

ICKFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ICKFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 8th December 2015, at 7.30pm at Ickford Village Hall Annexe

Present:

Councillor Andrew Brunet	(AB) - Chairman
Councillor Barbara Kolbert	(BK)
Councillor Ruth Baker	(RB)
Councillor Louise Arnold	(LA)
Councillor Peter Jordain	(PJ)
Councillor Vina Parmar	(VP)
District Councillor Michael Rand	(MR)
Parish Clerk Nicola Dawson	(ND)

Plus 8 local residents

Item	Previous Minute	Subject	Action																																								
98.		Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Margaret Aston, County Councillor.																																									
99.		Declaration of Interest RB declared interest in the planning application 15/03887/AOP - 43 Golders Close, Ickford.																																									
100.		Requests for Dispensations None received.																																									
101.		Confirmation of Previous Minutes The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th November 2015 were agreed a true record & signed off by the Chairman. The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 24th November 2015 were agreed a true record & signed off by the acting chairman for that meeting (RB).																																									
102.		Finance																																									
a)		Drawn Cheques at meeting																																									
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d3d3d3;"> <th style="width: 20%;">Payee</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Item</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Cheque No.</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Period</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cartwrights</td> <td>Grounds Maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: center;">506</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Oct 15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£340.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cartwrights</td> <td>Grounds Maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: center;">507</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nov 15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£264.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N Dawson</td> <td>Clerk Salary & extra hours for VALP</td> <td style="text-align: center;">508</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nov 15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£272.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highways & Solar Solutions Ltd</td> <td>Supply & install 3 ground sockets for MVAS</td> <td style="text-align: center;">509</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nov 15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,196.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCALOF</td> <td>Donation to 1st Responder kit</td> <td style="text-align: center;">510</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nov 15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLCC</td> <td>Annual subscription for Parish Council</td> <td style="text-align: center;">511</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Jan 16</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£88.00</td> </tr> <tr style="font-weight: bold;"> <td colspan="4">TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,361.95</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Item	Cheque No.	Period	Amount	Cartwrights	Grounds Maintenance	506	Oct 15	£340.14	Cartwrights	Grounds Maintenance	507	Nov 15	£264.60	N Dawson	Clerk Salary & extra hours for VALP	508	Nov 15	£272.81	Highways & Solar Solutions Ltd	Supply & install 3 ground sockets for MVAS	509	Nov 15	£1,196.40	SCALOF	Donation to 1st Responder kit	510	Nov 15	£200.00	SLCC	Annual subscription for Parish Council	511	Jan 16	£88.00	TOTAL				£2,361.95	
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b)		The accounts for October 2015 Income, Expenditure & Reconciliation for October 2015, previously circulated to the Parish Council members, was agreed as a correct record.	
c)		Clerk Role Following the completion of the 3 month probation period, the clerk's role was reviewed & the PC agreed to raise the salary in line with the contract. It was also agreed to review the hours of the role of the clerk at the February meeting.	C/F
d)		Precept for 2016/17 The proposed increase to the precept was discussed. It was confirmed that the proposal has been communicated to the local residents via the Ickford Informer, website & Minutes from the PC meetings. All councillors confirmed that there has been no feedback received by resident. It was therefore resolved, with all in favour, to raise the precept by a total of £2,500. This equates to an average (Band D household) of £8 per annum per household. The previously discussed budget for next year of £16.5k was also agreed unanimously.	
e)		Cost Saving Ideas The previously circulated project list was discussed and approved with no extra items added. Expected costs for each item still need to be budgeted for.	C/F ALL
f)		Expenses Procedures AB explained the requirement for including VAT receipts with all expenses (where applicable) in order for the PC to claim back the VAT at the year end.	ALL
103.		Correspondence & Communications Since Last Meeting	
a)		Play around the Parishes Agreed to carry this forward to the New Year to discuss the opportunity to run and event in the Summer. It was suggested to offset the costs by selling refreshments at the event, provided for by volunteers.	C/F
b)		Local Resident correspondence ref misuse of farm buildings ND advised that Shabbington PC are already working with the local authorities & carrying out an investigation. PJ raised concern over the surrounding ditches of the area & is going to provide ND a brief. ND then to liaise further with Shabbington PC.	PJ ND
104.		Meetings Attended on behalf of the Parish Council in the period	
a)		Bucks Town & Parish Council Conference RB provided a brief, following her attendance to the workshops. The general message received at the workshops was that local councils are to take more control over their own local areas & Parishes, i.e. caring in the community for the elderly, providing youth groups etc. RB agreed to produce a brief to include in the Informer. RB to also forward the DEVOLocal document to the PC for their review in order to discuss on the Agenda at the February meeting.	RB RB

PREPARED BY: CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

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b)		<p>Healthy Places Workshop BK advised that this workshop was aimed at larger settlements, in less rural locations than Ickford. The workshop did highlight the need to increase local support for the elderly. BK advised not to follow this workshop further.</p>	
105.		<p>Planning</p> <p>1 application was raised during October as follows:</p> <p>15/03887/AOP: Land adjacent to 43 Golders Close, Ickford. AB confirmed RB to remain present during this discussion, however due to previous declaration of interest in this application RB unable to comment.</p> <p>AB briefly presented the history of this application & the PC then discussed the 3 main areas of concern previously raised; access to the development, flooding & drainage, intrusion to the countryside. The discussions referred to the Minute No. 42 from the Extraordinary PC meeting held on 9th July 2015.</p> <p>The PC came to the following conclusions based upon a majority vote:</p> <p>Access to the development: if, according to the recent Highways Agency report, the new requirements for access have been met, the PC have no objections.</p> <p>Flooding & drainage: PJ advised that he is currently working with Thames Water to look at ways to improve this issue for the village, however this is not going to be resolved immediately. The PC object to the plans based upon unresolved flooding & drainage issues with the land & surrounding area and would resubmit items 2a) and 2b) of Minute No. 42.</p> <p>Intrusion to the countryside: It was felt that this proposed development was not within the development boundary of the village & therefore the PC object upon this basis and would resubmit item 3a) of Minute No. 42.</p>	
106.		<p>Open Forum for Parishioners (under adjournment) AB welcomed local residents to the meeting & invited them to raise any issues to the Parish Council.</p> <p>VALP Several residents wanted to discuss the VALP document & were advised that this would be discussed in detail later on the Agenda. ND explained that an extension had been granted to submit the comment form to AVDC & that this will be available on the website this week, along with the minutes from the Extraordinary Meeting held on 24th November.</p> <p>Flooding A discussion took place regarding concerns over flooding & drainage issues around the village. PJ advised again, that he is working with Thames Water & the Environmental Agency to examine this. One resident asked when the river was last dredged & offered historical information if & when required. PJ explained that he is working to understand the current situation first & may then need to discuss historical issues at a later date.</p>	

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		AVDC MR provided an update from AVDC, highlighting the government cuts, resulting in AVDC having to make in the region of c£11m savings in order to meet their budget. MR also explained that by 2020 the government grants to district councils per household will be reduced to £0, hence the need for local Parish Council's to clearly consider their budgets & precepts.	
		Project Updates	
107.		Village Maintenance & Landscaping	
a)	87a)	Dog Fouling / Bins: AB explained that the local council do not offer a joint bin for general & dog waste. C/F purchase to next year.	<i>C/F</i>
b)	87b)	ROSPA: AB advised that the village hall association has agreed to cut back the hedge at the entrance.	<i>C/F</i>
c)	87c)	Tree Survey: No progress to report from CTS yet. C/F for BK to update the Informer.	<i>BK</i>
d)		Clean for the Queen: BK has signed up for the information pack.	<i>C/F</i>
108.		Highways & Byways	
a)	88b)	AED: All agreed to go ahead & purchase the cabinet for the defibrillator. AB confirmed that the Sports Pavilion committee have agreed to attaching this to the wall of the pavilion & they will provide the electrics & USB port.	<i>AB</i>
b)	88c)	MVAS: AB advised there is still c£3-400 to pay to complete this project - all agreed to proceed.	<i>AB</i>
c)	88d)	Car Parking: BK provided an update following meeting held with the Headteacher of Ickford School. Several options were discussed - all of which are on hold whilst awaiting the result of the school's application for Academy status. It was agreed that the PC needs to repair the drive leading up the park, RB agreed to obtain quotes for resurfacing / repairing from White Horse (original contractors) All agreed to go ahead with the plan for inconsiderate parking in the village. The posters for windscreens were approved & VP agreed to keep some in the shop to be issued when required. BK to advise on a plan to administer this with PC to issue when appropriate to repeat offenders.	<i>C/F</i> <i>RB</i> <i>BK</i> <i>C/F</i>
d)	88f)	Road Gritting: VP agreed to investigate the insurance policy in order to establish any liability we may have with gritting the local problem areas.	<i>VP</i>
e)	88g)	Flooding & Thames Water (TW): PJ advised that currently TW do not have Ickford registered as a high priority as they have not received enough complaints. TW advised individual residents need to complain directly to them in order for them to prioritise the drainage & sewerage problems. PJ is going to leaflet drop every household with information & the freephone number. LA to assist with the layout & wording of the leaflet. LA to open a website page for "Flood Watch".	<i>PJ</i> <i>LA</i>
f)	88e)	LAT: AB updated on the outstanding items that have been registered on their online register. The following have been completed: 30mph speed sign repaired; Church Road verge marker posts & Worminghall Road footpath repaired. Other 6 outstanding items do not meet the necessary criteria for repair and will be monitored by Transport for Bucks.	<i>CLOSE</i>

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109.		Communication & Publicity	
a)	89b)	4 year Plan/ VALP: ND read out the responses to be included in the VALP comment form. All agreed to submit this to AVDC & add to the Ickford Community website. ND to action.	<i>ND</i>
b)	89c)	Public "Surgery": The next is scheduled for 30th January 2016 10.00am to be run by BK & LA. ND to book the Village Hall.	<i>CLOSE</i>
c)	86.	Broadband: Gigaclear are due Feb to May 2016. No time frame from BT Infinity.	<i>CLOSE</i>
110.		Village Organisations & "Institutions"	
a)	90a)	Sports Pavilion & Football Club: AB advised that repairs are underway. AB to draw up a definitive list of responsibilities for the Pavilion split between the PC, SP & FC & then to circulate to discuss & agree at the next meeting.	<i>B</i> <i>C/F</i>
b)	90b)	Bucks Playing Field Association: No progress	<i>C/F</i>
c)	90d)	Village Hall Annexe: ND to clarify when next invoice is due for the PC & confirm bookings for next year.	<i>ND</i>
d)	84a)	Devolution & Clustering: AB advised that Shabbington & Oakley are expected to accept the devolution proposal in principal. No progress on any cluster arrangements so far have been made. AB will advise the PC of the next meeting set up to discuss clustering for any Councillor to attend.	<i>C/F</i> <i>AB</i>
111.		Next Meeting agreed 9th February 2016 7.30pm in the Annexe at Ickford Village Hall	

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

All supporting documentation referred to in the minutes above can be found on the Parish Council section of the website www.ickfordcommunity.wordpress.com and in the files held by the Parish Clerk.

Signed:

Date: