

IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2024

The Parish Council held an Ordinary Meeting at Ibstone School on Monday 25th March. We apologise for the fact that we were unable to display the agenda in advance on our notice board adjacent to the phone box but you will have seen that it was damaged in the recent gales. We are in the process of ordering a new one and plan in future to email an agenda to villagers as well as posting it on the board before all meetings.

Items discussed at this meeting included the following:

1. **Council Elections.** The next election of councillors for the Parish Council will be in May 2025. On Tuesday 14th May 2024 we will hold the Annual Parish Council Meeting, Annual Parish Meeting and our next Ordinary Meeting at 7.30 p.m. at a venue to be confirmed. At the first of these our Chairman for the year will be appointed. I have decided, after many years in the position, to step down but will remain a councillor until 2025 when I will retire.
2. **Traffic speeding.** We continue to search for affordable ways in which to try and reduce the dangers of traffic speeding through the village. We recently researched a 20 m.p.h limit at the school but were told that there would have to be a fatality (!) before Bucks Highways or the police would consider one, and we have been pressing for some time to have the failing border white lines along the ‘chicane’ below the phone box renewed as these have been shown to be effective.
3. **Ibstone Common Erosion.** We are in discussion with The Wormsley Estate and the Cricket Club to agree the most efficient and least unsightly way to limit erosion due to car parking around the cricket pitch and along the rest of its perimeter and have budgeted towards the eventual cost.
4. **Ibstone Common Planting.** Three saplings have recently been planted on the Common behind the playground area. Wormsley, who own the land, were not consulted and do not want a precedent created so intend to remove them. If you know who planted them please put them in touch with Jonny Morris, the Wormsley Estate

Manager, at jonny.morris@wormsley.com in case there is a satisfactory explanation.

5. **Fly-tipping.** There have been several recent incidences of fly-tipping in the parish and all have been reported to Bucks Highways, often many times. Their response is rarely rapid and the more reports they get the better. If you see any it is easy to report it at **fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk** The same address applies for pot holes and all other Highways matters.
6. **Litter Picking.** Thank you to everyone who participated in the Village Litter Pick on 16th March – and particularly to Irene and Rass Randall who organised the day so well once again. The village and its approaches look so much better for it.
7. **Road Flooding.** This is a constant problem and we regularly chase Bucks Highways to clear our choked drains, particularly below the school. The fact is that there are not enough of them and as we have been told that road sweeping services are no longer available to the village (when did you last see a road sweeper here anyway?) we can all help by clearing those that exist with a stick whenever we walk past them.

Finally, please remember that our meetings are open to you all and you are welcome to raise any issues at them or to contact our Clerk clerk@ibstone.org or any of our Councillors whose contact details can be found on our website www.ibstone.org at any other time.

Richard Scott