

**RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 7.30PM**  
**Richings Sports Park**

*(KEY: BC: Bucks Council; IPC: Iver Parish Council; RPSC: Richings Park Sports Club; RPRA: Richings Park Residents' Association; IGNS: Iver Good Neighbour Scheme)*

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Graham Young (Chair), Cllr. Wendy Matthews (IPC, BC), Joyce Young (Minutes), Julia Hill, Jim Skinner, Nick Jones, Helen Pennie, Shantanu Tandon  
Tina Heath, Will Goddard.  
Sara Wong who lives in Thorney Mill Road would like to be involved in the committee.

**APOLOGIES** Kam Khatker, Kavita Deva, Tina Heath, Ged Weston (Vice Chair),

**NON-ATTENDEES:** Maureen Atkinson, Rav Hayer, Kam Patel, Gurmail Dhokal,

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes were agreed as accurate and were approved.

**MINUTES OF THE AGM**

Minutes were agreed as accurate and were approved.

Jean Watts attended the meeting to discuss developments in St James Walk. This development will cut off light to her living room and she hoped that the RPRA could also object to the development. Graham will object on behalf of the Residents association, and he encouraged others to also object individually. Closing date is the 23<sup>rd</sup> May so it needs to be done soon. Planning Code is PL241273FA  
**ACTION Graham and all**

Wellesley Court steward. As we no longer have a steward there, Graham will write to Sue and see if we can find someone she can hand it over to. It isn't a rolling bank transfer as she has always asked for an invoice before the payment is made.  
We need to add the new flats at Elizabeth Court on to the data base.  
**ACTION Graham**  
**ACTION Joyce**

**MATTERS ARISING**

Will has tried to get someone to help remove the bench, he could do it himself and grind it out but is concerned about the insurance issue.

Joyce has contacted Jonathan Sykes about ownership of the road by the railway station.

Insurance, Graham confirmed that because the Resident's Garden is held in trust then we cannot get indemnity as a residents Association. The trustees would be liable. He will explore getting suitable insurance for the trustees.  
**ACTION Graham**

Missing waste bin has been found and will be replaced. Wendy is chasing this.

Interpretative boards – this hasn't been done as Colne Valley promised to help with the design and as we also need a board for information opposite the railway station, so we need three (Kingfisher, Resident's Garden and Train station) We will reconvene the signage group to look at cohesive designs. Julia and Wendy will join the signage group led by Ged (Helen, Nick, Joyce) They will also look at signage for the playground at the Sports Club.  
**ACTION**

**Ged**

Regarding the mirror to allow a resident to pull into Richings Way safely – this is now being followed up by the resident and the LAT.

**Appointment of officers**

All were willing to stand again so were elected nem co

**Heathrow**

Graham is now sending out the minutes of all meetings to the committee when they occur.

### **Local Focus and Noise Forum**

Wendy mentioned that there appeared to be a new bus advertised in a Heathrow booklet, the A60 but it is unclear where it goes and if it exists – to be clarified at the next meeting.

Still parking issues where cars are being left which are taxed but have no MOT, the situation is bad in Iver Village.

Night flights – Wendy has responded to the Dept of Transport consultation about this. She also responded to the Heathrow consultation on the Airspace Modernisation process.

### **Highways update, verges, pavements and roads**

Sink hole on corner of Richings Way and the side spur from there has now been fixed and the sign at the Tower Arms for Thorney Mill Road has been replaced.

Thorney Mill Road is on the list for resurfacing this year and 'boring work' where they check the substrata of the road before resurfacing will take place overnight on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Manhole cover issue on North Park still to be fixed.

Bollards at the shops - no new information.

Signage – new 40mph and 30mph signs have now been done by Bucks for Richings Way and Thorney Lane South but Ged feels they are not clear enough so the signage group will look at them again.

### **Kingfisher Gardens / St Leonards Mound / Residents Garden**

Kingfisher Garden – the water hemlock on the bank has now been treated but not the hemlock in the stream which the contractors claim they didn't know about. They will need approval from the environment agency and will come back to do that. Wendy is following this at County level.

The garden is now open, and Joyce has written to Heathrow who manage the Rangers to let them know it is now accessible. It is looking very tidy and there is evidence of the hemlock having been treated. There is no evidence of any spring wildflowers in the central area.

Colne Valley have offered help in trying to get together a team to clear the stream, but this won't happen until the hemlock in the stream is treated.

There was a plan to do an event of some kind to link in with the Colne Valley festival. Still no clear idea of what to do – to be confirmed and agreed at the next meeting. **Agenda item**

St Leonards Mound – Work on the trees has been completed so what should we do next?

Do the trees impact noise?

Is it free of brambles and large weeds and any dangerous materials that may have been left by unwanted visitors?

Who would use it? '

Is there still an appetite for using it as an active 'work out' area because the access is difficult due to the very busy road?

Perhaps volunteers to make it safe, make it into a 'pocket park' and discuss with relevant parties to see if they want to use it – the nursery is not open yet, but they could use it. Graham will contact them. **ACTION Graham**

To be discussed further at the next meeting.

**Gardening team** – Thanks were given to the team for the regular mowing keeping the Park looking good.

### **Finance report**

The final 2023 2024 finance report has been done and can now be made public. Joyce will put on the web site with the AGM minutes. Pay Pal payments weren't reflected accurately in the first draft.

Payment for a tree removal at the Residents Garden cost £1600.

Payment for the defibrillator – no pads have been bought recently and they should be replaced every year. Wendy advised we can apply for funds from the Parish for upkeep. Graham will talk to Jan Wiseman who looked after the defibrillator in the past and apply for funds from the Parish Council.

**ACTION Graham and Shantanu**

## **Membership report**

Currently around 185 paid up members as well as around 60 PayPal payments that come in over the year. There are 6 people who have paid with no attached address, so they aren't included in the totals.

Joyce will send a What's app message thanking everyone for paying and hopefully that will remind a few more.

She asked if stewards could let her know here there are empty houses in their roads and she will highlight them on the spreadsheet.

## **Projects**

There was a proposal that we do not have a survey about the projects that have been proposed but just go ahead and get on with them as they will all enhance the area.

Kam should investigate how a mobile book borrowing trolley would work and do some costings.

Will was also asked to get a start on the Repair shop idea.

Trees – we could start with one or two – Shantanu to explore costs.

Signage at the station to be incorporated into the signage group for advancement.

Could we also look at signage that supports turning off engines whilst idling as well as more personal looking signs (as on Swallow Street near Evreham) about keeping your speed low.

**ACTION -all project leaders to start on them.**

Wendy informed us that there are three bidders to take over the management of the station – they may be interested in supporting good signage.

## **Events**

Iver Olympic is on track for Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July at Iver Rec.

There will be a shuttle bus from RP – suggested that it pick up from the shops rather than the Tower Arms.

As there has been no interest in a summer event on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, this has now been cancelled.

Possible events later in the year. The children's Christmas party is booked for the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. and the Carols will go ahead as well.

80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day is Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June at Iver Heath where the beacon is located, there will be food available and a brass band and all are welcome. Fliers to be circulated on What's App.

There will be a Pinewood bus available

## **Planning and enforcement**

### **Large Scale**

Railhead link at Link Park

As this is a statutory provision no objections can be made about working times or lorry movements and an increase in activity to possibly double the normal amount has already been noted by Thorney Mill Road residents. We can however seek restrictions on where planning permission is sought for any proposal. An enforcement case has already been opened as some building work is taking place. If no processes take place, the owner can do what he likes with the aggregate, provided it is brought in by train.

Court Lane. There will be a public enquiry starting on the 11<sup>th</sup> June for 6 days.

### **Parish and Unitary council updates**

Annual Parish meeting is tomorrow, the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Richings Park Sports Club. 7pm.

Police and Crime commissioner has not changed.

The great stink down the end of Old Slade Lane is caused by the de-watering of sewage sludge at the Iver plant managed by Thames Water. Sewage is pumped to Iver, dried and made into 'cake' which used to be distributed to farmers. Due to the high amounts of unwanted elements in this and the wet weather, it is now surplus to requirements and is being stored outside, leading to an awful smell. Thames Water have until the end of May to get rid of it.

### **Street licensing**

This new legislation from Bucks Council requiring any fetes, fairs or events that have any commercial element e.g. ice cream van will require a license This appears not to have been a well thought out idea and has met resistance across County. There may be second thoughts. Graham has let FISA know, so they can object.

### **Date of next meeting**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm at the Sports Club.**

### **Around the table**

Suckers on trees on Bathurst Walk – advised that these should be dealt with in the Autumn.

Walking book club – Will's wife is keen to get this going and is investigating how we could get a number of books – suggested that there is a publisher who lives in the Park who may be able to help.

Footpath by the houses towards Link Park on Thorney Mill Road is very overgrown and is now practically impassable, been reported several times on Fix my street.

Reported daytime bonfire on Richings Way burning very noxious rubbish.

Station car park – possible interest by new management company of the station?

Lots of garden growth in Sej Place.

Residents garden – does anyone know who put the small child's kitchen there?  
Although it is a nice idea, we have no control over what gets into the sand and could cause diseases and may be a public liability. We need to ask the owners to move it. Graham will put a note on it asking them to contact him. **ACTION Graham**

Drains to be mended at 5 points roundabout at the Crooked Billet and it will be occasionally closed from June to Oct. Traffic lights and expect delays.

Overgrown grasses and verges and poor sight lines – Report on Fix my street as many times as possible.

Residents cut both corners of Bathurst and Thorney Lane South, Somerset and Wellesley, Residents Garden, outside Lotus Wellbeing and the bottom of Syke Ings.

Welcomed Sarah Wong to the meeting and asked if she had an expertise that could be useful to the committee.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm