

IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held 30th January 2007
The Cricket Pavilion

PRESENT

Mrs. G Storey	Chairman
Mr. C Harbord	Councillor
Dr T Keable-Elliott	Councillor
Mr. R Martin-Fagg	Councillor
Mr. M Smith	Councillor
Mrs. I Randall	Parish Clerk
Two members of the public	

07.47 Apologies for absence
Mr. Robert Emmett

07.48 Declaration of interest
None

07.49 Minutes of the meeting 11th October 2006
The minutes were agreed to be a true record and signed by the chairman.

07.50 Matters arising

06.19 Speed Limits

Mrs. Storey noted the letters sent by several villagers in support of the Parish Council in asking for the speed limit to be reduced to 30mph sooner than scheduled by Bucks County Council.

Mrs. Storey reported on the meeting held with Cnclr. Woollard and Cnclr. Emmett to discuss the Speed Limit Review. They noted the concerns voiced by the Parish Council and villagers, including the exacerbation of the problem by the introduction of satellite navigation systems in cars, but because of budget restraints they could do nothing now to bring forward Area 8's speed limit changes. Cnclr. Woollard and Cnclr. Emmett indicated that they might be able to provide some sort of financial support if the village decided to install SIDs. They thanked the Parish Council for making them aware of the particular issues that face Ibstone village with its proximity to the motorway and the increase of traffic.

The Parish Council agreed to re-iterate its request to the final consultation stage of the Speed Limit Review that the 30mph limit be extended south past the school.

It was also decided to further research the possibility to having 2 Speed Indication Signs, one at either end of the village and to solicit residents' views at the AGM in May.

06.24 Neighbourhood Watch

Councillor Harbord has taken responsibility for the village Neighbourhood Watch and reported that he has registered as a Ringmaster. He is to contact those villagers who have expressed an interest and look for other local coordinators with the aim of setting up a group in the village. Cnclr. Smith reported that the subject had not been raised at the Horticultural Society meeting.

06.27 Verges and footpath to school

A meeting of councillors with James Mawson of Bucks CC resulted in agreement that the overgrown path opposite Crown Cottage would be cleared and covered with a form of hogging. The work is due to begin on Friday the 9th of February and will be carried out by the Chiltern Society. Cnclr. Keable-Elliott requested that an approach be made to BCC about adopting this and being responsible for the maintenance of the path.

A meeting of councillors with Si Khan and Stuart Young of BCC to look at damaged verges resulted in a decision by BCC to re-inspect in the spring and to re-instate where necessary. Cnclr. Keable-Elliott agreed to approach the residents in Grays Lane about cutting back their hedges so that trucks did not have to mount verges on the other side of the lane.

In response to a letter about the resurfacing of the local roads, Stuart Young of BCC stated that there were no plans to do this because of budgetary constraints.

Most of the potholes in the road to the windmill have now been filled in. The Clerk had reported to BCC that one very bad pothole still remained and this was scheduled to be repaired.

06.44 The Common – cutting and the ditch

Wormsley Estate has agreed that they will try to cut the common later in the year but emphasised that they do take great care of the local flora and fauna. They will fill in a small section of the ditch to allow pedestrians to cross to the main common as soon as the weather is good enough to allow heavy machinery on to the Common.

06.28 Salt Bins

The majority of residents in Grays Lane thought that a salt bin was unnecessary.

06.42 Planning enforcement at Sturridge Farm

Cnclr. Emmett is to talk to Wycombe DC Planning about this and report back. Cnclr. Storey asked that any expiry date of the Sturridge Farm panning enforcement be explored.

07.51 Financial Matters

A. The budget for the spending up to January 2007 was approved.

B. Cheque payments

Details of cheques that had been written since 10th May were presented:

200 G. Storey (printing road safety leaflet)	£20.40
201 Spoiled cheque	
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203 I Randall (Clerk salary Oct 06-Jan 07 after deductions)	£294.00
204 I Randall, stationery exes	£156.17
205 Annual Sub for SLC	£ 61.00
206 NI & PAYE on Clerk's salary	£382.80

The balances are still healthy and in surplus

C. There was a discussion of the Precept to be set for the next financial year. It was agreed that a provision be included for Speed Indication Signs and also for an Ibstone Parish website to provide more effective communications between villagers and the Parish Council. Further research was required on the possible format and associated costs. It was decided to seek opinions on this website at the AGM in May.

D. It was decided to apply for BCC 'Bonus Ball' funding for SIDs or for repair of any damaged verges.

07.52 Planning

- 06/05842 Mr. and Mrs. C Harbord
Crown Cottage
Conversion of outbuilding to residential use ancillary to existing dwelling
Parish Consent, WDC pending
- 06/06820/F Lavender Developments
Flint Cottage, Ibstone Road
Demolition of existing and erection of 4 bed detached
Parish Consent WDC approve
- 06/06947/F Jessica Getty
Twigside Farm
Replace approved scheme with new development
Parish object WDC approve
- 06/07090/F Mr. and Mrs. Sumptor
Cherry Tree
Erection of stables
Parish approve WDC approve

- 06/07156/F Ibstone Church of England 1st School
Erection of timber fitness trail
Parish approve WDC approve
- 06/07609/F Mr. & Mrs. S Fox
Keepers
Ibstone
Demolition of existing dwelling and most of adjacent raised
terraces and erection of replacement dwelling
Parish approve WDC pending

07.53 Footpaths IB10, IB15 and IB23
Mrs. Janis Harman and Mr. Michael Cusden of Hambleden addressed the meeting to voice their concerns about the fencing in of the above footpaths. Several sections had been enclosed by high hurdling on both sides and although it was accepted that this is not illegal, there were Health & Safety concerns about walkers being trapped in these enclosed paths with deer. They felt that the fencing and hurdles were unsightly in an area of AONB. Mrs. Harman and Mr. Cusden requested the support of Ibstone Parish Council, in which Parish the footpaths lie, in trying to ensure that no further enclosure is carried out. It was agreed that Cnclr. Storey would contact the owners Mr. & Mrs. Woodford to discuss the matter and the council would write to James Mawson of BCC to register the council's interest in the matter. It was also agreed to raise the matter with the representatives of the Chiltern Conservation Board who had been elected in 2006.

07.54 Parish Council Elections
It was noted that the formal Notice of Election will be published by the Returning Officer at Wycombe District Council Offices on or shortly after the 26th March. Mrs. Randall had already posted a note on the Parish Council notice board and an article in the Parish Magazine advertising the elections in May. Nomination forms must be returned to the Electoral Services Manager at Wycombe District Council Houses before noon on the 4th of April.

07.55 Councillors' areas of Responsibility
It was agreed that the Parish Councillors would take on certain areas of responsibility in dealing with Parish matters.

POLICY - Gina Storey

E.g. 'Imagine the Future', Post Office Network consultation, Waste disposal

SECURITY – Christopher Harbord

Neighbourhood Watch, police liaison

HIGHWAYS – Tony Keable-Elliott

Speed restrictions and SIDs, Motorway noise, Road maintenance, Bus Service

COUNTRYSIDE – Mike Smith

Flora, fauna, common, footpaths and verges

COMMUNICATIONS – Roger Martin-Fagg

Website and village liaison

FINANCE & PLANNING - All

- 07.56 Report on the Noise on the Motorway meeting
Cnclr. Keable-Elliott attended the meeting in November in Stokenchurch and reported that the only practical and effective way to reduce motorway noise is by erecting barriers or resurface the road and there are no plans to resurface that section of the M40 for 12 years. Evidence showed that a fence erected on one side of a motorway often made the problem worse for those on the other side. A fence has been erected on the Stokenchurch side. The cost of such sound barriers is £1,000 per metre. It was decided to write to local councillors and MPs expressing concern that this problem will increase as Government plans to more evenly distribute traffic movements to ease congestion will mean more traffic noise 24 hours a day.
- 07.57 Village Tree Warden
It was decided that there was no need for a village tree warden and any matters arising would be passed to Cnclr. Smith.
- 07.58 Requests for grants
A grant of £50 was agreed for the Noise on the M40.
- 07.59 AOB
It was agreed to approach Tony Grant to see if he was willing to organise a rubbish clearing session around the village.
- 07.60 Date of Next Meeting & AGM
May 15th 2007 8pm at the Cricket pavilion.

Meeting closed at 9.52pm