

**RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007**  
**at Richings Park Sports Club**

**PRESENT:** Wendy Morris, David Coppen, Brian Phillips, Alan Oxley, Tony Connolly, Alan Barrett, Eddie Wood, Susie Davies, Margaret Wilkins, Maureen Worrall, Sue Barber, Matthew McEvoy

**APOLOGIES:** Graham Young,

**ABSENT:** Maureen Atkinson, Paul Lake

**RESIDENTS' FORUM:**

Several residents attended the first part of the meeting to air the following concerns:

Off licence application for 3, Wellesley Avenue –At present no application has gone in other than for storage containers but the chance of their obtaining retail use is very high. Objections include the fact that it will encourage further anti-social behaviour. The flat above the chiropractors have had their car broken into every three weeks; the financial advisors have been broken into; the incidents of noise, litter and arson on the railway path will be multiplied; the chiropractors is concerned that people may believe there are drugs on the premises and break in. The issues are not being dealt with by the police effectively now and it can only get worse.

There is a petition in Costcutters which already has over 250 signatures. Wellesley Court are objecting on the grounds of – parking; the likely increase of anti-social behaviour and the fact that there are already at least two outlets for alcohol already in our small community.

The Community police officer attended and explained that they are aware of the situation and have been attending the area. If they find underage drinkers, they take the alcohol away and encourage them to move on. Unfortunately, this has resulted in their moving to St Leonard's Mound where more anti-social behaviour has been reported. It was explained that over the last year, residents have become increasingly intimidated by gatherings of youths and concern was expressed that in Iver, Iver Heath and Richings Park there were only two police on duty on a Friday night at 7pm. The community police can express their concerns and the objections of the local community regarding the licence application. It will be more effective if they receive e-mails and individual letters from residents, a petition alone is not enough. It was agreed that the grounds to object on are parking, anti-social behaviour and underage drinking. Letters should be forwarded to planning at SBDC and to Inspector Mick Park.

The police have stated that they haven't been receiving complaints, so any complaints about anti-social behaviour should be e-mailed to the Iver NAG at [ivernag@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ivernag@hotmail.co.uk) also, when reporting ensure you get a crime number.

St Leonard's Mound – Youths have been pulling up bushes and stated that they were retaliating because their bike jumps had been taken away.

Thorney House, Richings Way – The neighbours want to knock down the old lodge, Thorney Mead and build another building away from the road. They have already built three substantial buildings on their site which are apparently not against planning laws. They have made previous applications which have been rejected, now the projected site has been moved back and the conservation officer is running out of objections. They have asked the former legal representative from English Heritage for advice and he will object to the building being destroyed.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** were agreed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

Railway land – Alan has still to action. SBDC, the police and the transport police have been communicating and the transport police have acknowledged that the path next to the train line is their responsibility. **(ACTION AO)**

Garage/Richings Way – Has been added to the enforcement officer's list but nothing done as yet.

Website – Information on dog-fouling and graffiti to be added (**ACTION WM & GY**)

Water main outside post office – This and the verge beside the canal and railway bridge are to be repaired by utilities companies.

Drains outside North Star – Information on these and those in Wellesley Avenue have been given to the council. Alan is awaiting a response. Alan will continue to chase these on a monthly basis. (**ACTION AO**)

Train Services – Continue to be over-crowded and unreliable. Dominic Grieve wrote to the MD of First Great Western about the missing 9.04 train from the timetable. They apologised, but nothing has changed on any timetables. This is a short-term problem, in order to deal with longer-term issues, need to encourage Dominic Grieve to be part of the group of MP's tackling appalling train services.

Parking in Wellesley Avenue – Graham absent, to be dealt with next meeting.

**DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:** 26<sup>th</sup> April – AGM; Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May; Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Cheques are now going through.

**PLANNING:**

Concern expressed over 23 Richings Way and possible access onto Syke Cluan.

3 Wellesley Avenue – Alan Oxley will look at the plans and will let us know any grounds to object on. (**ACTION AO**)

**NEWSLETTER/AGM**

All agreed.

**FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS FROM COMMUNITY POLICING MEETING:**

This now has the policy, county council, council and only two residents. Apparently the police have not been logging information correctly. The graffiti has improved; the new subject to be tackled is HGV's. The new sergeant is keen to get the NAG working effectively again.

Wendy went to a meeting with the British Transport Police and Mike Hilliard regarding the number of station incidents. They have only three logged complaints for 2007. We need to encourage people to also report to the NAG website. It was suggested that a BLOG could be effective.

The CCTV on the station belongs to network rail, but they aren't monitored and don't face anywhere effective. However, they are not prepared to hand them over to the police to monitor.

**UPDATE FROM LIBRARY TASK FORCE:**

Cornerstone is working well with many contributions both of books and money. The children's centre at Iver seem keen to work with the library, but that wouldn't be until July. SBDC have agreed to give the library a grant once the forms are completed. This would provide funding for three years.

**REPORT FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS:**

Pathfinder – The plan from Bucks is that for the 1<sup>st</sup> year, all back office services for all five councils would be merged into one group. They are discussing the possibility of one customer service point and a joint waste authority to create common practice. They want to involve the community via the parishes in a lot more than they do. It has not had central approval yet, this won't happen until after the elections.

Waste incinerator – Nothing new on waste plans, again the politicians won't let anything come out until after the elections.

Strategy revision. – The mineral and waste strategy now has to be done via a different framework. The first three core strategies from different councils were all rejected, so Bucks are looking at amending the plan so they don't have to start again.

Enforcement are going to talk to Kappa regarding their failing to meet the agreed standards. i.e. 25 lorries in and out a day with sheeting within certain hours.

Vehicle Activated Signs – The parish will be able to put these up when the new policy is passed.

**REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL:**

The Parish has received Quality Parish Status. There are over 180 parishes in Buckinghamshire and Iver is only the seventh to achieve this. It means that Parish may be able to take on some Council and District work for which they can charge.

The council has also grown a great deal over recent years and is looking for larger premises. (possibly including the old library site in Richings Park.)

Bus Shelter – No further information.

St Leonard's Mound – The clearing will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 10am + Volunteers please. Steve Penrose who has taken over the nursery in Old Slade Lane has agreed to donate some shrubs.

Dog fouling bins – The Parish cannot put these on Thorney Park as the land is owned by the County. There is some confusion here because Wendy enquired about bins and it was stated that the Parish supply them and the council empty them.

The parish now has the paint for the cable boxes, so let Wendy know which box you would like and she will sort out the paint.

**RICHINGS PARK DESIGN GUIDE**

Eddie is waiting for better weather before photographing homes.

**RICHINGS PARK BOOK**

No Paul. (ACTION PL & SD)

**AOB:**

Eddie: The railings are ready for the community garden. They will need to be painted and we will need to get together a working party. SBDC are having trouble with Biffa again and the roads are not being cleaned effectively.

Maureen: Is there any way to ensure all residents who attend the start of meetings get a chance to speak, but that it doesn't take time away from the rest of the meeting. David suggested that each representative is given a headline time to state their case and then 5 minutes to express their concerns on the issue.

Alan: Huge lorries keep getting stuck at the width restriction into West Drayton. Can we get clearer signs on the road? Alan O said he would look into this. Hydrex are operating 24 hours a day. Something needs to be reported to Hillingdon Borough. We still need to encourage the parish to purchase Thorney Park from The County.

Matthew – The motorbikes are back at the weekends, environmental health will need to be approached again regarding the noise.

David – There are also motorbikes around the stables. He removed two bucket loads of broken tiles to avoid them being thrown by the youths congregating at the corner of the road. He has developed a paint resistant coating, but now the vandals have started scraping the paint off.

Margaret: Had a visit from Mick Crowther who mentioned an application for a change of use to an off licence from 1/8/1983. It was turned down on 19/4/1983. Alan will look into it to see if there is some precedent we can use.

The meeting closed at 10.30pm