

RICHINGS PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday July 23rd 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), Jim Skinner, Nick Jones, Helen Pennie, Julia Hill

APOLOGIES Kam Khatker, Kavita Deva, Shantanu Tandon, Tina Heath, Will Goddard, Gurmail Dhoka, Ged Weston (Vice Chair)

NON-ATTENDEES: Maureen Atkinson, Rav Hayer, Kam Patel, Sara Wong

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes were agreed as accurate and were approved.

MATTERS ARISING

Nothing that isn't on the agenda

Noted that RPRA had received a volunteering award at the Olympic picnic held the previous week.

Heathrow

The police are really clamping down on the Meet and Greet groups with two successful prosecutions resulting in 6 and 8 month jail sentences. The police are also pushing the Government for more stringent rules about Meet and Greet parking. On street parking is also getting worse and the BPA (British Parking Association) is requiring insurance and registration of meet and greeters. One lost car which has been missing for months was found in Love Lane having been stolen and vandalised. There is a Parking interest group and Wendy is a member of this and also a parking reporting portal where you can register any cars that are thought to be left for airport parking. Please report this if you see a car that may have a few parking tickets or has been left unattended for some time.

www.heathrow.com/company/local-community/report-nuisance-parking

Heathrow Rangers now need a request form for any work needing doing – we assume that the Residents Garden and Kingfisher Garden are both on their rota.

Highways update, verges, pavements and roads

Grass cutting by Bucks has now resumed with most verges having been given a trim this week. Let Wendy know if any areas still need cutting.

Drains on Thorney Mill Road have still not been done and Jim thinks that at least half are blocked due to the Ashville lorries depositing earth on the roads. Wendy is chasing it.

Broken surround of the manhole on North Park has been fixed very badly and still thumps as traffic goes over it. Nick feels it should be reported as a shoddy job. Wendy said as it was a BT repair there isn't a lot we can do.

Kingfisher Gardens

Kingfisher Garden – the water hemlock in the stream has now been done. The Heathrow Rangers have been busy looking after it.

Residents Garden

The play equipment is still there and asking them to meet with us has produced no response so Graham will put up a notice saying they will be removed in one week. We need somewhere to store them for a short time and Graham will ask at the Sports Cub. We also need a van to move them if anyone knows anyone who can help.

St Leonards Mound

The pre-school has met with the deputy clerk, Graham and Julia Hill, They need to make a formal written request to IPC to be allowed to use it as a 'Forest School'.

Graham will remind them to write. The steps will be done by one of the IPC staff but they may need funds and probably volunteers to help get it cleared for use. RPRA can help with applying for funds and we need to discuss how we could help with volunteering groups. Will thought the Scouts may be able to help. Wendy thought there was £600 in the budget for it when the request has gone to subcommittee and then is approved by full council.

Gardening team –Regular mowing keeping the Park looking good. Two new volunteers – Paul Griffin and Adrian.

Richings Sparkle was postponed until September.

Agenda item for Sept

Finance report

Nothing new to report

Membership report

Currently around 200 paid up members as well as around 55 PayPal payments that dribble in over the whole year.

Projects

Repair Café

Julia circulated a leaflet about this (attached) They are well ahead with planning and setting it up. They have met, agreed a venue and booked St Leonards Hall (£60) for Saturday 5th October, 10am to 2.00pm. They have an email address, a domain name and Insurance sorted, and Nick has written an article for the Parish mag to advertise it. Repair Café is an international company which may be able to provide resources. They have two seamstresses – Jean Watts and Tina and Graeme Jenner is interested in helping.

Graham will set up a separate bank account under the main RPRA account and deposit some Money in there. £500 was suggested.

ACTION Graham

The committee approved this.

They are working on publicising this across RP.

Interpretative boards

Joyce has done a bid for £4.800 for three boards – one at the station, Residents Garden and Kingfisher garden, to the National Lottery funds linking it to strengthening community links and information. She will send a copy of the grant application around to the group for info.

Mobile library – no news on this.

Mature trees – No news on this, noted that we would need to be planting in October. Graham to talk to Shantanu about time frame.

Events

Iver Olympic picnic was Saturday 13th July at Iver Rec. The Youngs represented RPRA with a flag in the opening procession. It was all rather underwhelming at first but picked up during the day and was pronounced a success and the organisers want to do it again next year. We had a discussion about how we could manage this as we didn't know how many attendees were from RP or if anyone used the bus from the Tower Arms. Discussion for next meeting as volunteering involves quite a lot of work.

AGENDA item

The children's Christmas party is booked for Sunday 1st Dec. – need to check the Grant source and the Carols will go ahead as well.

ACTION Graham

Planning and enforcement

House in Syke Cuan by St James's Walk appears to have applied for an extension, but the house has been demolished. Nick to check the planning app and Wendy will investigate it.

We should all report to Enforcement– Joyce will find the planning link and attach to the email with the minutes.

Electric gates on North Park are causing problems where the gates are flush with the pavement as cars are stationary in the road whilst the gates open. Planning approval says they must be set into the house's grounds. Enforcement needs to be involved.

ACTION Nick and Graham to check planning approvals

National NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) the rules under which planning committees have to abide by when deciding whether to approve or deny planning permissions – this will affect us, but there are no details so far.

Large Scale development

The new government announced that they were calling in the Woodland Park data centre on Slough Road on the Green belt which was turned down by Bucks – however, they can't do this and it still needs to go to the planning inspectorate on appeal.

Court Lane data centre has also apparently been called in and IPC is trying to communicate with the Government about why some data centres are better than others. HMG has announced that data centres are necessary infrastructure.

Julia spoke on behalf of the Richings Way residents and was concerned about the impact of a large data centre on a small village as it is thought that none have ever been built in a similar area. Wendy was happy to talk to them about the process if they wanted that.

Thorney Lane is still going through but it is likely to be a while before that one is done and there is still the prospect that the other smaller businesses will stay, meaning lorry movements won't go down and we will also have a data centre.

Link Park. There will be a public inquiry about this.

National Grid – This will be another large development in green belt. No news on the MSA.

Community Board

The next meeting is proposed to be online and is now on Monday the 23rd of September.

It was generally felt that the Community Board wasn't working in the best interests of the community as a lot of money has not been spent.

Possible film club at the Iver Heath Library, this has been turned down as a feasible option by the library service. Other options for venues have been proposed. We are waiting on the Friends group to report on their views.

Parish and Unitary council updates

Nothing new to report

Date of next meeting

Monday 9th September 7.30pm at the Sports Club.

Around the table

Lots of garden growth in Sej Place. Graham will write to the owners **ACTION Graham**
Signage group – need to look at ways of noting the 30mph speed limit – perhaps ask Lilliput
preschool to design some ‘slow down’ signs. Joyce will investigate and group meet again in Sept.

Julia was keen for the meeting to note that it had been minuted about resident’s concern over large
Data centres impact on the area. The need for extra power and water needs investigating but as it
seems to be a focus for the new Government, we may be powerless to stop the growth.
The committee was unsure what else it could do to mitigate the impact.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm