

**Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF IBSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
Tuesday 8th March 2011 at the Cricket Club at 7.30pm.**

PRESENT

Cllr. I Randall	Chairman
Cllr. S. Cutler	Vice-Chairman.
Dr. A. Keable-Elliott	Councillor
Cllr. M. Grimsdale	Councillor
Cllr M. Smith	Councillor

Mrs. D Hansen Parish Clerk

Also present; Mr Patrick Maxwell, Wormsley Estate Manager.

11.339 No apologies for absence were received.

11.340 No declarations of interest were made.

11.341 The minutes of the meeting of 10th January 2011 were confirmed as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

11.342 Matters arising not on the agenda.

- a) Flooding on Ibstone Road by Crown Cottage: flooding had been caused by the top soil, which was used to form a bank when the verge was reinstated after the installation of the French drain and the 5 gulleys. This soil slid down during heavy rain and covered the drains resulting in flooding. BCC agreed to clear the gullies and are investigating the possibility of installing a bore hole to increase the drainage capacity of the system. Clerk to chase up with BCC,

11.343 On going matters:

- a. The Chairman and clerk had attended the recent LAF. Topics covered were:
 - Census
 - Crime, Stokenchurch saw a 22% reduction in crime.
 - Wycombe Stadium plans. A sub-committee has been formed to look at this.
 - A number of very successful youth project are running in the area.
 - Garsington Opera made a presentation on developments and the need for volunteers. Ibstone residents had been promised free admittance to the dress rehearsals, the Chairman had confirmed this with GO. Clerk to enquire from GO what the mechanism is for residents to attend.

The clerk had attended the recent NAG.

- Theft of farm equipment was covered. Residents were asked to report any unexpected movement of farm vehicles to the police.
 - The Clerk reported the 2 vehicle accidents in the village in January, which had not been attended by the police as there had been no casualties. This meant that they had not been included in reported accident statistics. The Parish Council has been concerned for some time about the safety of this section of the village. It was suggested that the Parish Council use some of its funds to assist in traffic calming, perhaps by positioning a mirror on private land.
 - The clerk was asked to check with Pcs0 Sarah Turner if she had been to visit vulnerable residents. Action clerk.
- b. Neighbourhood Watch: nothing to report. There is still concern that the NHW e-mails are used for too much Police marketing.

11.344 The Wormsley Estate had previously sought the Parish Council's views on their wish to permanently infill the ditch where it allows access to the Common and place a metal barrier with a lock across the

access point. Patrick Maxwell, Wormsley Estate Manager was in attendance and invited to address the meeting.

He explained the reasons for the Estate wanting to permanently fill in the part of the ditch which is used for vehicular access to the common and close this off with a locked single bar barrier. Under the current system the ditch has to be dug out a few days in advance of the event and filled in some time after. This can leave the common vulnerable to unwelcome visitors for several days. Also, the Estate had received requests to provide access for private functions at very short notice which were difficult to service.

The meeting discussed the matter. The Council requested that Wormsley continues to provide the "pro bono" service of filling in/digging out the ditch for the 2 main village events of the Ibstone Show & concert in August and Fireworks Night in November, negating the need for a barrier. Any villager using the Common for a private function would in future meet the cost of digging and refilling the ditch.

Mr Maxwell agreed to take this suggestion back for further consideration by the Estate and emphasised that the Estate is keen to retain its good relationship with the village. On both sides there was willingness to compromise and a wish to resolve the matter amicably. The Parish Council passed on their thanks to the Estate for making the Common available to the village for past community events.

- 11.345 The future use of the Red phone box was discussed. The phone box has become an eyesore and was potentially dangerous to small children. Disposal was considered. It was decided to canvas opinions in the newsletter and then consult with villagers at the Parish Meeting in May.
- 11.346 The meeting discussed road traffic accidents in recent months at the narrow section of road near Grays Lane in Ibstone. These accidents were not attended by the police because no-one was injured. There are no adequate warning of dangers at this section of road which is particularly worrying with the increase in non-local traffic that will accompany the opening of Garsington Opera . The clerk had written to BCC and the BCC Localities Team Leader had made the following suggestions: request Thames Valley Police to include the site in their "Community Concern Scheme", to request via the NAG to have road safety checks carried out, book a TSID for £100, take part in Community Speed Watch or take part in Make the Commitment (MTC). The last has already been carried out by the police at the school. The meeting discussed the matter and various options were debated including the possibility of introducing 'rumble strips' and Priority Passage signage. It was decided to request a site meeting with BCC Highways department to pursue solutions to improve safety. Action Clerk.
- 11.347 BCC Right of Way are looking to install some graded steps into the worst affected area of Windmill Hill (footpath 10/2) and eradicate the large ruts that have formed due to use. These would be wooden steps with a handrail. At the previous PC meeting, Ibstone PC had asked RoW not to proceed with this as an AONB. RoW gave further reasons for carrying out the work and asked the PC to reconsider. The matter was discussed. The Parish Council appreciated the fact that BCC had tried to reach a compromise, but it considered the proposed work still unsightly and that path could be made more dangerous when the steps became wet. The path would always have to be attempted with great caution and was not suitable for everyone. Clerk to send a copy of the reply to our BCC councillor, Cllr Woollard.
- 11.348 104 bus service. This service is not widely used; the meeting felt it could not support continuation of the service in the current economic climate. Cllr Smith will attend the "Car Share Scheme" meeting in Lane End on 22/03/11 and report back to the next PC meeting.
- 11.349 It was decided not to change the charge of £10 per sheet of A4 for any FoI request. Clerk to publish the model publication scheme as adopted 03/11/08 on the web-site. Clerk also to publish contact details for the clerk on the notice board.
- 11.350 Planning matters:
- a. WDC decisions:
 - 10/07505/FUL Ibstone Church of England school, erection of free standing canopy. The

Parish Council had no objection but requested that bright colours were avoided in the Chilterns AONB where possible. WDC permitted.

- 10/07801/FUL One Acre, Grays Lane. Demolition of existing dwelling and detached garage and erection of 1x 4 bed dwelling and double garage (alternative to pp 10/05715/FUL). WDC permitted.

b. New applications:

- 11/05364/FUL Bucks Wigwams, Cholsey Grange. Demolition of existing barn and erection of replacement barn for storage purposes. The PC had no objections.

11.351 Financial matters:

- 52p bank interest received,
- Bank balances: current account £ 7,763.23, Savings account £6,124.70
- The statement of accounts was approved.
- The Clerk's request to attend BALC Commons Course 29/03/11 cost £30 (Clerk's cost to be shared 50/50 with Turville Parish Council) was granted.
- The cheques as listed below were approved for payment and signed:

To whom	Description	£	£
Mike Henson Presentations	Planning application x2		36.00
Bucks Playing fields association	Subs		20.00
BALC	Clerk: 50% cost of Commons course		15.00
Mrs. D. Hansen	Clerk salary 17/11/10 to 11/03/11 = 8weeks (36 hrs @ £11.549/hr)	£ 415.76	
Mrs. D Hansen	Clerks exp. Jan/Feb 2011 Annual Working from Home allowance	£ 73.40 £ 500.00	£ 988.67
Total value			£ 1059.67

11.351 Any other business:

- Village Litter Pick. Tony Grant was congratulated on an excellent job once again and for providing good equipment to make the job safer and easier. The Parish Council thanked him for all his hard work. Clerk to write to him expressing the Parish Council's thank.
- There was concern that the villagers had not been notified of the recent Hunt meet. Local animal owners would appreciate warning of the Hunt's activities as had usually happened in the past.
- Pothole: in the clerk's absence the Chairman had actively pursued BCC to fill the very dangerous and recurring pothole on Ibstone Road outside Skomer which had damaged several wheels and tyres. Inform the clerk of potholes when they occur so she can report them or they can be reported on BCC web-site.
- Mrs Woodman had notified the clerk that she had filed many old village documents at County Archives. The Parish Council will examine these to see if any of the old maps etc would be useful/ interesting to post on the PC website.
- Live trees are being felled opposite Spring Cottage, clerk to report to Wormsley.

11.352 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 17th May 2011 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman.....

Date.....