

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACES AND HIGHWAYS
COMMITTEE HELD ON 25th MAY 2022 AT 7.00PM
AT THE JUBILEE PAVILION, IVER RECREATION GROUND, IVER.**

Present: Cllr Ciarán Beary, Cllr Peter Kinchin, Cllr Sam Bhachu, Cllr Mohinder Bhatti, Cllr Adam Burke, Cllr Julie Cook, Cllr Vishal Gupta, Cllr Wendy Matthews, Cllr Peter Stanhope and Cllr Michael Sullivan.

Apologies: Cllr Paul Brooksby and Cllr Sarah Hutchins

036/22 ELECTION OF CHAIR OF COMMITTEE

Cllr Beary asked for nominations for the chair of the Open Spaces Committee. Cllr Peter Kinchin was nominated by Cllr Sam Bacchu and was seconded by Cllr Wendy Matthews. Cllr Julie Cook asked for it to be minuted that she would abstain from voting in light of her concerns that the election of chair had been pre-determined. Cllr Peter Kinchin was elected Chair of the committee by 7 votes, no votes against and 3 abstentions. Cllr Peter Kinchin took the chair.

037/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were declared.

038/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

039/22 MINUTES

There were a number of amendments to the previous minutes and the Deputy Clerk recommended he made those amendments and brought the minutes to the next meeting.

040/22 IVER RECREATION GROUND PATH

The Deputy Clerk reported that attempts were underway to get quotes relating to the area of the path where the drainage was particularly bad. He also reported that under the terms of the Grundon funding we need to have provided Groundworks with copies of paid invoices by the end of July 2022.

041/22 HEDGING AT JUBILEE PAVILION / IVER RECREATION GROUND

The Deputy Clerk reported that he had been exploring the use of hedging as opposed to trees here and that the opportunity to obtain free saplings was opening again this year from the Woodland Trust. It was noted that if the Parish Council wished to change from trees to shrubs it maybe required to make application to change the planning permission that could cost £254. There was also an opportunity to incorporate the Buddy Bench initiative that had been funded by the Community Board.

042/22 WOODEN STREET PLANTERS – BUCKS ‘WELCOME BACK’ INITIATIVE

The report of the Deputy Clerk was received. The two damaged planters to be inspected by the Grounds Team when safe to do so and a decision made as to the condition and potential option of repair / making good. The Deputy Clerk to progress the re-allocation of the rectangular planters based on an assessment of the safety aspects of them for future use.

043/22 COMMUNITY BOARD FUNDING / APPLICATIONS

The Deputy Clerk reported that he was checking the status of the Speedwatch application with the new Community Board Co-Ordinator for The Ivers and Wexham. He reported he had requested an update to the quote for the MVAS as inevitably prices will have risen in the current climate. He further reported that he was in the process of getting authorisation to purchase the sundry items from Parish Council budgets for Speedwatch activities.

044/22 MASONRY WALL ALONG IVER RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK

After discussion and advice from the Locum Clerk it was agreed that the Parish Council are required to take some responsibility for this wall as it forms part of the boundary to the Recreation Ground. The Deputy Clerk will chase up contact with the Historic Buildings office at Buckinghamshire Council and will contact a structural engineer to seek technical advice and look out the deeds document from the office files.

045/22 COMMUNITY SAFETY – SAFE STREETS AND PATHS

Cllr Ciaran Beary gave an update on the progress of this including the development of the survey for use within the Parish via Survey Monkey.

046/22 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PLAY STREETS SCHEME

After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council will not progress initiative.

047/22 APPLICATION FOR HS2 BASED FUNDING TO PROVIDE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

It was reported that Cllr Paul Griffin (Bucks Councillor) had met a representative from Bucks Council concerning upgrading all pedestrians crossings within the Parish boundaries and it was agreed the Parish Council will support this.

048/22 HIGHWAYS UPDATE

- a) Cllr Julie Cook gave an oral update concerning the HS2 HGV monitoring
- b) Cllr Julie Cook gave an update on discussions with the Local Area Technician from Transport for Buckinghamshire concerning safety arounds schools / community areas and in particular Zebra Crossings.
- c) Cllr Julie Cook gave an update on the Bucks HGV Initiative and reported this was being progressed.

049/22 RECREATION GROUND SURVEY

Cllr Julie Cook gave an update on progress and reported that the 'Teams' survey is read and needs to be put on the Parish Council website along with some commentary. Cllr Julie Cook will work with the office team to get this out to the community. Printed copies will be made available so that there is opportunity for everyone to participate – i.e. members of the Senior Coffee Morning and other potential non internet users.

050/22 ELECTRIC CHARGING POINT

Cllr Kinchin gave an oral update on progress reporting that we missed the first funding opportunity at 70% of the cost and now the funding opportunity is only 60% but our application has been completed and is in progress. This item should be presented to the next Full Council meeting.

051/22 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT IVER HEATH RECREATION GROUND

The report of the Deputy Clerk was received. Councillors agreed that the situation was intolerable. The matter of CCTV was raised and it was noted that the Facilities and Events committee had CCTV under review. It was noted that in previous years a security contractor with dogs had been employed to patrol areas at the weekend in the summer months. The Deputy Clerk will make contact with the firm used and will ask for costings. The Parish Council should look at behavioural campaigns and this could involve the local schools producing targeted designed posters.

052/22 FINANCIAL COMPARISON REPORT

Councillors received the financial comparison report to 19th May 2022.

053/22 DEPUTY CLERK UPDATES

Councillors received the written update from the Deputy Clerk and several updates were given orally. This included noting that a local family who's late Father had been a tradesman in the village for many years and there wish to make a donation towards some shrubbery in the village. The Deputy Clerk will progress with the family with the suggestion of a donation towards the shrubbery outside the Council office at 45b, High Street.

054/22 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair reminded the committee that it's objective was to serve the residents of the Parish to ensure all our open spaces and highways matters are dealt with for the good of the community. He urged everyone to participate fully and be prepared for meetings in advance. Thanks were offered to those on the committee that were particularly active and who were achieving tangible benefits previously and currently. He recognised the constraints on the Officer team currently recognising their work and continued to encourage written reports on Agenda items.

At this point Standing Order 3x was suspended to allow the last two items on the Agenda to proceed.

055/22 IMPROVEMENTS AND EFFECTIVENESS

It was agreed that a monitor of actions agreed and progress made should be maintained for the decisions made at meetings. It was stated that this had been started with a RAG monitoring system but that time recently hadn't allowed this to continue. The Deputy Clerk suggested that devising something, working with the other officers, could be used in all committees would be a huge benefit and committed to work with the rest of the team to develop this. He further committed to ensuring this was followed by this committee in the future.

056/22 WEBSITE/PRESS RELEASES

- Use of recreation ground survey to include the Forms form in MS Team. The Deputy Clerk to liaise with the Administrator to get this actioned.

- Anti-social behaviour at our Recreation Grounds item on the website to include where possible pictures of examples. Deputy Clerk to work with the Chair on this item.

The meeting finished at 9.05pm

Signed Chairman

Date