

UNCONFIRMED
Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
held Monday 25th March 2024 at Ibstone CE Primary School, Ibstone

Present:

Cllr Richard Scott – Chairman
Cllr Melanie Grimsdale – Vice-Chair
Cllr Holly Hammond
Cllr Kendra Gittus
Cllr Simon Hammond

Lorna Coldwell, Clerk

0 members of the public present

144. Apologies:

Buckinghamshire Councillors Mark Turner, Dominic Barnes, and Zahir Mohammed.

145. Declaration of interests:

None declared.

146. To confirm the minutes from the previous meeting:

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of 23rd January 2024 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

147. Buckinghamshire Councillors:

Nothing to report.

148. Update on actions:

- a) It was noted that the play area had been checked. The RoSPA inspection will be carried out during May, Cllr S Hammond will trim the area before then.
- b) It was noted that the AED has been checked.
- c) HMRC monthly requirements fulfilled.
- d) BC news emails distributed.
- e) Chairman:
 - The Chair gave formal thanks to Mr and Mrs Randall for organising and co-ordinating the recent litter pick in the village. 35 bags of rubbish were collected during the day.
 - The ponds on the Wormsley Estate – Savills, their land agent have confirmed that there are no grants available to help with any maintenance works. The Estate Manager will therefore speak to their contractors and come back to Chair with a plan.
 - Parking on the Common – this is still under discussion; Chair will continue to have ongoing communications with Wormsley Estate and the Cricket Club for a more permanent solution to avoid further erosion around the edges.

149. Meetings/training attended:

24/01/24 – Buckinghamshire Council Parish Liaison meeting (Clerk)
27/02/24 – Buckinghamshire Council Planning Liaison meeting (Clerk)
Various January – “Free January” webinars by BMKALC
27/02/24 – Buckinghamshire Council Planning Forum (Clerk)
28/02/24 – South West Chilterns Community Board meeting (Clerk)
19/03/24 – SLCC Branch Meeting (Clerk)

All slides have been forwarded to Councillors.

150. WW I memorial:

All Cllrs approved a black sign with white writing at a cost of £104 inc VAT, with the wording to be repeated wording from the previous sign.

151. Planning:

a. Buckinghamshire Council decisions:

[23/08024/CLP – Foden Bank Ibstone Road Ibstone](#) – Certificate of lawfulness for proposed construction of single storey side extension and chimney – **Refuse Certificate of Proposed Use**

[24/05159/FUL – Great Wood Cottage Ibstone Common Ibstone](#) – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a new 5 bed dwelling house (alternative scheme to pp 21/08533/FUL) – **Application Permitted**

[23/08122/VCDN – Cholsey Grange Ibstone Road Ibstone](#) – Variation of condition 2 (plan numbers) attached to pp 19/07695/FUL (Erection 4 x 3-bed, 2-storey, traditional dwellings comprising a terrace of 3 cottage style properties and a single detached dwelling, associated soft and hard landscaping) allowed at appeal) in order to allow for changes to internal layouts – **awaiting decision**

b. Appeals to the Secretary of State:
None at this time.

c. New Applications in the parish to be commented on:

[24/05335/FUL – Foden Bank Ibstone Road Ibstone](#) – Householder application for construction of single storey side extension and new chimney – **no objection**

[24/05276/FUL – Stable Building Ashfield Dairy Unit Holloway Lane Turville](#) – Conversion of existing stables into 3 staff flats with associated alterations – **no objection**

152. To discuss issues with SSE and power outages in the parish; a representative from SSE has been invited to attend

No representative attended, with no response from SSE. It was resolved to write to SSE asking for an explanation for the recent problems, with a further invite to the next meeting.

Action:Clerk

153. To discuss whether to develop if appropriate a Biodiversity Policy

Biodiversity in relation to the parish was discussed in relation to Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, updated by Section 102 of the 2021 Environment Act where parish and town councils must consider biodiversity and nature recovery. We do not own any land or buildings, nor do we manage any land except for the small piece by the play area on the Common. It was resolved that Ibstone Parish Council will consider biodiversity when responding to planning applications and will support and encourage organisations within the community to become involved in biodiversity projects. There is an ongoing commitment to encourage, support and conserve nature and enhance biodiversity in the parish.

154. To discuss the application to Buckinghamshire Council under Highways Act Section 119 to divert footpath Ibstone 3B

After a discussion, it was resolved not to object to the proposed diversion, which is the preferred route currently used by walkers. Clerk to inform Buckinghamshire Council. As a matter of principle, the PC would usually object to amendments to ancient Rights of Way, but this case appears to be exceptional and on that basis there is no objection.

Action:Clerk

155. To discuss a new noticeboard, following the damage to the previous in storms

Cllr Grimsdale obtained several quotations and narrowed it down to 2. It was agreed to proceed with a single door noticeboard at a cost of £1182 inc VAT, and Clerk will see if there is still a grant available to fund/part fund.

Action:Clerk

156. Financial matters:

a) Check and approve bank reconciliation – Cllr Gittus approved and signed.

Bank Balances as of 23/01/24:**Total Funds: 18071.69**

Current account 12974.10

Less January payments post meeting (3.00)

Less February payments (350.55)

Total as of 14/03/24 12620.55

Savings account 5097.59

Interest Feb 5.63

Interest Mar 5.63

Total as of 14/03/24 5108.85**Combined Total as of 1/03/24 17433.85**

Earmarked for road sign 400.00

AED Reserve 175.00

Unreserved funds as of 14/03/24 16858.85

b) Clerk's working time: Noted.

Contracted hours per week – 5.5 hrs (month 23.8)

Jan - Mar 2024 – total contracted hours 72h, 66h 30m worked up to 14/03/24

c) Approve clerk salary for Mar/Apr 2024 @ £315.55 per month by S/O: Approved

d) Approve the payments as listed below: Approved

To Whom	Description	£
Mrs L Coldwell	Clerk expenses Jan/Feb	18.34
Total Value		18.34

e) Review accounts year to date against budget: Noted

Summary of accounts to date: 14/03/24

Accounts:

Expenditure	Year to date spend £	Budget 2023/2024 £	Income £	Year to date £
Clerk salary	3471.05	4050.00	Precept	9800.00
Admin expenses	68.61	400	Bank Interest	53.83
Working from home allowance	500.00	500.00	Ibstone Horticultural Society donation	200.00
Web site/email	414.72	150.00	BMKALC Refund	26.82
Subscriptions	117.27	190.00		
Audit		75.00		
Insurance	495.00	520.00		
Playground inspection	75.00	70.00		
Training		100.00		
Maintenance		750.00		
Planning advice		500.00		
Sundry	35.00	200.00		
Defib replacement		175 (reserve)		
Kings Coronation celebrations	1898.00	1000.00		
Platinum Jubilee celebrations		500.00		
Common/Pond maintenance		700.00		
Highway "Warning Animal" post	329.22	0		
VAT Spent	7403.87	9680.00		
Total EXP.			Total INC	10026.82

Clerk to investigate a higher interest rate bank account to hold monies in.

157. Members questions:

- Cllr S Hammond discussed damaged footpath signposts, Clerk has reported these signs several times and will chase Rights of Way at Buckinghamshire Council. He proposed condensing the signs on the land next to Ibstone CE School, some of which are currently damaged, to have them all on one post rather than several. He will investigate options and report back.

Action:Cllr S Hammond

158. The date of next meeting:

The date was confirmed as Tuesday 14th May, to be held at the Chilterns Fox, Ibstone (TBC). This will follow the Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meetings.

The meeting was closed at 20.35.

The Chairman Date