

IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

You're probably aware that there has been a great deal of controversy over the future of our most local library in Stokenchurch. It is one of several libraries that have been selected by Bucks County Council to be turned into community run projects as part of their cost cutting measures. BCC has to reduce the cost of its library service by a further £688,000 over the next 3 years. The consultation exercise finishes in February and this will be followed by workshop style meetings to discuss ideas and suggestions, e.g. the library in West Wycombe is now also a cake shop. You can get further information by going to the Stokenchurch Library section of the Buckscc website.

The Chairman of Wycombe District Council, Councillor Bill Bendyshe Brown attended our latest meeting. He is visiting all the PCs in the WDC area. One of his main objectives in his period of office is to help the small and medium sized businesses in the area and he has organised several networking opportunities such as business breakfast meetings. If you would like more information about what is on offer, please email our clerk and we will put you in touch, clerk@ibstone.org.uk.

The Wormsley Estate has approached the PC about its intention to put a gate on the Common to protect it from unwelcome visitors who might want to camp there. Until now the Estate has filled in the ditch to allow access for village events such as the village show. After each event, the ditch has had to be re-instated. This is obviously a costly procedure and they are now looking at the possibility of installing some sort of gate system instead. The PC has pointed out that this may infringe the 'enclosure of common' legislation which is being further investigated but the PC is also sympathetic to the cost to the Estate associated with each event.

Recently, the wet weather has resulted in 10" of flood water lying on the road just down from the entrance to Twigside. This has only become a problem since BCC spent £8,000 improving the drainage at the request of the Twigside Estate to prevent their fields being water logged. We have emailed photographs of the problem to the department concerned and are urging their prompt attention.

Our next meeting will be held in the cricket pavilion on the 8th of March at 7.30. We hope to see you there and in the meantime, Happy New Year from Ibstone Parish Council!