

*The Annual Parish Meeting of Ibstone
Parish Council at 7.30pm on Monday 19th May
2008 at the Cricket Pavilion*

PRESENT

Mr. C Harbord	Chairman
Mrs. I. Randall	Vice-Chairman
Mr. S. Cutler	Councillor
Mrs. M. Grimsdale	Councillor
Dr R. Keable-Elliott	Councillor

Mrs. D Hansen Parish Clerk
PCSO Jon Bateman
And 8 members of the public were present

1. No apologies were received.
2. The minutes had been signed 10/07/07.
3. Chairman's report:

The new Parish Council was elected in May 2007. I would like to introduce Irene Randall, Vice-Chairman; Dr. Keable-Elliott, who was chairman for nearly 20 years; Melanie Grimsdale and Shaun Cutler. Cllrs Randall, Grimsdale and Cutler are all new members. Deirdre Hansen is our new parish clerk

The Parish Council set it self a range of objectives, one of which was to improve communication. Cllr Randall has worked hard to set up the village web-site and she also produces a newsletter.

In the summer the council signed up to the new Code of Conduct.

The M40 is causing concern: firstly the noise experiences by neighbouring parishes and secondly the proposed bridge closure at J5. No progress has been made on the noise matter, but the Parish Council continues to support the M40 Chiltern Environment Group, who campaign to have the noise levels reduced.

The closure of the bridge at J5 is concerning the PC. The issue is being supported by our MP David Lidington and has been discussed in parliament. At the moment there is no firm decision, but the time scale has been put back to 2009. We are in close contact with Stokenchurch Parish Council and Cllr Randall is keeping in constant touch on this subject.

Cllr Grimsdale has set up and organised the Neighbourhood Watch. It went "live" on 12/11/07.

Cllr. Grimsdale is also working on the village Emergency Plan; The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA 2004) places responsibilities on communities, however not directly on a Parish Council.

We have decided to meet every two months instead of every three months, to try and ease the amount of business that had to be conducted. It will be tested for a year.

Potholes, this comes up all the time. Cllr Cutler suggested we join forces with Stokenchurch and make a joint approach. I think this is now necessary and we plan to meet with their chairman. I have been told that a gang will come in June to tackle potholes in the village.

The Council has many more meetings to attend on District and County levels. More groups have been set up which all require attendance i.e. Local Committee, Rural Forum, NAGS, Cluster meeting etc as well as the usual council ones and AGM's.

We have dealt with 13 planning applications. The PC objected to 3 and WDC refused 1 so far.

There are several enforcement issues on-going in the parish.

We have been involved with the PCC on the plans for a new car park at the church, but no decisions have been made.

The councillors and clerk have attended various training sessions during the year, particularly on planning.

The 30 mph speed limit took effect on 21/03/08. The County Council has implemented what the Parish Council had asked for.

The school footpath has just been resurfaced and the diseased and dying trees will be removed.

Last year's Open meeting had supported the Parish Council's plan to purchase 2 Speed Indicating Devices. The PC had received approval from the Wormsley Estate to install these on their land.

However it is now felt that circumstances have changed and new information has come to light, therefore we have not yet proceeded with the installation. Although we are already in possession of sufficient funds, we would like the villages view on the matter, as this will help us in our further considerations. I will elaborate later on this subject.

We have requested BT to repair the phone box and it will be done, but it is not their priority. We are in the process of ordering a new notice board.

We are very keen to preserve the rural nature of the parish and I would like to thank both the Parish Councillors and the clerk for the amount of work successfully undertaken and their unfailing support.

4. Finance. The report had been distributed and there were no questions.

5. Matters Arising:

a) SID's: the Wormsley Estate has withdrawn their consent for the SID on the Common. The meeting discussed the matter. The Chairman suggested forming a working party having both Parish Council members and members of the public to review the whole issue of SID's in the village. He invited members of the public to take part. The School Travel Plan Committee representative commented that the school would be distraught if the planned SID by the school would not go ahead. BCC had even suggested a second SID opposite Crown Cottage.

Mr Grimsdale congratulated the PC on the new 30mph speed limit through the village; he felt speed had been reduced.

More discussion took place. The public appeared to be in agreement that the school should be the focus. Cllr Keable-Elliott suggested that the working party should look at the whole village first and then specifically at the school area.

Cllr Grimsdale asked it to be recorded that she was against a SID on the common, it would spoil the common.

The clerk was asked to put the SID working party on the next ordinary meeting agenda. It was suggested that the Chairman should chair this working party.

b) Cllr Keable –Elliott raised the Emergency Plan. He is not in favour of it even though filling it in is voluntary. He was concerned about the intrusive nature of some of the questions posed. He felt that although the principle had been agreed at previous Parish Council meetings, the detail had not. Had the detail been available he would have voted against continuation of the plan. He has concerns about the security risk of 3 copies of the plan (1 with the Chairman, 1 with the Vice-Chairman and 1 with the clerk). They will need updating regularly, which eventually will mean they have to be computerised, which will make it public knowledge. The information being collected is dangerous. He does not wish to be part of this, if the Parish Council proceeds with it.

He praised Cllr Grimsdale for all her hard work on the Emergency Plan and on her work for the Neighbourhood Watch.

Cllr Grimsdale responded that the work needed to be done. In October 2007 she had volunteered to do the job and had outlined her approach, at the time and in the intervening months no objection had been made. She explained the process that had been followed by herself and the clerk, it had been a joint effort. She briefly outlined her plan. She is very aware of data protection and the final plan will be locked in secure safes.

Cllr Keable-Elliott re-iterated his previous comments and that he does not wish to be associated with it.

Cllr Grimsdale briefly explained that only skeleton information would be distributed.

A compromise was suggested and some discussion took place.

Cllr Keable-Elliott asked for the following resolution to be moved “that the Parish Council inform Wycombe District Council that they are not satisfied with the security of the information collected for the Emergency Plan. There are problems with the safety precautions and confidentiality, and we do not wish to take part until further explanations and reassurances have been given on these issues”. The Parish Council voted 3 against and 2 in favour. The motion was not carried.

It was decided that Cllr Grimsdale and Randall would shred all the relevant documents once Cllr Grimsdale had summarized the skeleton, which she would bring back to the Parish Council.

The meeting closed 8.32pm

The Chairman.....

Date.....