

**MINUTES of Islip Parish Council Meeting
Islip Village Hall
Tuesday 8th November at 7.30pm**

383/16 Present: Mr P Collins, Mrs D Nudds, Mrs F Forbes, Mr M Wilkinson, Mr N Wiles

384/16 Apologies: Mr R Venables

385/16 Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of 11th October were approved and signed.

386/16 Matters arising which will not be raised under subsequent agenda items: None.

387/16 District and County Council Reports: Cllr Hallchurch did not attend the meeting. It was reported that he had circulated his November report in electronic format. This will shortly be circulated *via* info4islip. Mr Hallchurch notes

- discussion of putative east/west rail and road links;
- OCC modelling of a single unitary council with some decision making devolved to different parts of the County based on the current boundaries of the five District and City councils, noting that there is no agreement with District Councils about this;
- his retirement from OCC in 2017, and possibly CDC in 2018;
- a link to the Annual Report by OCC's Director of Public Health.

388/16 Changes in Members' interests and declarations of personal or prejudicial¹ interest:
None.

389/16 Administrative Matters: **1. Co-option:** the notice of vacancy for a councillor had been published in accordance with statute; an election was not requested. The Council had previously asked for expressions of interest in the role, and had received one. The Chairman proposed that Mr John Hopper be co-opted onto the Council; this was seconded by Councillor Forbes: Mr Hopper was co-opted unanimously. **2. Clerk's position:** The Chairman advised that he is pursuing several options, and that a Clerk will be appointed in time for the January meeting.

390/16 Financial Matters: **1. Financial reporting:** Cllr Wilkinson had circulated to Councillors a revised version of the financial report to 30th September. It is hoped gradually to iron out teething troubles arising from the change in finance officer and the introduction of new software.

391/16 Environment: **1. Flood Management Plan:** the Chairman confirmed he would circulate a draft to the Council and to his collaborators in good time for circulation of the plan before the winter sets in. He will discover whether there is a stock of flood defence bags in the village, and, if so, will arrange for a central store to be available to those villagers who might require them. **2. Dog Fouling/Dogs off Leads:** it was reported that dog fouling is evident on the Millennium Walk and by the new equestrian bridge. **3. Church Commissioners:** Cllr Venables was not present to report.

392/16 Communications: **1. Website:** Cllr Forbes advised that Mr Chris Rippon, the administrator of the website, had been unavailable for an extended period, but that she is now actively engaged with him on the production of the site. The Chairman proposed that Parish Council records be digitised and maintained in a dedicated space; this was agreed. Cllr Forbes is to lead in this. It was noted that certain records (email communications to the Clerk, minutes, etc) are already available in digital format. **2. Notice Boards:** Cllr Wilkinson reported that Mr Andy Whittle, landlord of the

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”

Red Lion, had asked that he use part of the Council's Red Lion noticeboard to post some four sheets of A4, detailing menus, etc. It was suggested that a noticeboard dedicated to the Red Lion and situate near the entrance might better serve his purposes, but it was agreed that the notices be allowed for the time being, the Council reserving the right to cancel the arrangement at any time.

393/16 Traffic, Highways and Footpaths: 1. Bollards/White Lines/Potholes: Cllr Nudds reported that

- the white lines in the village would now be shortly refreshed by OCC;
- OCC had confirmed that the broken edge of the road at the junction of Mill Lane / Kidlington Road would be repaired if reported under *fix my streets*.

The Council decided that no action is to be taken in response to a request for bollards on the green at the end of the Kidlington Road; such matters are for the highways authority, and any communication received on the matter is to be forwarded to OCC.

It was noted that the OCC road signs on the bridge *A40 roadworks complete* were misleading, certainly for a time, because of works on Barton Road.

2. Traffic Report: Mr Dennis Price reported for the Traffic Group. The Traffic Group's main concern is still the safety of pedestrians crossing the bridge. He suggested that given piecemeal success (e.g. OCC's acceptance in principle of the 20 mph zone), the village might continue to press for incremental improvement. He noted that the cat's eyes south of the bridge were broken; the Council is to ask for their replacement. The OCC consultation on the 20mph speed restriction ends 25th November. [Cllr Forbes is to inform the school.] Mr Price suggested that villagers contribute comments as individuals on the OCC website: it is easy to register for consultations, and the Islip 20mph consultation is easily accessed. The suggestion that the Council erect its own road signs alerting drivers to the danger to pedestrians on the bridge was rejected by the Council; it is understood that traffic signs may be erected only by the highways authority.

3. Incident reports: in response to an enquiry from the floor, the Council is to set up digital sites so that overweight vehicles and incidents arising from traffic on the Ray Bridge and elsewhere in the village can be recorded. Suspected overweight vehicles can be reported using the Oxford Trading Standards website.

4. Structural Report: IPC are still awaiting a copy of the OCC engineer's structural report on the Ray Bridge. The Council is to write to OCC, noting that if a copy of the report is not forthcoming, the Council will request it under the Freedom of Information Act.

394/16 PC Properties: 1. Playing Field: nothing to report. **2. Play area review and repairs:** The Chairman had redistributed the new bark. **3. Burial Ground:** nothing to report.

395/16 Planning: 1. Planning Applications: Cllr Wiles advised on the recent applications received and circulated ahead of the meeting:

Address	Application number/details	Decision
16 and 18 Bletchingdon Road	16/01994/F Mr Rob Allen: separate the shared access driveway, and extend the highway crossover at number 18.	No objection; neighbour comment to be taken into account
Red Lion, High Street	16/01159/LB/Punch Taverns: visual improvements to extractor system	No objection; neighbour comment to be taken into account

Japonica, Church Lane	16/02023/F Mr & Mrs Edwards: alterations to pedestrian access to dwelling (Resubmission of 16/01353/F)	No objection; neighbour comment to be taken into account
-----------------------	--	--

2. Strategic Planning: Cllr Venables was not present to report; the Chairman advised that CDC's draft Local Plan Part 2 is still awaited. It is expected that this will govern the next moves on the putative development of the Oil Dump site.

396/16 Evergreen 3/Network Rail: Cllr Wiles reported that the post work survey of the roads is yet to be carried out – and would have to include, e.g., the outstanding matter of the resurfacing of the equestrian bridge. He had discussed the *Map of Opportunity* [for planting] with Mrs Jocelyne Bangham, who had helped identify work which might be done as a *quid pro quo* for Network Rail's access to the sound barriers along the western edge of the playing field.

397/16 Village Hall: Cllr Venables was not present to report.

398/16 Education: Nothing to report.

399/16 Public Transport: the new Chairman of OBRAG, Richard Povey informed the Council that the 12th December changes to the Chiltern Railways timetable is a further blow to Islip-London commuters, on top of the already less than ideal commuter service in the mornings. He thanked those who have already written to CR in a personal capacity to complain about this significant further degradation of the commuter service from Islip to London. The Council agreed to write to Chiltern Railways and to John Howell, MP, to raise awareness, and to contact the press to express the Council's concern and disappointment that the multi-million pound investment of public money in Islip station would be to a great extent wasted by Chiltern Railways' abandonment of a significant element of the service.

400/16 Health: Cllr Wilkinson noted that Islip Medical Practice is carrying out its winter programme of flu jabs. If villagers consider that they are potentially particularly vulnerable to flu, and they have not been contacted yet, they may wish to contact the surgery direct.

401/16 Security: Cllr Wilkinson noted that vehicle numberplates had again been stolen from Hilltop Gardens and North Street, and that vehicle owners might wish to raise levels of vigilance. It is understood that anti-theft screws are available [*from high street automotive accessories outlets, according to the Thames Valley Police website*].

402/16 AOB: Cllr Wilkinson reported that the provider proposed to remove the public phone box on Cross Tree Green, on the grounds that no calls have been made from it for some time. He is to check whether the phone is actually operational, and anyway to prepare for the Chairman or Clerk a letter of objection to the phone's removal on the grounds of public safety, and particularly as a fallback in the event of an extended power cut.

403/16 Date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 10th January 2017** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

404/16 The Meeting Closed at 9.00pm