

**MINUTES of Islip Parish Council Meeting**

**Islip Village Hall**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.30pm**

**156/18 Present:** Mrs D Chapman, Mrs F Forbes (Acting Chairman), Mr D Price, Ms N Richardson, Mr N Wiles, Mr M Wilkinson (Clerk).

**157/18 Apologies:** Mr P Collins, Mr M Brown.

**158/18 Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of Tuesday **14<sup>th</sup> August 2018** were approved and signed.

**159/18 Matters arising which will not be raised under subsequent agenda items:** none.

**160/18 District and County Council Reports:** Cllr Dan Sames (CDC and OCC) reported that he had met with Cllr Price and the Traffic Group prior to the Council meeting. He is to pursue the restoration of the white lines in the village where these have historically been present [this answered a query from the floor]; this will be carried out in two phases – the central lines and all others. OCC is to apply £120 million from its reserves to major road works, and some of this might be helpful to the village, where resurfacing has been woefully lacking. A grant of £1K has been made in relation to the school playground from the OCC funds at Cllr Sames' disposal. Cllr Sames noted that an announcement of the Oxford/Cambridge Expressway corridor is expected tomorrow, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**161/18 Changes in Members' interests and declarations of personal or prejudicial<sup>1</sup> interest:** none.

**162/18 Administrative Matters: 1. Dinner for previous Chairman:** the Chairman was not present to report.

**163/18 Financial Matters: 1. Financial statement to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018:** the Clerk is to circulate the half-year position to Councillors prior to the next meeting.

**164/18 Environment: 1. Flood Management Plan:** the Chairman was not present to report.

**2. Cheque for best-kept front garden competition:** the cheque is to be prepared and passed to the winners.

**165/18 Communications: 1. Islip Directory:** Acting Chairman Cllr Forbes reported that the work on the revised *Village Directory* continues, and that Mrs Stephenson has provided a copy of the *Islip Directory 2016* in electronic format. **2. Use of cloud for record retention:** the Clerk asked for advice on the storage of Parish Council electronic records. Cllr Wiles recommended the use of *Google Drive*, and kindly offered to walk the Clerk through the system.

**166/18 Traffic, Highways and Footpaths: 1. Pavements/footpaths:** the Clerk reported that he had emailed and left a telephoned message for Mr Matthew Scott of Strutt and Parker, the local agents for the Church Commissioners [CC], but that Mr Scott had not replied. The Clerk is to continue to telephone, and might in the meantime contact Messrs Henman about the details of the route, as the crop had now been taken off the field. **2. Traffic Group:** Cllr Price reported that the speed camera is to operate once the dedicated computer had been purchased, and the police notices in place: this is likely to be 1 October. Cllr Price is to advertise this in the *Three*

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<sup>1</sup>"one in which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest"

*Parishes Magazine*, and the Clerk is to use info4islip to the purpose. Cllr Wiles is to advise the Clerk on the purchase of a dedicated laptop computer for use with the camera. The computer will be for the sole use of the Council. The Clerk was reminded that a further two jackets were required. **3. Structural report on the Ray Bridge:** the Clerk had informed the village that the bridge is to close from 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> September for investigative work.

**167/18 PC Properties: 1. Playing Field:** (i) **Safety:** the Clerk reported that the bark under the zip-wire has yet to be restored. It is understood that Cllr Sames (CDC) has approved a grant of £1K towards the £16K cost of permanent safety surfacing in certain areas of the playground the project. The grant application is progressing. (ii) **Ownership:** the Clerk reported that he had contacted *Fields in Trust* on the advice of Pellmans, and that action necessary to the registration process had been specified by *Fields in Trust*. This information had been passed to Pellmans. **2. Trees:** the Chairman was not present to report.

**168/18 Planning: 1. Planning Applications:** Cllr Wiles reported that no planning applications had been received. **2. Strategic Planning: (i) Village Plan – CDC's rural exception site:** Cllr Richardson noted that central government had after consultation issued a revised *National Planning Policy Framework*. This reiterates the principle that *Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in exceptional circumstances...* Cllr Richardson noted that if the Oil Dump were to be treated as within the green belt, then a high proportion of the proposed development would have to be affordable, although it is possible that as the site is classified brownfield within the green belt, CDC might view any planning application on its merits. (ii) **The Oxford/Cambridge Expressway:** as minuted above [160/18], Cllr Sames noted that an announcement of the Oxford/Cambridge Expressway corridor is expected tomorrow, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**169/18 Network Rail: 1. Mural on the pedestrian bridge:** Cllr Wiles reported that he has received no response from Network Rail to his request for explicit approval of the murals (which are still subject to a decision by the Council as to whether or not it approves). Once this is received, the views of villagers will be canvassed by various means. In the meantime questions about the responsibility for maintenance, etc, of any artwork are to be raised with Network Rail. **2. Chiltern Railways contribution towards the cost of hedge planting on the playing field:** Cllr Wiles reported that he had been told that the payment had been made. The Clerk is to investigate.

**170/18 Village Hall:** Cllr Chapman reported that she had attended a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee, and touched on the VH matters discussed; the Committee had reiterated its preparedness to accommodate the defibrillator to be supplied by the Council. The Committee had asked whether the Council might consider siting a bottle bank on the Swan carpark; the Clerk noted that the carpark is rented out to the owners of the Swan Inn, bringing in significant income to the Council.

**171/18 Education:** there was nothing to report.

**172/18 Health: Defibrillator:** Acting Chairman Cllr Forbes reported that she has been advised that a locked cabinet might be self-defeating, and that there has been no recorded abuse of defibrillators so stored. A defibrillator applied to a healthy individual unnecessarily would cause no harm. She is to seek the advice of the Central Ambulance Service at Bicester before making a recommendation to the Council.

**173/18 Public Transport:** there was nothing to report.

**174/18 Security:** there was nothing to report.

**175/18 Action Points:** Acting Chairman Cllr Forbes noted that the actions had largely been carried out.

**176/18 Any Other Business:** **1. Litter bin Lower Street:** the Clerk reported that he had retrieved the litterbin lost to floodwater from the Village Green, Lower Street, from the River Ray [where it runs by the electricity substation on the Swan car park]. Various other items dumped had also been retrieved and were yet to be disposed of. The litterbin is serviceable, and is to be re-affixed to the telegraph pole on the Village Green. **2. Maintenance requirements:** it was agreed that the Clerk should price the clearance of vegetation on the Cross Tree Green side of the Red Lion boundary wall; the clearance of vegetation from the dogbin on North Street; the stabilisation of the stile at the weir on the Millennium Walk; the severe pruning of the *prickly bush* part-obstructing the walkway down from the Village Hall carpark to the playground. **3. Sports Association:** the Chairman was not present to report. **4. Pavement vegetation:** the Acting Chairman Cllr Forbes reminded the Council that there is extensive vegetation growing in the village's pavements; she noted that OCC were, given its decreasing budget, is hardly likely to address the matter. It was proposed and agreed that the village should hold a weed-picking day similar to the litter-picking day previously organised by the Chairman, and the hope was expressed that the Chairman would agree to organise it.

**177/18 Date of the next meeting:** the Parish Council will next meet on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**178/18** The Meeting Closed at 8.45pm.