

Ivinghoe Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2016 at Town Hall, Ivinghoe.

Present:

Cllr. Karen Groom (Chairman)

Cllr. C Bamber (Vice Chairman), Cllr. A Dicker, Cllr. R Benton & Cllr. Lott.

County Councillor A Davies, District Cllr. C Poll, District Cllr. S Jenkins & District Cllr. D Town.

Mrs Bridget Knight - Clerk

Speakers: Cllr. D Eggar Chair of Aldbury PC, Bucks County Councillor A Davies, District Councillor C Poll, District Councillor D Town, District Councillor S Jenkins, Councillor A Dicker, Councillor C Bamber, Councillor R Benton and PCSO Frank Callaghan.

17 members of the public.

Items on Agenda	
1. Receive questions from members of the Public	<p>The Parish Council was addressed regarding the state of the road humps in Ivinghoe and a comment was made they are possibly illegal. Cllr Groom reported she had meet with Bucks Highways recently and everyone should keep lobbying them. County Cllr Davies has suggested they are replaced by rubber alternatives and stated it is her ambition to get these replaced from Handpost Cottage to Station Road, the road repairs have been on the agenda since September and are scheduled to start shortly in June.</p> <p>The pavement from Ivinghoe Town Hall to the Pharmacy is very uneven and challenging to walk on. The Parish Council can write to highways about this matter. Cllr Groom encouraged all members of the public to report this. County Cllr Davies suggested the 'report it' online system is used which has proved effective for other issues.</p> <p>District Cllr Jenkins mentioned that there is a possibility of road maintenance being devolved to local parish councils. This is already being trialled at some parish councils. County Cllr A Davies said it is a strong rumour this could happen either individual parish councils or combined parish councils to maintain their own roads. The maintenance is mainly pot hole repairs, gully emptying and weed spraying. Concerns were raised regarding funding for this service if devolved. District Cllr Jenkins mentioned that in the past it has cost Bucks CC more with the services devolved. There could be conflict over priorities if bigger roads are fixed before smaller residential roads.</p> <p>The new book about Pitstone Windmill is being launched this weekend. There is a special afternoon planned at the Windmill on Saturday to celebrate the book launch.</p>
2. Attendance and Apologies	Apologies were received from Councillor A Stone, Carol Tarrant, Hazel Travis, Lynn Martin and Adrian Roach.
3. To Receive declarations of interest	None
4. To approve minutes of APM held on 23 rd April 2015.	It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and CARRIED that the minutes were a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
5. Chairman's Report	<p>Cllr Groom gave the following report to the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The new Councillors and Clerk were welcomed.• The numerous volunteers were thanked for all their endless work.• Thank you to Gloria and Julie for organising the refreshments tonight and the various bakers.• There have been 47 planning applications with 3 successful appeals. Every appeal was dismissed.• The Conservation area was approved in June.• A new gate and noticeboard is in place at the allotments.• Play in the Parish has been very successful with lots of 0 – 11 year olds attending.• Beacon Magazine is doing well and Cllr Groom thanked Christabel Boesma and Ali Wade for their continued hard work.• The thatching hook has been removed for repair, the man carrying out the repair is the grandson of a man who previously fixed this.• 'Clean for the Queen' has taken place with the parish trees being taken care of.• The parish council has donated £1,000 to the Beacon Library and £4,000 towards the Gladman appeal.• The joint BHB presentation between Ivinghoe and Pitstone took place on the 10th May

	<p>and approx. 160 people attended. Lots of positive feedback received after the very good presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The website is currently being re-built and will take some time. • NDP – Richard Freeman and team are doing a marvellous job. • The birds nest swing in Ivinghoe playground was found to be faulty and now a rope has been installed replacing the chain for health and safety reasons. • The council continues to arrange quarterly inspections of the play equipment. • Pleased to report that this week the Ivinghoe Aston playground lease has been signed which secures this for 20 years. • Approval has been given by Bucks for the parish council to install planters from the phone box in Ivinghoe to the bus stop. If people continue to park on the pavement which prevents access to the footpath this should be reported to the police. • The accounts were produced by the previous Clerk and any questions should be addressed to her via the current clerk or the chair. • Carol Tarrant was thanked for the village logo which is now being used, Carol designed this free of charge. Carol's husband Bob Corn was given a bouquet to pass to Carol as a token of appreciation.
<p>6. Cllr Duncan Eggar – Aldbury PC Chair</p>	<p>Aldbury also has new Councillors and a new Clerk. Aldbury PC includes Tring Station hamlet so Tring Station is a concern.</p> <p>Tring Station - after 9.15 during the week it is impossible to park in the Tring station car park, if you park on yellow lines the fine is £70. Many villagers drive to Berkhamsted to be able to park. The roads are getting much busier and the catchment for the station is large across the three counties. Crossrail was intended to come to Tring to relieve the pressure on Euston, this is on hold currently as the cost would be £170-£200m.</p> <p>Clear Felling – the National Trust in Ashridge caused upset locally with their plans to clear fell Toms Hill, taking it back to appearance of 100 years ago when villagers had right to graze their animals on Aldbury Common which kept the vegetation down. Concern was raised by residents and the NT have put this on hold, Aldbury PC are available to discuss with NT at anytime.</p> <p>Aldbury PC were invited to the BHB presentation which they enjoyed and have been inspired by the ideas for Aldbury. A real problem in Aldbury are the cyclists who speed through the village where there are children and horses often.</p> <p>Aldbury enjoy their good relationship with Ivinghoe and are good neighbours, keen to work together to be more powerful.</p> <p>Stephen Swinbank Asked if there are plans to install lifts at Tring, Cllr Eggar said he believed in the future yes. This is Network Rail's responsibility and this should be lobbied with them.</p>
<p>7. PCSO Frank Callaghan</p>	<p>Apologies from PC Duthie who was busy reviewing 200 items of stolen property which has been recovered. PCSO Callaghan stepped in and listed the individual burglaries in Ivinghoe. There have been 3 thefts from dwellings since April 2015 and more from vehicles. The main areas of concern is the theft from vans and cars of coats, computers, tools and equipment and he stressed not to leave anything valuable on display. There was one case of assault on Station Road which was road rage and one case of harassment where homophobic language was used. Figures for Ivinghoe Aston were not available but will be sent through later.</p> <p>Cllr Groom asked what the success rate is. PCSO Callaghan reported that yesterday a joint Herts and Beds operation targeted people and made 7 arrests and recovered 200 items of stolen equipment including power tools. They are likely to be charged with conspiracy of theft and can expect prison sentences of around 2 years.</p> <p>A few months ago 5 people were arrested and put on bail, it is the small amount of people doing 99% of the crimes, and they travel quite a distance recently burglaries in Wing the offenders were from Northants. Figures for Ivinghoe Aston will be sent by email after the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Poll asked about anti-social behaviour, PCSO Callaghan reported that this is more of an issue in Pitstone and Wing, it is much quieter now than previously and not aware of any anti-social behaviour issues in Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston.</p> <p>Bob Corn mentioned the 'dumper' truck that was stolen during the day from the Hub, PCSO Callaghan commented 99% of burglaries occur during the day. Cllr Jenkins spoke about problems of vans being broken into in Herts/Beds & Bucks and a gang has been arrested and are in prison for a few months, many items have been recovered from Beds, Luton and Windsor and some items are unmarked so cannot be returned.</p>
<p>8. Parish Council Accounts Precept Explanation and Breakdown</p>	<p>A draft set of accounts were available at the meeting. There were no questions.</p>
<p>9. Cllr Claire Bamber - Traffic</p>	<p>Cllr Bamber reported that two main areas of concern from the LAF – Speeding and HGVs.</p> <p>Speeding – MVAS data has been analysed and Cllr Bamber reported the statistics of 358,168 vehicles travelling North-South travelling through villages of which 63% of vehicles were speeding. In Great Gap 186,982 vehicles were recorded and 80.73% were travelling over the speed limit and 4 were travelling at over 80mph and one vehicle over 90mph. Speeding was worse at the peak</p>

	<p>times when the school run is happening and lots of children waiting for school buses. Cllr Bamber wants to capture further data and mentioned software which captures images which would need police agreement, Police could then possibly prosecute. This procedure is ongoing.</p> <p>HGVs will become more of a problem as the A4146 is downgraded and the proposed weight limit on the Water End to Eaton Bray Road. The council thanked County Councillor A Davies for her campaigning and the council has written to Rt Hon John Bercow MP who has written to Mr Neil Gibson – Chief Exec of AVDC, Mr Bercow said he will write to us with his response. Also the many building sites in the surrounding area will increase HGVs travelling through the villages. The B488 is more of an assault course than a road with many pot holes and concern was raised in particular for motorcyclists. HGVs are travelling through Great Gap in the early hours of the morning waking residents up. Overall more data is required and this knowledge will be imperative going forward.</p> <p>Signs are in place for the Station Road re-surfacing which is due to start on the 13th May.</p> <p>Owen Wynne asked if there is any evidence that the equipment used in Tring is effective against speeding. Cllr Bamber confirmed in Wales it has proved very effective.</p> <p>County Cllr Davies mentioned that Cllr Bamber has an excellent relationship with Dave Roberts who delivery the strategy. County Cllr Davies said that the Local Transport 4 has been adopted and major route planning speeding is a police issue today. Also the problem of Water End Bridge failure is due to waste traffic travelling from London to Newton Longville.</p> <p>A question was asked about Ford End bridge which is Grade 2 listed, this is owned by the Canal and Rivers Trust. Joanne Groom stated that people should bombard police on these matters.</p> <p>Cllr Lott mentioned that ‘police speed watch’ signs are extremely effective.</p> <p>Malcolm Stubbs mentioned that before money is spent on resurfacing Ivinghoe High Street the Council enquires with Anglian Water what condition the pipes under the high street are in to avoid water repairs after the resurfacing.</p>
10. Cllr Andrew Dicker	<p>Cllr Dicker spoke about the Gladman application and appeal at Aylesbury. Lots of people have commented how successful the outcome was. Today we formally thanked Kate Mackie and Kate was presented with a bouquet of flowers and everyone said well done. Kate said we did it together.</p> <p>Bob Corn enquired now the Gladman application is scrapped the application for a further 36 houses seems to have gone away, Cllr Groom confirmed that the appeal would have to have been made by February so this has been withdrawn.</p>
11. Cllr Ruth Benton Ivinghoe Aston	<p>Cllr Benton joined the council last year, since then a football goal has been added to Ivinghoe Aston and the playground made safer by moving the gate in from the road. The S106 money was used to move the gate and pay for the new goal. Planning applications seem to been posted through residents doors on Christmas Eves the last few years, the most recent was lost on appeal in Feb/March. The application for Slapton Lock Marina was dismissed on all accounts, following an 8hour inspection.</p> <p>The future downgrading of the A4146 is already affecting Ivinghoe Aston with Clarks Contractors HGVs travelling through Ivinghoe Aston and Horton. MVAS has been used on 3 occasions with some drivers travelling at 80mph through the village at 4pm. Speeding has become worse since the white lines have been re-painted. Three families are moving from Ivinghoe Aston because of the traffic. Cllr Benton stated Ivinghoe Aston is like the little brother of Ivinghoe and Cllr Groom thanked her for her work.</p>
12. Report on Poor Lands Charity Town Hall Report	<p>Andy Beezer reported on the Ivinghoe Poor Lands Charity and circulated the Annual Accounts for 2015/16.</p> <p>The Ivinghoe Poor Lands rents out 2 parcels of land in Ivinghoe Aston and distributes the income received to the qualifying pensioners of the parish. Recently 2/3 less cheques are have been issued each year so it could be the charity evolves differently in future. Cllr Groom had negotiated a small rent increase so funds have risen slightly.</p> <p>Andy Beezer as Chair of Town Hall Committee thanked Stephen Swinbank and there was applause. The floor has been cleaned and is much better, bookings are in good health. Jenny Ross continues to do the accounts and he committee is dwindling; new members are very welcome. Meetings are held quarterly and take about 1 hour. The Town Hall make a contribution of £4,000 towards the Gladman appeal. The AGM is next week.</p>
13. Richard Freeman – NDP Chair	<p>Richard Freeman gave the following report:</p> <p>NDP consists of 15 volunteers on the steering group. The whole process started at Brookmead School and Ivinghoe Aston where 122 people turned out, 350 comment cards were received with about 500 comments made on various issues including 28% transport 20% housing (small scale</p>

	<p>development) and 13% design – keeping in character.</p> <p>The NDP has 8 objectives including housing, environment, transport and recreation. In April 200 questionnaires were sent out 1/2 were hand written replies and ½ online responses. Now a professional company are analysing these. Over the summer the drafting document will be produced which will be policy led not site lead. This parish has a ‘policy’ lead plan in terms of size and local development over the next 15 years. Once this have been produced it would need to be signed off by the Parish Council. Then the consultation starts on the plan, responses are recorded and then a formal evaluation process with evidence and questionnaires by an independent accessor. This is then signed off by AVDC and then it goes to vote. A simple majority is all that’s required. This is then used by feeding into appeals in the future.</p> <p>Cllr Benton asked a question out of 1,100 people that actually voted in Pitstone a further 30 were not registered to vote, but tried to. County Cllr Davies has mentioned this in the Ivinghoe Beacon magazine to encourage people to register to vote.</p> <p>Mr Travis asked what happens if it goes to vote and AVDC say no. Richard Freeman said it depends on what their comments were, but by that time AVDC would have signed off. Cllr Davies said it can only go to referendum if AVDC has approved this. Voters are voting to say yes/no for AVDC to consider the NDP when building applications are made in future.</p>
<p>14. Bucks County Councillor Avril Davies</p>	<p>County Councillor Davies gave the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 Bucks CC had a spending freeze which is very rare. • We were very fortunate that local area forum, footpaths and youth work was not affected. • Bucks had the worst grant settlement from the government and were expecting £32m but actually received £23m (10% of total funds), the difference was found from savings very quickly in 2 months. • 2% of council tax is spent on adults social care and 2% on general increase on roads. • Bucks CC has £15m in reserves. £127m is spent on adult services, £56m on children services, £36m on education, £26m on transport also community services, economic development and planning. There are always arguments over priorities and it is a struggle. • Cllr Davies reported the children’s centre was formerly Barnardo’s and has changed, she is on the Children’s Centre Advisory Board which is chaired by the Head Teacher of Dagnall school. • A4141 downgrading won’t work unless there is a weight restriction on the B488. • The franchise is due for renewal on the West Coast Mainline in 2018. Cllr Davies went to stakeholder meeting where she put forward the various points. Also there were Tring, Aldbury and Bucks CC. There have been good responses from the Dept of Transport. One matter that was raised was the reduction of 1st class to allow more people to travel. A lot to be done in a short period of time. • It is very important you register to vote, especially with the NDP referendum. • Cllr Davies sits on other committees including transport, flood prevention, child exploitation and development at council. Cllr Davies is Leader of the opposition and is involved in pay reviews and selection of the new Chief Executive who is a lady from County Durham who has been awarded an MBE for adult services. <p>Bob Corn thanked Cllr Davies for her help with funding for The Old School paving scheme. Bob Corn regrets the tidying up is not complete, Victorian ink bottles were found during the work. The annual inspection took place 2 years ago and they were very impressed, property services said there is money aside for this work which allowed the work to go ahead.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins confirmed that Bucks CC only has £15m in reserves. This is very little and has to rely on grants. There is an argument to borrow against roads which spend £26m on every year. Can you afford to borrow? Cllr Davies said Bucks are not unique and there are decisions to be made with regard to priorities.</p>
<p>15. District Councillor Derek Town</p>	<p>Grants at AVDC have been reduced so need to look at alternatives and more commercial ways. AVDC received an award for this and the Vale Lottery has already raised £60,000 for good causes</p> <p>Theatre/Travel Lodge and new university in Aylesbury raises revenue. AVDC have initiated own broadband scheme.</p> <p>AVDC has intention to reduce Council Tax to zero for the district section.</p>

	<p>Parish activities Station bridge has reopened, this is a temporary fix and will be re-visited in September. Neighbourhood Development Plan is in place for Pitstone and Marsworth are not doing one.</p> <p>Development application by Gladman was withdrawn. Attended 4 council meetings at The Gateway and Home Bonus grants are available from new homes developments.</p> <p>Attended official training at Bucks Planning and following the 2 day course now a committee member of bucks Planning.</p>
16. District Councillor Sandra Jenkins	<p>Cllr Jenkins mentioned the committees she is on including Bucks Heath & Social Care, NHS/Dental/Pharmacy Services, Bucks Green Spaces and attending the Housing trust meetings regarding the right to buy. Cllr Jenkins attends all the parish council meetings.</p>
17. District Councillor Chris Poll	<p>Councillor Poll reported on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He commented there were almost as many Councillors a public. • In 2nd year at District Councillor also Chair of Cheddington Parish Council and said we have good relationships with Ivinghoe. • Paid tribute to all the new Councillors. • VALP almost at consultation stage. • Green belt area: has a gut feeling that none of the land in Ivinghoe will be considered. • Everyone urged to read the report, even if just Ivinghoe section. • Gypsy and traveller plan – the government redefinition of Gypsies not someone in a Caravan. If we interpret the definition, then none in our area. • Where local authorities can't accommodate housing in other areas the local councils will have to. Cllr Poll will keep an eye on this matter.
18. Meeting Closure and Refreshments	<p>The meeting closed at 9.15pm followed by refreshments.</p>

Signed.....

Dated.....