

MINUTES of Islip Parish Council
Islip Village Hall
Tuesday 11th October 2016 at 7.30pm

362/16 Present: Mr P Collins, Mr R Venables (arrived 7.55pm), Mrs J Stephenson, Mrs F Forbes, Mr M Wilkinson, Mr N Wiles, Ms L Dent (Clerk)

363/16 Apologies: Mrs D Nudds

364/16 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 13th September were approved and signed; a request for an *addendum* to minute **347/14** was agreed: “the co-option of Mr Hopper was incorrect as no councillor vacancy was in place until Cllr J Stephenson stood down; she had previously proposed to do so at the meeting of 11th October [see minute **368/16**]. The statutory co-option process is now underway, and it is hoped to co-opt at the meeting to be held on the 8th November.”

365/16 Matters arising which will not be raised under subsequent agenda items: None.

366/16 District and County Council Reports: Cllr Hallchurch attended the meeting. He updated the Council on the M40 works, and spoke about his recent report, which had been circulated to villagers via the *info4islip* email. He reported that he had been told by OCC officers that the pedestrian lights previously on the Ray bridge previously mooted by the Council are not a possible solution to the protection of pedestrians on the bridge, and that the only option seems to be a footbridge. He agreed to investigate the option of creating a more obvious pedestrian zone on the bridge by painting the surface with a distinctive colour, and to enquire whether the existing sign on the bridge might be replaced with something more visible. In answer to a question from the Council as to who had advised him at OCC, he named Maurice Sheehan as the contact to speak to on the pedestrian operated light option. Cllr Hallchurch advised he was happy to speak with him initially.

367/16 Changes in Members’ interests and declarations of personal or prejudicial¹ interest:

None. Clarification from the floor was requested on this with reference to the *Facebook 20mph action group* and whether any Council members were members, and, if so, whether they needed to declare an interest. All those present confirmed voluntarily that they were not members.

368/16 Administrative Matters: 1. Resignation: Cllr Stephenson advised that she had resigned the Chairmanship at the previous meeting because of pressure of work; that same pressure was now such that she could no longer continue as Councillor, and so offered her resignation as Councillor with immediate effect. An offer of thanks was extended from all councillors for her outstanding commitment to date to her work for the village and the Parish Council. **2. Clerk’s position:** The Clerk advised that because of pressure of work and for personal reasons, she would have to step down from her role at the end of the year. The Council thanked her warmly for her cheerful contribution to the work of the Council, and wished her well. It is hoped to find a suitable candidate to take on this role once a review of the position has been considered.

369/16 Financial Matters: 1. Financial reporting: Cllr Wilkinson advised the RFO had updated the new software and a financial report would be circulated to all councillors (with a hard copy available) for the November meeting. This report is normally produced at some six months into each financial year, but the change in finance officers and the introduction of new software had led to slippage. **2. Cheque signatories:** it was agreed to amend the cheque signatories to Cllrs Collins, Forbes, and Venables, any two of which are to sign the Council’s cheques.

¹“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”

370/16 Environment: 1. Flood Management Plan: Cllr Collins confirmed he would try to bring this to the Council at the next meeting. **2. Dog Fouling/Dogs of Leads:** Nothing to report. **3. Church Commissioners:** Nothing to report.

371/16 Communications: 1. Website: Cllr Forbes advised that Chris Rippon, the administrator for the website, had been away, but that she hoped to have more information for the November meeting. **2. Noticeboards:** Cllr Wilkinson advised that the noticeboard was functional, but that he would monitor regularly to ensure there would be no issue with condensation. **3. Village Directory:** Cllr Stephenson advised the new village directory had been printed and circulated to villagers, and thanked those who had helped with the delivery.

372/16 Traffic, Highways and Footpaths: 1. Bollards/White Lines/Potholes: Cllr Nudds sent an email report **2. Traffic Report:** Mr Dennis Price reported for the Traffic Group. The traffic lights have been removed from the Ray Bridge because the related roadworks in Oxford have been completed. The Traffic Group's main concern is still the safety of pedestrians crossing the bridge. A letter had been sent to OCC about this, but the reply had confirmed that there are no funds to support a putative pedestrian bridge; that the pedestrian strip be painted a distinctive colour; or that pedestrian operated lights be installed to allow pedestrians to cross the bridge on demand. If the oil dump development were to be approved, then perhaps any Section 106 monies paid to CDC might be made available in part to the Council: such funds might financially support the key safety issues on the bridge. Other options available to the village might be an increase in precept payments [the village "rates"], a loan, or fund raising by villagers. It was suggested that professional advice was needed on this to move forward. In the meantime, OCC are happy to support the 20mph speed restriction signs and are focusing on this.

It was agreed that the Council to write to OCC again to ask for advice on the choice of traffic consultant.

Cllr Collins suggested, and it was agreed, that a summary of the current traffic situation be published in the parish magazine, detailing the perceived problems and putative solutions. The summary will be posted in the noticeboards, and circulated *via* info4islip. It was noted (from the floor) that John Howell MP had mentioned at the recent public meeting that a government fund is currently available to improve the safety of pedestrians/cyclists; the Council is to contact the MP to follow this up. **3. Weight Issue/Air Pollution:** IPC are still awaiting this report, which should by now be available. The Council is to contact OCC again; if a copy of the report is not forthcoming, the Council will request it under the Freedom of Information act.

373/16 PC Properties: 1. Playing Field: Planning permission had been received for the extension of the Village Hall car park. Cllr Venables reported that quotes for the works are being sought by the Village Hall from three contractors. The basketball hoop the kicking wall will be removed and relocated. Islip Village Hall is to meet the costs involved; Cllr Venables will draw up a plan of requirements. **2. Play area review and repairs:** The agreed quantity of bark has been received, and has been spread to aid with safety under the play equipment. **3. Burial Ground:** Cllr Stephenson reported that the new bench has been installed at the new burial ground, and that it suits its setting. Payment to those who completed the recent cut back at the burial ground is outstanding. Cllr Wilkinson is to discuss this further with the RFO.

374/16 Planning: 1. Planning Applications: Cllr Wiles advised on the recent applications received and circulated ahead of the meeting:

Address	Application number/details	Decision
Mr Nicholas Stogdon Middle House Middle Street Islip	16/00256/TCA G1 x 4 x Line Trees – Pollard to previous Pollard points	Subject to inspection and approval of CDC Tree Officer.
Mr Rob Allen 18 Bletchingdon Road Islip Kidlington OXON OX5 2TQ	16/01863/F Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of replacement single storey garden room, and a build-over the existing single storey structures at the northwest/northeast corner.	Islip PC has no objections to this application, but asks that neighbours' comments be taken into consideration.

2. Strategic Planning: Cllr Venable's reported that CDC's Local Plan part 2 is expected to be ready later this year, but thought the oil dump development planned gives opportunity to assist with funds to help towards the on-going traffic issues within Islip that require additional funding. He reported there was nothing further from Church Commissioners and is to ask Hugo Llewellyn whether he has heard anything from CDC about his proposal. He advised the Council that there two options available are (a) a Neighbourhood Plan [NHP], which would end with a village referendum on any IPC proposal (the previous village plan would inform an NHP), or (b) a Local Development order which was site specific; both would take the same amount of time for processing. He advised that CDC did not want the development, as despite its being on a brownfield site, it is in the Green Belt. He noted that John Howell MP suggested the NHP was the best course of action. Cllr Venables would advise on any further updates.

375/16 Evergreen 3/Network Rail: Cllrs Wiles, Collins, and Wilkinson recently met Stella Whyte who represents the railway consortium to go through the outstanding issues. Cllr Wiles reported that a pre-work survey of the roads had been carried out jointly by OCC and the Consortium. A second survey is to be carried out on completion of the work to assess the damage incurred in the interim. The reports are to be compared and OCC to complete the necessary works. The Consortium is to fund an agreed proportion of the cost of repairs. A copy of this report has been requested.

The land compulsorily obtained by Network Rail [NR] for the purpose of the work must be offered back to its previous owners. If not wanted, a price must be agreed. NR cannot hold land, so there is a possibility that land in which the PC is interested might be gifted to Islip.

Cllr Wiles listed the various items discussed, and noted that the project itself was over budget, so that any hope of additional funding from the Consortium must be minimal. It may be possible to request the use of Consortium employee labour and equipment for potential projects in Islip; these must be identified quickly and put forward. The suggestion of a footpath to the new burial ground just inside the field east of the burial ground is a possibility to be explored. It may also be possible to utilise the staff to help with the small works required in the Village Hall car park extension. It was agreed to circulate ideas. The rail line into Oxford should be completed early December. The equestrian bridge cracks are deemed cosmetic, but it is intended to resurface the bridge with a surface suitable for the passage of horses. The request for the mosaic design on the pedestrian bridge was unacceptable, because this would interfere with engineering inspection of the structure. Cllr Stephenson noted that IPC is to contact the proposer out of courtesy.

A celebration to mark the opening of the new railway to Oxford was again suggested, and Cllr Wiles to take this forward; Cllr Stephenson is to forward contact details. Suggestion was made to include the whole village by requesting ideas to be put forward.

376/16 Village Hall: Cllr Venables advised there was a Village Hall meeting coincident with IPC's meeting, and that the bonfire night plans were to be discussed.

377/16 Education: Nothing to report.

378/16 Public Transport: Nothing to report.

379/16 Health: Nothing to report.

380/16 Security: Nothing to report.

381/16 AOB: (a) Cllr Wilkinson reported he had removed the débris obstructing access to the recycling bins in the Red Lion yard which had been reported at the last meeting. A vote of thanks was extended to Cllr Wilkinson for his efforts.

382/16 Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 8th November 2016** the Village Hall.

The Meeting Closed at 9.00pm