

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007 AT RICHINGS PARK SPORTS CLUB**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Sue Barber, Tina Heath, P Manning & A Manning

**MINUTES OF THE LAST A.G.M.:** The Chairman summarised minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2006 AGM.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** The minutes were approved for adoption.

**MATTERS ARISING:** There were none that could not be dealt with later in the meeting.

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:** The Treasurer, Graham Young, presented the Annual Accounts, which were straightforward. 50% of possible subs had been collected and we had finished the year with a £51 excess. We had to dig in to reserves to fund Kingfisher Gardens. We have also purchased fencing for the resident's garden. The accounts were approved and adopted.

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE:** All members due to retire had agreed to stand again and were duly elected. Sue Barber had agreed to join and represent Wellesley Court.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

*Traffic around the perimeter of Richings Park* – This is a continuing concern. County & District Councils have held a number of consultations including a public meeting where residents raised concerns re. HGVs. We hope to carry out a survey later in the year to count the HGVs going through Richings Park. Any volunteers, please let Wendy Morris know.

Speed limits have changed to 30mph. The council had promised enforcement activity but this hasn't happened. It will be chased up. We are also hoping for radar-activated signs.

*Residents Garden* – Thanks were given to Carol & Tony Symes for their care of the garden.

*Kingfisher Gardens* – Thanks were given to Alan Barrett and residents of Thorney Mill Road who maintain the gardens. It is open all day.

*Land by Iver Station* – RPRA did try to claim adverse possession but this failed. We are still planning to put up a notice inviting people to use it at their own risk in the hope that we can claim adverse possession in future.

*Graffiti* – This is being addressed with the Parish Council. If anyone has a cable box nearby that they would like to adopt and clean up, the paint will be provided. Please contact us.

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Many thanks to Maureen Worrall who is about to stand down after twelve years on the Parish Council.

*SADs (speed activated device)* – Parish Council have informed the county council that Richings Park really do need them when we go through a list of places interested.

The chairman has arranged a meeting with RPSC to discuss the youth in the area.

*Iver Community libraries* – Please visit the library behind cornerstones. It is going very well and we hope there will be one in Iver Village before the end of the summer. The Parish Council have given £3000 and the £10,000 from district council has now been sanctioned.

*Quality Status* – Iver Parish Council is only the seventh in the county to receive this status. This status will give the Parish further opportunities to take over work done by the district, for which they will be funded.

*St Leonard's Mound* – There will be a general clear-up this Sunday morning at 10am. It has been decided to keep the mound as natural as possible. Parish Council thought of creating a recreation area but health and safety issues prevented this.

**GUESTS** – Sergeant Bryan introduced himself. He has only been in post for six weeks. He explained about the monthly meeting of the NAG to look at priorities across Iver e.g. anti-social behaviour. Neighbourhood policing needs to be led by residents and enforced by police. To take any issues further, need the burden of proof e.g. survey to note the number of HGVs. He explained that the police have already identified a number of HGVs and have been in touch with transport managers.

*Anti-social behaviour around station* – They have only three recorded incidents. Anything within the station falls to British Transport Police, anything spilling out into Wellesley Avenue is the responsibility of Thames Valley Police. This was queried but Sergeant Bryant confirmed that they were the jurisdiction areas.

*New off-licence* – As far as the police are concerned, they are responsible for the enforcement against crime and disorder. As an independent body, they cannot comment on applications. It is up to the residents to report any incidents to be dealt with. There will be strict regulations and should deviations be made from the licence e.g. selling alcohol to under age youth then these will be dealt with by the police.

*A resident enquired which police were responsible to Richings Park* – Mike Hilliard is the beat officer and Tony Young who is based at Stoke Poges.

*Reports not being dealt with* – If you phone up to report an incident, make sure you get a URN – Unique Reference Number and if you feel you are not being taken seriously, write directly to Sergeant Dave Bryan at Gerrards Cross. Alternatively, e-mail NAG on [ivernag@hotmail.com](mailto:ivernag@hotmail.com) The community police have regular surgeries, feel free to go and express your views to them.

Wendy Morris thanked Sergeant Bryan and summed up the views of residents by stating that they felt that the response time for Richings Park was very poor and that their concerns were not taken seriously.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Alan Oxley spoke on the following:

*Parking* – The process of managing parking is gradually moving away from being a police issue to local authority who will employ the traffic wardens. SBDC are evaluating whether we should go on to SPA (Special Parking Arrangements)

*Libraries* – We fought to keep the libraries but lost. The Council are now moving in to other areas and cutting hours.

*Waste permits* – 6-9 months ago the County Council wanted a permit scheme to stop commercial use of the tips. If you had 3+ DIY items, you needed to ring for a permit. This was changed following objections and now you only need a permit if you have a trailer or a van.

Concern was raised regarding the lack of help for the elderly at the dump at Langley. Alan will chase this up. There was also concern that a lot of the waste comes from Slough. It was explained that Slough funds 50% of the dump.

*HGVs* – A mobile exhibition is coming to Iver on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June to show local transport plans produced by highways showing what they want to do in the area. This includes a spur road from the back of the Ridgeway to Sutton Lane. A blocker could then be placed to stop lorries coming through Iver. SBDC would need to be convinced that a road on green belt would be better than all those lorries coming through the area. The funding would also need to be found. If this could be written into a development plan, then anyone who applies for permission on the Ridgeway could be asked for funding towards the support of the infra-structure through a 106 application.

Please support this plan. Cappagh on the Ridgeway had permission for 25 lorries in and 25 lorries out in any one day. Alan Oxley watched the road until 11am and had already seen 27 out and 25 in.

Concern was expressed regarding the HGVs in Thorney Lane South. Eddie Wood explained that he had been contacted by Thames Valley Safer Roads Partnership who stated that they would like to look at the problems around Richings Park but that at present it was too dangerous to stop.

Alan Oxley stated that the Council were aware of the number of vehicles and speeds and that they are going to monitor it.

*Planning* – There have been some poor judgements in terms of planning permission in Richings Park lately, which have affected the look of the area.

*Schools* – There was an issue regarding places at Chalfont but this has now been resolved.

*Pathfinder* – There has been confusion in the past over which councils are responsible for which facilities. Attempts are being made to plan a merger of operations that could save £10,000,000 a year.

*Waste-Disposal* – The agreement will be renewed in November. The collection should stay weekly. No immediate intention to move to wheelie bins. The system will be developed in the future to include collection of green waste but at the present there is no capacity. Concern was expressed regarding bin bags left being a sign that people are away and could encourage burglars. As from November, people won't receive new bags every week, they will receive a roll.

*Pavements Thorney Lane South* – Concern was expressed about the dangerous state of the pavements. Alan Oxley has taken a Highways representative to see them along with Thorney Lane North which is actually worse.

*Thorney Mill Road* – Alan Barrett expressed concern re. lack of clear signage to prevent HGVs getting stuck at the width restriction. Alan Oxley stated that the best thing to do is get evidence of this in the form of photos of lorries having to turn around in order to show the importance of having clearer signs.

#### **A.O.B.**

- Question re. the Christmas Light. It was explained that they did go up this year though they were late.
- There were concerns from residents of Bathurst Walk who back on to the footpath next to the station. They felt that the incidents of anti-social behaviour were not being dealt with and threatened to block off the footpath.
- Complaints about the amount of building work that was being carried on in Richings Park and the footpaths that were being destroyed. Can the council enforce the restoration of verges? Alan Oxley explained that they do go back if there has been serious damage.
- Poynings/Old Slade Lane area has been inflicted by little black flies. Eddie Wood has been in contact with the environmental officer. Flies have been sent off for analysis. He has visited Thames Valley Treatment Works and apparently there is a lot of cake outside the sheds. He thinks they are sewage flies, but needs to back this up with evidence from the analysis. One resident believed they may be fruit flies as there is a lot of rotting fruit at the farm on the north side of North Park. The environmental officer is also aware of this.
- Concern was expressed by a resident who had seen rats. The environmental Health people need to be consulted and they will sort it out.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm