and that significant work had commenced at Hardings Row where the issue is significant and preparatory work had commenced at Swan Meadow. Second visits are schedule for early 2022. The Deputy Clerk will continue to keep the committee updated on progress.

**352/21**

**FINANCIAL COMPARISON REPORT**

The report covering the year to 31 October 2021 presented by the Deputy Clerk was received.

**353/21**

**WEBSITE / PRESS RELEASES**

The Deputy Clerk had noted that when any further consultation regarding parking schemes was in the public domain the Parish Council should actively encourage members of the public to be involved in the consultation process.

**354/21**

**IMPROVEMENTS AND EFFECTIVENESS**

Nothing identified from this meeting

The meeting finished at 8.59pm

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....