

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF RICHINGS PARK
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION HELD ON THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2009 AT
RICHINGS PARK SPORTS CLUB**

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Susie Davies, David Coppen, Alan Barrett

MINUTES OF LAST AGM: The minutes were agreed and approved for adoption. Proposed Tony Connolly and seconded by Alan Oxley.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters raised

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS: Presented by Graham Young. The subs have slightly increased. It was felt that there was a need to make the payment of subscriptions easier. Need to get membership up so that we truly represent the views of the majority of Richings Park residents.

Paynes Recycling sponsored Kingfisher Gardens to the sum of £450 last year with possibility of continuing to next year. Carol & Tony Symes wish to step down from maintaining Residents Garden (Cornerstones) and require volunteers to take their place. Alternatively a sponsor would have to be found for contractors to carry out task. Thanks were expressed to both Carol & Tony Symes and Paynes Recycling for their assistance in this matter

Speedwatch kit was purchased this year which is being depreciated over three year period. Income may be generated by hiring out speedwatch kit to other Parish Councils

Insurance increased slightly this year as insurer was changed to cover the Association's needs more fully, but this will go down next year .

The accounts were approved and adopted. Proposed by Maureen and seconded by Eddy Wood.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE: All members who were due to retire stood again and were duly elected.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Third Runway: Third runway has now been given go ahead but we will still continue to fight against it. A Judicial review is being launched with Windsor & Maidenhead and Hillingdon Councils participating. The new flight path associated with the third runway will go right over Richings Park with Old Slade Lane, Poynings , and surrounding area being particularly affected. Association has discussed this matter with Dominic Grieve, MP.

Heathrow Hub: There is a proposal to put a hub station on land presently occupied by Thorney Golf Club, which is larger than expected. Will be new Terminal 6 remote from Airport and building could be as big as Terminal 5 with motorway access from M25. This is new issue Association is pursuing.

Crossrail: Has been given go ahead and work has started in London area. Believe area south of railway by Thorney Lane will be used for railway works (temporary basis) Iver station is due to become Crossrail station. Proposed timetable is on Crossrail website.

Traffic on Perimeter Road: A sub-committee has been set up to look at this and County have agreed to improve signage and road markings. Parish council and County have obtained a temporary speed indicating device which has been sited along North Park, which will alternate to other sites around the area.

Speedwatch: Letters were being issued to speeding motorists which could eventually lead to a visit from the Police. Additional volunteers were needed and anyone interested to please get in touch with Eddy Wood.

Street Lighting: The turning off of street lighting has caused number of problems for pedestrians. We have approached County and their continued response is that they do not have responsibility for street lighting for pedestrians. The risk assessments undertaken were from point of view of motorists. This is a 3 year trial project which County plan to continue. We will continue pursuing this and we believe there have been other objections.

Dogs: This was raised last year at AGM in terms of dog fouling and control of dogs. Responsibility passed from Police to Local Authority who can create a dog control order for action to be taken, However, South Bucks do not intend to do so at the moment. We will continue to ask District Council to reconsider their views. In the meantime, Alan Oxley is gathering information on this issue, so if anyone observes a situation, it should be reported to him.

History of Richings Park: Association is gathering information on history of Richings Park and have obtained quite a few photographs and booklets thanks to Mr and Mrs Cochrane. If anyone has any further documents or photographs they wish to share for this project, please get in touch with any Committee members.

Rights of Way: We are trying to preserve the access road to station and behind the shops as our right of way so they cannot be built on or sold off.

Wendy expressed her thanks to the Committee for everything they had done.

The adoption of the Chairman's report was proposed by Alan Oxley and seconded by Matthew McEvoy.

Wendy then introduced Guest Speaker Policewoman Hayley Edwards who is our Local Neighbourhood Officer. She advised that the team consisted of Caroline Tailor, Rob Mellor (who was currently covering in Beaconsfield) Sgt George, Ben Moat, Ravinder Patel and Dave Castle who were all based at Gerrards Cross whilst Iver was being refurbished.

She reported that in the Iver area crime was above average. Since the beginning of the year, there had been 27 burglaries (7 in Richings Park). Various actions were to be implemented in the future to alleviate this problem. Hayley reported that speed checks had been undertaken around the area and tickets issued where necessary. She asked that all HGVs without netting be reported. Yellow lines at Richings Park crossroads are to be repainted. As regards the dog issue, Hayley advised that if the police officers saw an offence, they could issue tickets. However this was a matter still to be dealt with by South Bucks and County Council. She advised that complainants should keep calling in so that a log could be generated.

Hayley was hopeful that they would be able to move back into Iver within next few months, and that she would leave a few cards for distribution should anyone wish to make contact with her.

A resident asked whether it was an offence to be walking along drinking alcohol. Hayley replied that it was not but if the person caused a nuisance, he could be charged with being drunk and disorderly.

Wendy thanked Hayley and her colleague for attending.

Julian Wilson, Chairman of Parish Council: Julian reminded all present that everyone was welcome to attend Parish council meetings which were sometimes held at St Leonards Hall.

He advised that there was a public meeting to be held on Monday next week at Iver Village Hall at which the core strategy for whole of South Bucks for the next ten years was to be discussed. A proposal had been received from developer who would put in a relief road as part of his development which would consist of a development of 300 houses. This involved an exit near Wingrove's Farm. Other proposals were from Ridgeway out to Mansion Lane and then connecting up to Wood Lane. If anyone has any views about the relief road and the usage of green belt for this purpose, they were invited to attend the meeting on Monday and express their views.

He advised that the District Council was very supportive of the work being carried out by the Speedwatch group and was appreciative that the unit could be loaned out. He advised that the traffic problem with Iver High Street is that HGVs come through every 30 seconds as it is the designated route through Iver to the A412 and to the motorway.

Dog Kennel bridge had not been saved. As the bridge was under the control of the Rail Authority and is not a public right of way. It will be taken down as part of Crossrail project.

Wendy thanked Julian for attending.

Alan Oxley –District and County Councillor:

Alan said the issue to be raised at Monday's meeting, is the fact that green belt has to be used for the relief road. If no reference is made in any document to a relief road, we will not get one. However there is no guarantee that we will get one if mention is made in the document, but again Alan reiterated that if it is not shown in the plan, there will be no justification at Appeal or Public Enquiry at a later date. He said we need to make sure we are protected. We do not want a by-pass we want a road that takes the traffic out to the A4.

South Bucks Planning: New planning regulations came into effect this year which permitted certain development without requiring planning permission

Cappagh got planning permission, despite public enquiry. Inspector said because they carried out an important service they could operate 25 trucks in and 25 trucks out. However this is not monitored and Alan believed that some sort of automatic counting system should be installed.

Cape Boards: Site has been cleared and is now being used for all sorts of use. Concern was that more HGVs would use exit in Iver Lane causing more HGV traffic through Iver. Severnside Recycling use exit through Uxbridge Industrial Estate at present, but residents of Wallingford Road object to this. This needs to be watched

Speeding : Proposal for 30mph speed limit to be set for whole of Richings Park. If you agree please let your Councillor know. Thorney Mill Road is not included in consultation as there are not enough houses.

NHS: Consultation about NHS Wexham and Heatherwood as South Bucks PCT can buy services on your behalf from anywhere and as both Wexham and Heatherwood are in Berkshire. However, if you receive treatment from these hospitals and require appliances (crutches, sticks etc), you may not be supplied with them. Alan requested that if you know of any such incidents, you should report them to him. Ambulance response times have improved, although South Bucks have failed to respond to our request for figures.

Fire Services: We are now covered by Fire Department in Gerrards Cross, previously it was Langley. However Langley can assist if a real emergency arises.

Post Office: Great news is that Richings Park Post office was not closed. Alan urged everyone to keep using it to ensure its continued operation.

Library at Richings Park (back of Cornerstones) is doing very well with support from Parish and District Council. Graham Young managed to get £4/5000 sponsorship through Bucks Foundation which will ensure its continued operation.

Parking: Parking is becoming very difficult around Richings Park and it was suggested that double yellow lines be painted on Wellesley Avenue/Somerset Way junction as parking is making junction unsafe. Also at Old Post Office, where people park close to the main road causing cars turning into Bathurst Walk to drive in a single lane and sometimes backing up onto main road.

Flies: Last year we had infestation of flies. Environmental Health at South Bucks have regular meetings with Thames Water. If anyone is experiencing problems with flies, please log incident on RPRA website, or alternatively contact Alan or Graham and they will log the problem. This log is used as evidence which can be produced at meetings with the Environmental Health. Local farmer is using waste from Western International for his fields. Happens at weekends and it is difficult to get hold of Environmental Health.

Energy from Waste- Colnbrook: Grundons small incinerator is in use but Energy from Waste Incinerator not expected to be in use until September.

Waste Consultation: Possibility that waste will be shipped to Calvert, north west of Aylesbury or Bedford

Eddy asked for a round of applause for Wendy for all the hard work that she carries out in her capacity of Chairman of RPRA.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm