

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 19th DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.00PM IN THE IVER HEATH VILLAGE HALL, ST MARGARET'S CLOSE SL0 0DA

Present: Councillors Ciarán Beary, Sam Bhachu, Mohinder Bhatti, Adam Burke (arrived late), Julie Cook, Vishal Gupta, Sarah Hutchins, Peter Kinchin, Wendy Matthews, Peter Stanhope, Michael Sullivan and Graham Young

Apologies accepted from: Councillors Paul Brooksby and Stuart Mills

In attendance: Louise Steele (Locum Clerk)
Two members of the public

332/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Council received apologies for absence as recorded above.

333/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared no interests in respect of items on the agenda.

334/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public (formerly a parish councillor) distributed photographs of the work recently undertaken on the footpath at Iver recreation ground and asked parish councillors if they were satisfied with the quality of the work. In the discussion that ensued it was stated that the work was undertaken in accordance with the agreed specification. The Locum Clerk indicated that a full update on the contract would be placed on the agenda for the next scheduled Full Council meeting.

335/22 MINUTES

RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting of Council on 14th November 2022 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed as such by the Chair.

336/22 CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair thanked all Councillors for their work on the Christmas Light switch-on. The Chair also reminded Councillors that, as agreed, Civility & Respect training was being arranged for the New Year.

337/22 COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following committee minutes were received:

- a. Open Spaces and Highways 23rd November 2022
- b. Planning Committee –8th November 2022
- c. Facilities and Events Committee –2nd November 2022

338/22

FINANCE

A schedule of accounts for payment paid in November 2022 totalling £122,985.61 was considered. Some Councillors declined to agree a payment of £40,800 made on 15 November 2022 in respect of the new pathway at Iver Recreation Ground.

RESOLVED that:

The accounts for payment for November 2022, at a total of £82,185.61 be agreed

Cllr Stanhope reported that he had not yet checked the bank reconciliations for the previous month.

339/22

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Council received the report of the Internal Auditor upon the interim audit conducted on 14 November 2022 considered the recommendations therein and agreed an action plan (attached to these minutes) for addressing those recommendations.

Council noted that the overall opinion of the audit report was that “the systems and internal procedures at Ivers Parish Council are well established and followed” and staff were thanked for ensuring this was so.

340/22

NOTIFICATION OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT FOR THE 2022-23 FINANCIAL YEAR FOR THE 5 YEAR PERIOD UNTIL 2026-27

Council noted that the external auditor appointed by the SAA Central External Auditor Appointment Arrangements for the financial years 2022-23 to 226-2027 will be PKF Littlejohn LLP.

341/22

FEES & CHARGES

Council received the schedule of Fees & Charges set out by the Facilities and Events Committee and

RESOLVED that:

The schedule of Fees & Charges (attached to these minutes) was agreed effective from 1 April 2023.

It was noted that fees and charges for burials for 2023-24 were yet to be agreed.

342/22

FIRST DRAFT BUDGET 2023/24

Council considered the first draft of the Council's budget for 2023/24 and noted that further work was required to reduce the net budget requirement. It was agreed that an informal meeting of parish councillors be held before the

next meeting of Council so that Members had the opportunity to consider the detail of the budget before considering it formally on 16 January 2023.

343/22

BANK MANDATE

Council noted, with regret, that Metro Bank had been unable to action the Council's decision to change its mandate. Further, that so much time had elapsed since Metro Bank was first instructed it was now necessary that the decision be made afresh so that the minutes and mandate may be dated within the last three months.

RESOLVED that:

Stephanie Bennett, Ann Mayling and Kelly Willcox be removed from the bank mandate; and

Jeremy Day (Deputy Clerk) be added, further that it be specified Jeremy Day be able view all accounts, to set up payments and sign payments, that no debit card is required and he can undertake all actions except administration on Commercial Online Banking.

344/22

ACTION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY – REPLACEMENT BUS SHELTER

Members noted the following actions carried out, on grounds of urgency, using the Clerk's delegated authority.– on Friday 18th November the parish council's bus shelter outside Iver Village Junior School was partially demolished as a result of being hit by a vehicle and was left beyond repair. The Deputy Clerk made the area safe and subsequently, acting on the Locum Clerk's instructions under her delegated authority, informed the insurance company, a made an insurance claim for a replacement bus shelter (that claim has been paid) and has ordered the new bus shelter which it is anticipated will be installed mid to late February 2023. The cost to the Council be the £125 excess.

345/22

IVER UNITED CHARITIES

Council noted a letter received from the Clerk to the Iver United Charities The Council was asked to approve the charities' appointment of Mrs Ann Mayling as the parish council's nominated appointee.

Questions were asked about the Parish Council's role in relation to the Iver United Charities and what nomination rights the council had. In the absence of clarity it was agreed to approve the appointment of Mrs Ann Mayling but to ask for a copy of the charities' constitution for future reference.

346/22

SOUTH BUCKS ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (SBALC)

Council received the minutes of the annual general meeting of SBALC, noted the new constitution for SBALC and considered whether The Ivers Parish Council should remain a member of SBALC.

RESOLVED that:

- the parish council remain a member of SBALC;
- pay a £20 annual subscription;
- Councillor Wendy Matthews be nominated as the Council's voting member of the executive committee; and
- Councillors Julie Cook and Vishal Gupta be nominated as observer members of the executive committee.

347/22

BUCKINGHAM AND MILTON KEYNES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Council received an oral update from Councillor Cook and thanked her for that update.

348/22

IMPROVEMENTS AND EFFECTIVENESS

There was nothing to record under this item.

349/22

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC/RECRUITMENT OF A NEW CLERK

Items 18 & 19 on the agenda were deferred to a future meeting of Council or the Staffing Committee as appropriate.

The meeting ended at 8.06 pm

Signed Chair

Date