

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 3rd OCTOBER 2022 AT 7.00PM IN RICHINGS PARK SPORTS CLUB, 34A WELLESLEY AVE, IVER SL0 9BN

Present: Councillors Ciarán Beary, Sam Bhachu, Mohinder Bhatti, Adam Burke (arrived 7.18pm), Julie Cook, Sarah Hutchins, Peter Kinchin Wendy Matthews, Peter Stanhope and Graham Young.

Apologies accepted from: Councillors, Paul Brooksby, Vishal Gupta and Michael Sullivan

Absent: Councillor Stuart Mills

In attendance: Louise Steele (Locum Clerk)
One member of the public

202/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Cook and Stanhope each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 14 Iver Heath Allotments – Repairs and Maintenance on the grounds that each is an Iver Heath allotment tenant.

203/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The member of the public present asked parish councillors about highways drainage along Thorney Lane North. Councillors were sympathetic to the difficulty that the householder faced in relation to the periodic flooding of his drive and Councillors Beary and Matthews offered to liaise further with him to assist him in getting some action from Buckinghamshire Council.

204/22 MINUTES

RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting of Council on 18th July 2022 be agreed

205/22 CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

speak

206/22 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following committee minutes were received:

- a. Open Spaces and Highways 27th July 2022
- b. Planning Committee – 9th August 2022
- c. Facilities and Events Committee – 31st August 2022
- d. Staffing Committee – 18th August 2022

The Chair of the Open Spaces and Highways Committee took the opportunity to update Councillors about progress on the footpath at Iver Recreation

ground, quotes had been invited via Contracts Finder and the contract awarded, the start of works was scheduled for the next day and the risk of sacrificing the grant had been avoided.

207/22

FINANCE

RESOLVED that:

The accounts for payment for July & August 2022 be agreed

Cllr Stanhope reported that he had not yet agreed this month's bank reconciliation.

208/22

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)
EXTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT AND CERTIFICATE 2021/22**

Council considered the External Auditor Report and Certificate 2021/22 and noted that that the accounts are qualified because the value of fixed assets for 2020/21 was not restated when the accounts for 2021/22 were submitted. The restated value of £2,696,923 was known but the required amendment was not made. It was noted that further action on this point is not required.

Council further noted that a Notice of Conclusion of Audit together with the full AGAR including the External Auditor's Report and Certificate has been displayed on the parish council's website and external noticeboard since 23 September 2022.

209/22

INTERNAL AUDIT

Council noted that the Council's previously appointed internal auditor, IAC, will be unable to continue to provide Internal Audit services to the parish council.

Having considered the proposals submitted by three potential internal auditors it was

RESOLVED that:

Mulberry & Co be appointed at the Council's Internal Auditor for the remainder of the financial year 2022/23

210/22

**OPTION TO OPT OUT OF THE SAAA CENTRAL EXTERNAL AUDITOR
APPOINTMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

Council considered the recent correspondence from the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments and

RESOLVED that:

The Council would not opt out of the SAAA Central External Auditor Appointment Arrangements.

211/22

THE IVERS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – THE EXAMINER’S REPORT

Council received the Examiners report, expressed disappointment at the required removal of the policy regarding Pinewood Studios and agreed that the proposed modifications should be made so that the modified Neighbourhood Plan can proceed to referendum.

RESOLVED that:

A budget of £3,000 be made available should it be required for the additional and amended maps required for the plan.

212/22

COMPLAINTS POLICY

Council agreed an essential amendment to the parish council’s Complaints Policy removing the paragraph referring complainants to the Local Government Ombudsman (the Ombudsman does not have, and has never had, jurisdiction in relation to town & parish councils).

213/22

ACCESSIBLE PARKING IVER HEATH RECREATION GROUND

Council agreed to expenditure of £850, funded from general reserves, on marking car parking spaces at Iver Heath Recreation ground for the use of vehicles holding blue badges. Noting that the price quoted was a day rate it was agreed that as many spaces as possible at Iver Heath and Iver recreation ground car parks should be marked.

Further, Council noted that there is currently no budget provision for the maintenance of car parks at either recreation ground and that this will be addressed for 2023/24 by the inclusion of provision in the draft budget for the Facilities and Environment Committee.

214/22

IVER HEATH ALLOTMENTS – REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Council considered the issue of repair and maintenance of Iver Heath allotments. It was stressed that the Facilities and Events Committee had declined to agree any expenditure on the clearance of vacant, overgrown allotments and such work was similarly declined at this meeting.

Expenditure, to a maximum of £1,800, on repairs to the car park at Iver Health Allotments was agreed, to be funded from general reserves.

215/22

REVIEW OF STANDING ORDER 3(e) (PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)

RESOLVED that:

SO 3e is amended to read:

Members of the public may make representations, ask questions and give evidence at any meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda. Members of the public may

make representations or ask questions in respect any matter relating to Council business at an ordinary meeting of the Full Council.

216/22

REVISED CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Council agreed a revised calendar of meetings and asked that meeting dates be entered into Councillors' diaries on Sharepoint.

217/22

IMPROVEMENTS AND EFFECTIVENESS

There was nothing to record under this item.