

# ***Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Ibstone Parish Council at 7.30pm on Monday 30th April 2012 at the Cricket Pavilion***

**Present:**

Mrs. I. Randall	Chairman
Mr. R. Scott	Vice-Chairman
Mrs. M. Grimsdale	Councillor
Mrs M. Smith	Councillor
Mr. J. Malkinson	Councillor

Mrs. D Hansen          Parish Clerk

3 members of the public were present; Joan Woodward, Christopher Harbord and Judith Barber.

1. The Chairman welcomed the members and the public present.
2. There were no apologies.
3. The Chairman's gave her annual report see attached appendix I.
4. The Responsible finance Officer gave the Finance Report: see attached appendix II.

The meeting closed 7.40pm

**The Chairman..... date.....**

## **Appendix I**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL 2011-2012**

In this last year we have held 6 ordinary Parish Council meetings and 2 extraordinary meetings. In addition to these, your councillors have attended external meetings with Wycombe District Council and Bucks County Council as well as briefing sessions to keep us up to date with issues such as changes to planning legislation. We have a PC representative on the governing board of Ibstone School which also involves a great deal of input. We work hard to give you good value for money, having reduced our precepts in last 2 years to reflect the difficult economic times.

The council is in healthy financial condition and our biggest spend in this last year was on improving the safety of the section of road next to the telephone box. The road markings and signage have been improved and we have to thank our county councillor, Bob Woollard for making a large financial contribution to helping with this. We would like to make further improvements to make it safer for pedestrians but are still seeking a solution that would be acceptable to local house owners.

The "No HGV" signs were erected at the exits off the M40 and appear to have done the trick. They had to be designed for us and passed through the Department for Transport which all took time but I notice that they are now in use in several villages in and out of our county. We will never stop all HGVs trying their luck but the number has been considerably reduced.

The problem of the flooding of the road next to Crown Cottage APPEARS to have been solved with no incidents despite the recent deluges. However it will only remain so if BCC maintain the drains and keep them clear. Our job is to make sure they do.

The phone box is still looking very sad but a group of volunteers promise that they will be starting the renovation this summer. There was a considerable delay waiting for the electricity company coming to terminate the supply temporarily. An extremely comprehensive refurb was considered but now a simpler and quicker option is more likely.

Many planning applications have come to us for consideration and comment over the past year but none more controversial than the Fox's application for increased licensing hours. These are now in force and comments will be fed back to the management team about the impact on the village.

Garsington Opera had its first season at Wormsley and had little adverse effect on the village. The organisers changed their original traffic system plans following concerns aired by Ibstone PC amongst others and in the event, there was little increase in traffic and certainly no disruption. Garsington have just applied for an increase in the number of performances they can hold from 24 to 45 and this will be discussed at the following Ordinary Village meeting.

We have lost our only bus service, the twice a day 104, however since in a period of 6 months only 3 journeys were registered, 2 of which I made, we were not in a position to fight this too hard. Obviously the school bus services remain.

We have had our frustrations in the year with projects such as Community Oil Buying Schemes and improved Broadband initiatives being outside the scope of our remit as a Parish Council. There has to be a direct benefit or vested interest to the parish council, if we are to organise the projects. If we

had a village hall using heating oil then we could have acted as an organiser, but we don't, so we can't. Instead we have to act as catalysts encouraging others and supporters.

We have had requests for improved playground facilities next to the cricket field and since the recent safety inspection of the slide showed that it really is needing to be replaced we will be discussing this in detail at our following Ordinary meeting.

The Parish Council has arranged for Ibstone to be the site of one of the country's beacons celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> of June and we are helping to provide facilities for the village's Jubilee celebrations being organised for the following weekend of the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of June.

I would like to add my personal thanks to my colleagues on the council, Richard Scott, Melanie Grimsdale, Margy Smith and Jeremy Malkinson who have worked hard to protect and enhance our village throughout our last year. Not forgetting of course our clerk, Deirdre Hansen who keeps us on the straight and narrow.