

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th September at Richings Park Sports Club

PRESENT:, Margaret Wilkins, Graham Young, Susie Davies, Tony Connolly, Wendy Morris, Paul Lake, David Coppen, Maureen Atkinson, Maureen Worrall, Matthew McEvoy, Eddie Wood

APOLGIES FOR ABSENCE: Alan Oxley, Brian Phillips, Sue Barber

ABSENT: Alan Barrett.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: Under AOB, it was Maureen Worrall who mentioned the marks, not Margaret. Minutes were agreed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING:

RAILWAY STATION LAND

We are now insured for public liability on any bit of land over which we have control. This is basic public liability cover we would need to contact Swintons if we wished to carry out anything more hazardous e.g. fire works. Graham will ask the company if they have any preference out of the three possible wordings for the sign. **(ACTION GY)**

WEBSITE/E-MAILS

GY has set up e-mail addresses for Maureen Worrall, Wendy and himself to get SBDC information sent directly e.g. planning.

GARAGE RICHINGS WAY

Enforcement are keeping an eye on it. The name on the electoral roll has changed but the family state it is the same person. If anyone has any differing information, then enforcement will follow it up.

WATERMAIN OUTSIDE POST OFFICE

This has still not been done. Alan has chased highways and has also complained about the state of the footpath between the Ridgeway and the station.

STATION/TRAIN SERVICES

Shelters have been rendered and painted with anti-graffiti paint. Security people have been present at certain times. Usually late evenings. There is currently on-going dialogue between Wendy and First Great Western.

RESIDENT'S GARDEN

Huge thanks to Eddie who commented that he was very disappointed in the lack of support from the committee. The fence will need repainting. Wendy will give the details to community service and give Eddie as a contact. Are there any other ideas for community service activities? Suggestion of tidying up North Park and Richings Way. Wendy asked if the handyman had been seen around the shops. No one present had seen him. Wendy and Maureen will ask. **(ACTION WM & MW).**

WIDTH RESTRICTION SIGNS

Would it be possible to put up warning signs about sat. nav. Wendy will ask Glenda if it is Highways responsibility. **(ACTION WM)**

FLIES

They came back for a few days and have vanished again. Environment Office is still not sure where they came from. There were three possible places. The flies sent to the lab were too old for identifying. The ratio was 5females:1 male. They have done a lot of work at the sewage works to contain them. They are monitoring them. SBDC has classified them as a nuisance not a health hazard. If they are bad next year and no action is taken, we could take a class action against SBDC for not acting. (precedent set in Hounslow).

DUST

There are a lot of people complaining about the amount of dust. The reason could be the change of wind direction which has been blowing directly into Richings Park. It could be lorry activity from Bisons who seem to be starting early and working at weekends. Keeping a diary on lorry activity might help.

SMELLS

April – the environmental officer was informed about the smell. It is caused by the dumping of waste fruit & veg on Payne's land from the International Market at Southall. C. 15 cubic metres per load. Eddie complained on behalf of the residents of North Park. Nothing was done, so he gave the number to residents to call directly. The environmental officer Olu Sokoya came out but said the smell was marginal. St James Place are now complaining. The number for complaints is 01895 837361.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Wednesday 17th October (Apologies Maureen Worrall)
Wednesday 21st November

TREASURER'S REPORT

Expenditure is not an issue but the decline in membership needs to be noted. As of July 19th, we have only had c. 1/3 of residents join. Could we help to trawl around those roads that have dropped. We could link with the delivery of the newsletter and remind about payment.

PLANNING

Most recent decisions handed out.
Application for houses in Old Slade Lane was refused but no doubt they will appeal.

NAG

Only 4 people attended the meeting in July but the meeting in August was extremely well attended. Very little has been done apart from some lorry surveillance in Bangors Lane South. Issues are raised, but the police just don't want to know. The police also seem to want to take credit for actions carried out by residents e.g. graffiti clear up. Wendy doesn't know how long it can keep going.

LIBRARY TASK FORCE

- No further forward on use of the old Iver library premises.
- Cornerstones is working well with over 200+ members.
- However, cannot afford to run forever. Now have to institute regular fundraising activities.
- 23rd November – Quiz Night at Sports Club 7.00 – 10.00. Tickets are £7.50 per head which will include a fish and chip supper. Could the Residents Committee members distribute fliers. The next fundraising event after that will be to celebrate the first birthday of Cornerstones in February.
- It would be good to have more volunteers – fresh blood.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILS

Mineral Development Plan Document: They have added transport and access as criteria, so we have had an impact. On that basis, the Iver and Richings Park possibilities have been dropped. There is still a comment on Thorney Mill Road. Alan is trying to ensure they remove it as a cut and paste error.

Traffic: There have been two major accidents on North Park in the same day with one fatal. It was a head on collision in Richings Way. The ambulance took 17 minutes to arrive, police 22 minutes and fire brigade 30 minutes.

Eddie contacted the Safer Roads Partnership regarding Community Concern (contact = Alison Mitchell). A policeman assessed the road. He was from North Bucks and told Eddie that there was a problem. He had to speak to three drivers regarding speed and as he was wearing a fluorescent jacket, the traffic was slower anyway. He also spoke to a TNT driver and told him to talk to his boss and remind that the speed limit is 30mph. He has recommended an intermediate surveillance of the area which will probably involve intermittent checks.

Apparently, we can hire the police to do surveillance for £100. We need to compile evidence. Tony will buy the speed gun. **(ACTION TC)**

Vehicle Activated Signs: Bucks have been inundated with requests. The new policy states that they need to be ordered in bulk once a year. Wendy and Maureen will remind Parish about the request from Richings Park. We need to specify where they would go. Suggestions: Bollard opposite Richings Way and the Western end of North Park entering Richings Park. **(ACTION WM & MW)**

What is the criteria for speed cameras? Wendy will ask at the NAG. **(ACTION WM)**

Environment Improvement Projects: To continue with work on St Leonard's Mound. To tidy up around the shops area. These were not successful and they are only funding one project which is in Iver Heath. We will try again next time.

OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Design Guide – Nothing yet

Mick Crowther's Book – Nothing yet

A.O.B:

Newsletter: Tony will ask if we can put an article in the Iver Directory and that residents will deliver it. The article could be an interview with Wendy. **(ACTION WM)**

Sue Barber – There is an issue with youths at the station breaking bottles and leaving the glass. She rang the police but nothing has happened. Wendy will report it to the community police. The building work for Wellesley Court will begin in September.

Harjit – There have been fires down the alley by the station again. She reported it to the police but has had very little feedback.

Margaret – The environmental health officer has been looking at the dry cleaners. There are issues with where they are carrying out the cleaning and the pavement being blocked by vehicles. Wendy will raise the issue of blocked emergency access with the NAG.