

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday January 13th 2025 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), Jim Skinner, Helen Pennie, Julia Hill, Sarah Wong, Shantanu Tandon, Will Goddard, Amarjit Dhaliwal

APOLOGIES Nick Jones, Tina Heath, Kam Khatker,

NON-ATTENDEES: Kavita Deva, Ged Weston (Vice Chair), Maureen Atkinson, Rav Hayer, Kam Patel, Gurmail Dhokal, Paul Griffin.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes were agreed as accurate and were approved.

MATTERS ARISING

St Leonards mound. Lilliput nursery is closing this term so they will not be supporting the development of the mound. Heathrow rangers will be starting work in Spring.

Joyce asked if we wanted to apply for some more tree whips from Woodland Trust, agreed to do that. ACTION Joyce

Funding application for interpretative boards – Heathrow Take off fund will support this and we need to show what we plan to put on the boards before they agree funding. Joyce, Wendy, Graham and Niki have met, and a basic design will be done by Niki and submitted to Heathrow before we design the rest of the boards.

Graham has written to the owner of the bike shop but had no response, next step is to talk to the shops and see if we can work together to resolve the mess behind the shops. ACTION Graham

Adeel at Costcutters has been approached as a link to local businesses, no formal agreement yet, Graham to follow up. ACTION Graham

Christmas party. Although several families turned up and we had a large donation of presents we felt that this is not sustainable as an annual event. We will still try to collect presents for the local hub but in a different way.

Christmas Carols. This was felt to be successful, as a number of families turned up to sing and mulled wine (provided by RPRA) and mince pies donated courtesy of Costcutters.

What's app poll for full fibre. 212 households responded and around 190 had a valid address we could use. The data has been cleansed for data protection and sent to Bucks to hopefully improve the chances of getting full fibre across RP.

AGM 2025

This is usually held in April, and 29th April was agreed as the date with a 7.30 start at the sports club.

Shantanu and Graham will finalise the accounts, Graham will write the AGM Notice and leaflets to be printed ready for delivery in the two weeks prior to the AGM.

Heathrow

Community forum

Graham attended. There are three objectives:

- 1 Expand ways they reach out to local organisations that are not residents associations
- 2 Health and Welfare – deal with the blight affecting local communities like Harmondsworth and Colnbrook where properties are disused or in multi occupancy and little maintenance is being done.
- 3 Issues with surface access parking – in particular lorries. Heathrow is being encouraged to contribute to ANPPR cameras. Local villages are now having to pay to park.

Noise and airspace forum

Still conflict between various parties, Wendy noted that engine ground testing has started again.

Speedwatch

Julia had spoken to Paul about reviving the group, he will be in touch with the members of the group soon.
ACTION Paul G

Repair café

Next café is at Iver Heath on the 1st Feb and the one after at St Leonards on the 15th March. Booking is now open. Suggested that using the Pavilion in Iver may work as the Parish is keen to support the initiative with grants. At the moment it is self-funding. London Repair week in March, Will may get involved in this next year. He is retraining as an electrician so will bring more skills to the group.

Kingfisher Gardens

A visit has been arranged to look at why the stream is sluggish and the apparent blockage is at a house that is on the main road. No access has been possible to investigate further. Environment agency have been notified.

Quote of £2000 for Colne Valley to clear the stream to enable pond dipping, Joyce will investigate funding for this. Graham to discuss with the team at Parish to see if they can do it.

It is possible that Bucks who own the land may remove the dead tree. Graham to chase the contact at Bucks.

Fly monitoring – Amarjit and Jim volunteered to take part in the training for this, Joyce will notify the contact at Colne Valley.
ACTION for all Joyce

Gardening team

Clippings from the trees – Joyce was pointed by someone from Bucks to the parks dept for clearance of these, she will chase to find a contact there.
ACTION Joyce

Finance report

A summary of bank balances sent before the meeting. We have a healthy balance. Please claim any expenses.

Membership report

A few PayPal payments over the last couple of months. Most of the recurring payments from PayPal have now been completed.

Events and projects

ABBA summer party booked for Saturday 14th June. Amarjit is organising, more information soon. Possible quiz night? To be discussed at next meeting.

Mobile library – no more information – Will to liaise with Kam
ACTION Kam and Will

Possible football / sports event linked to St Peters prize giving, Shantanu to discuss with St Peters.

Discussion on a bus shelter, as a number of children wait for a school bus opposite the Tower Arms. Ask Ged to lead on this to find out possible planning needed, size and place to put it.

ACTION Joyce to speak to Ged.

For info – money held by the Iver Community libraries which is not functioning any more has been offered to the two Iver schools. £500 each for a bid to enhance reading and books in the schools.

Planning and enforcement

Possible height of fence outside No 47 Richings Way is too high? Wendy to advise Julia.

ACTION Wendy

Second set of data centres (3) has been applied for on Thorney Business Park. This is likely to be followed by an application for 3 more. This will make the site unlikely to ever have any housing on it, nor a school or a medical centre although the access to the train station and a carpark is still on the cards. The application appears to be a case of citing fictional benefits to the economy and health and wellbeing.

As part of the application there is a request for a 200-space car park – not all for employees but for visitors – this seems an excessive amount and needs to be commented on when objecting to the application. The plan will become more extensive, leading to the creation of a ‘data centre park’ with enormous buildings that will be seen from afar with no community benefit of any kind as financial gain will be used for the station car park.

It appears that Amazon are behind this application but do not have a public face in it.

We need to object to this application as it has no benefit to the community of any kind, not even by employing staff as there will only be 10 jobs created.

Graham and Wendy will work on an RPRA response which we should circulate through the What’s app community group for all residents to object.

ACTION Wendy / Graham

Objections in by the 24th Jan, it will go to strategic sites committee.

Enforcement have been to see Ashville but no news on outcome.

Less lorries as the company have sold 4 lorries and there is a downturn in the market.

No 5 Ridgeway – application for conversion to housing was turned down on appeal.

Parish and Unitary council updates

A new clerk has been appointed and taken up his post. Precept has had a 5% cut which will be lost as Bucks are increasing their precept by 5%.

North Park Road works – are for ‘trail holes’, unsure what the holes are for, possibly data cables.

Work on 5 points roundabout at the Crooked billet will start in March for approximately 2 years.

Date of next meeting

Monday 24th February 7.30pm

Around the table

- Litter and fly tipping increasing along Richings Way – last house has a lot of rubbish which attracts further rubbish.
- Richings Park and Parish notice board is in need of repair or replacement – Wendy and Graham will follow up with the deputy clerk.
- Bike shop – no response to letter about rubbish behind the shop – Graham to arrange a collection and write to businesses to see if they can help.
- Wexham and Ivers Community board have offered funding to the Repair café.
- Neighbourhood watch has been on hold over the last couple of months, signs to be going up soon. Will to collect the sign from Kavita to put up at end of Bathurst Walk
- Will will remove the bench in the Residents Garden.
- Playhouse is falling apart and needs removing – Will and Shantanu to liaise in doing it.
- Excessive light pollution from the Spiritual hub, Wendy has reported to Highways and the Police as a hazard to traffic.
- Syke Ings road is getting worse, Shantanu to coordinate a concerted reporting to Fix my Street. Road to be done in next financial year
- Bollards – broken by traffic accident at bottom of Syke Cluan, report on Fix my Street.
- Delivery vans parking on grass outside Lotus – Helen will talk to Kam about barriers.
- Graham has a catch up meeting with IVRA and IHRA tomorrow.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm