

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Ibstone Parish Council at 9.55pm on Monday 15th May 2017 at Ibstone C of E School

Present:

Mr. Richard Scott	Chairman
Mr. Jeremy Malkinson	Vice-Chairman
Mrs. Melanie Grimsdale	Councillor
Mr. Simon Hammond	Councillor
Mr. Michael Wright	Councillor

And also present

Mrs. Deirdre Hansen Parish Clerk

2 members of the public present.

1. No apologies were received.
2. The Chairman gave his report

Chairman's report May 2017

1. The year to May 2017 has been another active one for your Parish Council.
2. **Planning Matters**
3. A variety of planning applications within the parish boundaries were referred to us for comment by Wycombe District Council. Most were non-contentious, although a refusal to permit a new house to be built on the front of the site of Abbatsfield has been taken to appeal. The outcome is awaited.
4. The Parish Council strongly supported villagers affected by misuse of the timber yard behind Blue Hills and WDC took enforcement action which has resulted in the occupiers vacating the site.
5. We commented to WDC on their proposals (contained in the Draft Local Plan) to allocate a site at the end of Mill Road Stokenchurch for housing. We are also currently trying to contact developers who have consulted with Stokenchurch Parish Council over a proposal to build 140 houses and other associated buildings on the site of Little Studdridge. Both of these sites are in the local AONB, and although not in our Parish they have the potential to impact Ibstone to a greater degree than Stokenchurch.
6. **Traffic Matters**
7. We are most grateful to Councillor Grimsdale and other villagers who have continued to operate Community Speedwatch with the assistance of the police. In addition, the PC purchased a Mobile Vehicle Activated Device with much appreciated financial assistance from Ibstone Horticultural Society. It has been deployed in various positions in the village and in every case we have had local reports of traffic slowing down in its vicinity, so it is clearly contributing to a safer traffic environment.
8. We continue to monitor parking of vehicles on the Common, but to date there appears to be no significant exacerbation of problems which existed before the closure of the informal bays opposite The Fox in 2015.
9. Ibstone Volunteer Drivers Scheme continues to provide a valuable service for those who use it.
10. **Ibstone School**
11. The PC attended the consultation meeting given by the school in order to assess and comment upon its application to increase the upper age range of pupils from 7 to 11 over the next few years. There was no requirement for the school to consult with us but we ensured that villagers were kept aware of their opportunities to comment. Bucks County

Council gave consent and the school is now making specific plans to implement their growth strategy.

12. Village Fireworks Evening

13. The PC supported another well attended event organised on 5th November 2016, and our thanks go once again to Karen Hammond and her expert team of willing helpers.

14. M40 Noise

15. We are most grateful to David Anker who has been our liaison with the M40CEG for another year. He continues to monitor the proposals of the Highways authorities in order to ensure that no decisions are taken that could be materially detrimental to the amenity of residents in the village.

16. Memorial to the end of the Great War

17. We are investigation options to erect a suitable memorial in the village in 1918.

18. Litter Pick

19. Another very useful litter pick was carried out by many villagers on 1st April this year. It was once again organised by Irene and Rass Randall and we are most grateful to them for their efforts in doing so.

20. Best Kept Village Competition

21. The Parish Council has entered Ibstone into the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village competition for 2017, in the category for communities of up to 500 people. It will be judged during June and July this year, so please support us by keeping your frontages neat and tidy, and picking up any litter you see on Ibstone Road and Grays Lane or elsewhere when you are out walking.

22. P.C.Clerk

23. I would once again like to record my thanks to Deirdre Hansen, our Parish Clerk, who has kept us on the straight and narrow for another year – and to my fellow Councillors for all their hard work and time spent in running our Parish Council

3. The Responsible Finance Officer gave the Finance report for 2016-17, see attached.

4. Any other business:

The Head of Ibstone C of E School asked the PC for financial assistance of £150 in the purchase of a hearing loop for the school hall to enable the hall to be used by those residents hard of hearing. It was agreed that the PC would ask WD Cllr C Whitehead for a contribution from his fund. Action Clerk.

The Chairman.....

date.....