

Ivinghoe Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st May 2014 at Town Hall, Ivinghoe.

Present:

Cllr. Karen Groom (Chairman)

Cllr. C Boersma, Cllr. S Bexson, Cllr. G Snowdon & B Dale.

County Councillor A Davies, District Cllr. C Poll.

Mrs Maxine Hayes- Clerk

Speakers: Emma Huxley Beacons Community Library, Carol Tarrant SOS, Andy Beezer Poor Lands Charity, PC Gary Ratcliffe & Keith Steers.

12 members of the public.

Items on Agenda	
1. Receive questions from members of the Public	<p>Mr Corn raised the issue that mains electrical power which is run underground in Wellcroft and Ladysmith, but it then is taken up telegraph poles in front of houses, and then from the telegraph poles overhead to the individual houses, which creates a high level network of cables. This creates an eye-sore in the conservation area unlike elsewhere e.g. Vicarage Lane where power is taken underground totally and mains power and then distribution to individual houses is <u>all</u> underground.</p> <p>Question were raised about whether speed humps could be installed through the village to reduce speed of traffic and whether S106 monies could be used for this. The meeting were informed that traffic calming measures were being looked at but all suggestions made so far had been refused by Bucks CC.</p> <p>Lyn and Ian Martin raised the point about the scale and proliferation of traffic signs which they thought were totally unsuitable for such a lovely village and within the conservation area.</p> <p>The Parish Council agreed with this point but they were informed that these were approved by the County Council as the highways authority.</p> <p>The Parish Council were asked whether they could put pressure on the residents of Shiel House to cut back their hedge. This was an ongoing problem every year.</p> <p>Mr Legge raised his concerns over the leaves that build up in the area of the bus stop which become very slippery and dangerous when they get wet. The Parish Council were asked to establish ownership and try ask that they are removed on a more regular basis.</p> <p>Carol Tarrant asked if the Parish Council had given any thought to producing a community led village plan. Councillor Bexson informed the meeting that they were now called neighbourhood plans and were a much moré formal process. This would be discussed further by the Parish Council at a later date.</p>
2. Attendance and Apologies	Apologies were received from Cllr Carol Bennett, Cllr P Miles, Mary Hyde, Wendy & Steven Farrington, John Wallis, Stephen Swinbank.
3. To Receive declarations of interest	None
4. To approve minutes of APM held on 17 th April 2013.	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 chairman informed the meeting that sadly Josie Hetherington had resigned from the Council. She would be sadly missed and was thanked for all her hard work on behalf of the parish. • Major maintenance works to the trees had taken place over the past year following the survey of all of the trees in the parish owned by the parish council. • New fencing had been put up in the Ivinghoe Aston play area which looked excellent • Funding had been sought from the Local Area Forum for work to Middle Path <p>Andy Beezer reported on the Ivinghoe Poor Lands Charity and circulated the Annual Accounts for 2013/14.</p>
6. Parish Council Accounts	A draft set of accounts were available at the meeting. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's main expenditure in 2013/14 has been on the upkeep of the parish covering areas such as litter clearance, litter bins and dog bins, grass cutting, street lighting, and the upkeep of the play areas. T

	<p>The council made a financial contribution to the Beacon Community Library.</p>
<p>7. County Councillor Avril Davies</p>	<p>County Councillor Davies gave the following report:</p> <p>“So, looking back over this County Council year I would sum it up as being all about change. Never have I been more inundated with so much information. Local, operational information embedded with the local, operational information for other far flung parts, and also with top level strategic information.</p> <p>The County Council delivers services, often in partnerships with others, in the following areas: Transport and rights of way, some aspects of planning and environment including waste disposal Adult services, older people, some health and mental health Children’s services including education but not schools Community services such as libraries museums, and with others community safety Public health Economic Development HS2 (high speed rail)</p> <p>Much time, money and energy has gone in to the anti HS2 campaign this year and previous years, although all the judicial reviews brought by the ‘M52’ group of local authorities were lost. Recently the council voted unanimously to ‘petition’ for mitigation measures, which is really important, and where the County’s legal and planning expertise can really make a difference.</p> <p>Council Tax</p> <p>All Councils have been permitted to raise council tax by up to 1.99%, without going to prohibitively costly referendum, so the County Council decided to raise the tax to the maximum. My group made alliance with UKIP and voted against this. I strongly felt this was gesture politics, they raised the tax in tough times for people because they could, not because it was necessary.</p> <p>By increasing the council tax they turned down £2M from the government in council tax freeze grant which would have been continued in future years, and took £3M from Buckinghamshire resident’s pockets instead. The differential, just under £1M, could have been found from unused contingencies, and the ‘generous’ reserves. The total County Council budget is more than £300M.</p> <p>School Transport</p> <p>The charges introduced two years ago are set to be increased. One of the largest ‘savings’ in the budget is from this area, with very few changes being made as a result of the recent consultations with parents.</p> <p>Innovation and good practice</p> <p>Since 2010 the county have cut a third of their budget without total collapse of services. Instead they have won new grant funding, for roads in particular, and made far reaching changes to how services are delivered. One approach is to ‘demand manage’ – prevent people from needing services in future. Three programmes led by the council but in partnership with others are proving very successful in this. Families First – working with 600 families identified as high service users, Prevention Matters – helping keep older people independent, and a programme to reduce the impact of the welfare reforms on services and the users of those services.</p> <p>Public Health</p> <p>This year has been the first year that the Council has had full responsibility for the public health service. Although the Council was shortlisted by the Local Government Chronicle for how the service was being embedded in to service delivery, the Peer review singled the service out for criticism, saying it used its budget very much in the old medical model rather than on improving health outcomes for people through other services, such as education, economy and environment.</p> <p>LGA (Local Government Association) Peer review</p> <p>A recently completed review of BCC by a team officers and councillors from other similar local authorities, praised these innovative programmes, as well as the County’s use of the Better Care Fund to provide joint community health and social care services.</p> <p>‘Future Shape’</p> <p>In a programme called ‘Future Shape’ more and more functions will be transferred to independent or semi independent bodies like the new Bucks Learning Trust, Buckinghamshire Care, and Transport for Bucks, a new Museum Trust is being formed, a Country Park Trust. Not forgetting the majority of secondary schools are already Academies.</p> <p>This new, indirect, method of service delivery, even if clear governance structures are in place challenges the transparency and accountability of public services.</p> <p>Roads and Potholes</p> <p>Dissatisfaction with the state of the roads is constant. Over £500K has been spent in this division (Ivinghoe) on road repairs and improvements from the revenue budget, so that is in addition to any capital expenditure. Each member can nominate three roads for repair. I asked for a full breakdown for the county by member division and some of the biggest spend was in Ivinghoe, Wing, and Great Brickhill.</p> <p>In January TfB repaired 4,431 potholes across the whole County, of which 2,381 were in need of urgent repair. In February all resources were diverted to flooding.</p>

	<p>More money still has come in to the budget last week, for more piecemeal schemes, but at last the County are considering a more fundamental approach to upgrading the road network with capital spending – lessons learned from the success of the prevention programmes elsewhere I hope.</p> <p>Grass Cutting comes under this area. Last year the verge cutting was distinctly unsatisfactory. This year the same contractors have been engaged for some reason, for 3 cuts outside village signs and 10 cuts within. Please be vigilant to see that happens. Parishes should consider taking this work on themselves.</p> <p>Local Area Forum (LAF)</p> <p>We have yet to see how our LAF will manage without Jackie Wesley to ensure things happen. She will be sorely missed and I thank her for the fantastic work she has done for the three divisions of Wing, Great Brickhill and Ivinghoe. Paul Hodson has been assigned to our area and we will be working with him at the workshop now scheduled for April 26 in Edlesborough. We have also had a change in our Local Area Technician. We will miss Paul Foot, but his replacement Rob Anderson, is up for the challenge.</p> <p>Community Leaders Fund</p> <p>This year the fund was divided between the Ivinghoe Village centre, to complete the internal decorations, BBOWT at College Lake to support the publication and launch of Graham Atkins book on the creation of College Lake, and The Villager, Slapton’s newsletter which is on line as well as on paper.</p> <p>Beacon Villages Community Library</p> <p>The library has had a successful year and has recently extended its opening hours to Wednesday morning. Many thanks to librarian Michelle, all the volunteers, the fudge makers, Frances who is running the DVD scheme, and the hard working committee members under the leadership of Emma Huxley. I enjoy the time I can spend supporting them, and particularly want to mention how much I enjoyed the recent successful Library Lunch in Cheddington Village hall, and helping with Beacon Lit Festival, running this year for a whole day on June 28th at Brookmead School”</p>
<p>8. District Councillor Chris Poll</p>	<p>District Councillor Poll gave the following report:</p> <p>“This is the last presentation I will make to you before the election in 2015 and I cannot believe how quickly the time has passed.</p> <p>Representing you is of course a privilege but also a great responsibility. Balancing the views of different people is always a fine one especially in matters regarding planning and it is planning and development that characterises the main role I have played as your councillor. There are always two sides to any application as it is an adversarial process. I rarely take a personal view, that would be unhelpful, but it is impossible not to consider how I would react to a contentious application on my own doorstep. This is however the system we have to work with. Those that feel development is necessary for sustainable growth and those that wish to protect the countryside from inappropriate development. We in this part of the Vale must accept that some development is necessary but I do concede that the system we have throws up some challenges. I as your representative in such matters feel I have given fully of my time to represent your views as and when asked in order to achieve the outcome that is best for all. The Vale wide plan for future growth was in the last year thrown out as unacceptable, alongside virtually every other district or borough plan in the country. It is felt that the rules were changed whist our plan was developing and central government are committed to ensuring our new plan is successful. This is now underway and will undoubtedly have increased numbers of residential development but we will do all we can to match housing numbers with business and employment creation in our area. At present too many people travel outside of the Vale to work which puts pressure on our road and rail links.</p> <p>District Councillors not only represent their little corner but also the wider Vale. When doing so I try to ensure that the residents of Ivinghoe Aston are not forgotten. AVDC are quite naturally Aylesbury centric but it is up to members of the council such as myself to remind others that more people live in the rural areas of the Vale than do so in the town. Their views matter and I play my part with others to ensure that we strike the right balance when decisions are made.</p> <p>The last 12 months have seen many changes at AVDC. We have a new leader with a background in business and we are fully aware of the shrinking settlement from central government. We are preparing for a future where the revenue we raise by tax and income generation is the only money we have to work with. The new leader has brought a new approach with income generation and innovative ideas at the core of everything we do. We have developed an “engine room” where staff work to develop proposals for this “new business model”. Hiring out the Gateway has in the last 12 months raised £107,000. The garden waste scheme generates £450,000 per annum. There will be an opportunity to look again at the grant we give to the theatre in Aylesbury with a break clause in the contract coming soon. It should be noted that even with the present grant which is substantial it still costs less to run than the old civic centre. Of course the footfall in to the town is increased substantially in the night time economy. The new Waitrose store and Travelodge hotel next to the theatre are fantastic additions. Aylesbury is now quite vibrant in the evening and this is important for all of us as it delivers much needed business rates to AVDC. There are further exciting developments now under consultation which will see the redevelopment of some of the redundant buildings on the north side of Exchange Street.</p>

	<p>The first turf has been cut for the “Aylesbury Centre”. This is a somewhat unimaginatively named education facility behind the theatre and centred around the old canal basin. It will cater for up to 2,000 students of all ages undertaking the shorter type diploma and degree courses. It is a partnership between Aylesbury College and Bucks New University. There will be shops and cafes at ground floor level around an open piazza.</p> <p>Conscious I only have time for a brief overview of what AVDC are doing I will stop there but rest assured your council are working tirelessly on your behalf. I am always happy to talk to anyone if they have questions or suggestions. I will be happy to stay after this meeting to chat”.</p>
<p>9. Councillor Sheena Bexson – Ivinghoe Aston report and Planning</p>	<p>Councillor Bexson gave a report to the meeting on the planning applications dealt with in the past year:</p> <p>“Planning in Aylesbury vale was turned a little upside down at the beginning of the year with the withdrawal of the emerging plan. This was brought about by the inspector’s consideration of housing projections and in particular the council’s co-operation with adjacent authorities in the formulation of these housing projections. This is set against a general planning background of the ever-increasing need for new homes nationally. One of the adjacent authorities Luton borough Council has recently been highlighted as one of five authorities with one the greatest needs for additional housing. It is also an authority with a very low level of available land for development. Aylesbury Vale will have to work with Luton in considering housing projections and allocations. Here in the Parish we are protected by the green belt the area of outstanding natural beauty that surrounds us and the conservation designation in Ivinghoe that offers further protection from inappropriate development.</p> <p>In the last year there have been significant changes to what can be done under permitted development rights for householder’s commercial and agricultural users and occupiers. This means that there are changes of use and larger extensions that can be carried out with only a notification to the Local Authority. Such notifications do still come to the parish council for comment; local knowledge can sometimes be useful information that we feed back to the planning officer to assist in their decision making. This was the case when we were asked to comment on the prior notification of the change of use from offices to residential use of two units at Grove farm in Ivinghoe Aston. Members of the Parish Council were aware that one of the units was not being used for office accommodation but for storage.</p> <p>The number of planning applications in all shapes and sizes continues to grow. This year we have considered some 37 last year it was 20! for extensions, new homes tree works, and prior notification applications. There have been few applications that would impact on the conservation area this year with the exception of the works to trees. Applications range from the simple works to trees and replacement conservatories to major extensions and new dwellings. It should be remembered that the parish council are consulted on applications, but can only express an opinion, it is Aylesbury Vale that is the determining authority.</p> <p>Applications that have attracted the public interest have included the Old chapel in Ivinghoe, the application was for the conversion of the building into flats. The concern here was the increased on street parking that would be generated. The application was approved by AVDC on the basis that the change of use would generate less parking than if the chapel was brought back into the existing use.</p> <p>The other applications that have ignited public interest have been the proposed extension to the village swan pub in Ivinghoe Aston which was approved, the application for nine dwelling at six acres in Ivinghoe Aston this was refused planning permission, and the future use of the business units at Grove Farm. It was determined that one unit could be converted to residential use without the need for a change of use application. (Some of the issues raised by residents in respect of these three applications were not planning issues and it is important to note that only planning issues are considered when the planning authority determines an application.)</p> <p>There has been one appeal this year, which related to the use of a field at Laurel cottage in Ivinghoe Aston for five touring caravans, the appeal was allowed by the planning inspectorate. (The Parish Council was of the opinion that this was an appropriate use in this location and would not cause any harm) “</p>
<p>10. Councillor Gloria Snowdon - Allotments</p>	<p>Councillor Snowdon reported that she was standing down as the Parish Council representative for the allotments and this had been handed over to Councillor Karen Groom and Sheena Bexson. There were 2 new allotment holders and regular audits of the allotments would take place every quarter. She was thanked by the Parish Council for all her hard work on the allotments.</p>
<p>11. Councillor Christabel Boersma – Traffic and Highways, Beacon Magazine,</p>	<p>Clr Boersma gave the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Beacon magazine although very time consuming was still being produced by the Parish Council. Articles and advertising were very welcome and thanks were given to all those people who submitted articles and photographs. Also to those who distributed

<p>Parish Council Website, Middle Path Link Improvements.</p>	<p>the magazine. It would be very helpful to have someone to proof read the magazine and any volunteers to undertake this task would be very welcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website – this continued to be updated and improved • Middle Path – already reported on
<p>12. Brian Dale – Speed watch</p>	<p>Councillor Dale gave the following report: I'll take about 5 minutes if I may to update about Speed watch and other road and speeding issues. Where the Parish Council has had an input I will make that clear but all comments are mine alone and based on personal knowledge.</p> <p>Initially let's talk about the MVAS (Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign) which flashes up traffic speed. It will be returning to a road near you soon. I personally thank Chris Poll for the amount of effort he has expended in setting up and breaking down the equipment and recording data.</p> <p>You will all be aware of areas of particular speeding concern and the MVAS locations are well chosen in this respect. The data downloaded from the MVAS tells us objectively that:</p> <p>Over the 56 days it was operating there were over 145,000 traffic movements of which more than 110,000 (over 75%) were at 35mph or higher. Over 56,000, that's 38% were at 40mph or more. Exceptionally there were three at 80 – 85mph and nine at between 75 and 80mph, all recorded at Great Gap. It will be a comfort for you to know that no traffic was recorded at faster than between 65 and 70mph in the village proper, and that was on six occasions.</p> <p>In a meeting with representatives of local villages held with Thames Valley Police I commented on these excessive speeds. Sadly the response was that there will always be drivers who will exceed the speed limit by huge amounts and this is not a reason for preventative policing.</p> <p>Your Parish Council passed the information collected from MVAS to Bucks CC and Thames Valley Police. They have been advised that locations on both the B488 and B489 are to be assessed as potential mobile camera enforcement sites. I am strongly of the belief that the collection of Speed watch and then MVAS data has been instrumental in demonstrating the need for further investigation.</p> <p>The Local Area Forum (LAF) will be purchasing another MVAS unit to share among the local villages and a sum of money has been ring fenced for possible purchase of a new speed camera system called "Sentinel" which actually records images of offending vehicles. There are some concerns about the use of these images though so I can only suggest that you watch this space for future developments.</p> <p>As a late entry in to my presentation here, (and an item which may cause me to overrun for which I apologise) purely by coincidence there was a serious incident (note, not accident) at Great Gap on Monday. A van ran in to the rear offside quarter of a parked 4 x 4 half cab pushing it in to the car of a Great Gap resident. The van and 4 x 4 are potential write offs and the van ended up some 83 yards along the road from the point of collision. The Highway Code says that an 83 yard stopping distance is commensurate with a speed of somewhere between 60 and 70mph. The reason for mentioning this is with particular reference to my earlier comments. We called the police on 101 and were advised that they would not attend unless the road was entirely blocked or there was some personal injury. In fact, in this particular case the police arrived by pure coincidence because, ironically, they were due to carry out a traffic speed survey. I can't vouch for the accuracy of this statement though.</p> <p>Finally, and on another issue, this time of road markings. You may have noticed that we now have a white line down the edge of the B488 at Great Gap. I wrote to Bucks CC about this and asked for comments. This is the reply:</p> <p>“The remit of the scheme is to give drivers the impression that the road is narrower than it actually is thus reducing their speed and to improve lines within the five parishes. We did investigate the option of solid centre lines but the road through Great Gap does not meet the criteria set for lining standards by the Department of Transport. We also looked at hatching but the road is not wide enough to accommodate this. The edge lining was another option suggested to the Parish and Local Councillor who confirmed this was the course of action they wanted to progress with.</p> <p>At the request of the Parish we proceeded with the lining measures”</p> <p>The PC contacted Bucks CC as the response is rather misleading. The white lines are a small part of a tranche of actions which have not been completed and Paul Hodson, our Localities Manager for Bucks CC is working to provide an update. Perhaps if the white lining had been carried out with all the other proposals it would have made some sense. Furthermore, if the roads round Ivinghoe fail</p>

	<p>to meet the criteria for double white lines and are too narrow for hatching how can they be considered suitable for 40 tonne tractor and trailer lorry units? And why were the PC not advised when this road lining was to happen and the benefit it was hoped would accrue from it so that the improvement could be monitored? Subjectively neither has it slowed the speed of traffic.</p> <p>All in all this may be a year of significant triumphs if the speed van materialises. We will have the benefit of an additional mobile speed sign and the potential to improve the accuracy of our Speed watch recording. Regrettably we don't have time for questions but if you are inspired to become involved or want to discuss any of the issues I've raised please have a word with me directly or one of the other Parish Councillors who will be able to put you in touch with me”.</p>
<p>12. Emma Huxley – Beacon Villages Community Library</p>	<p>Emma Huxley gave the following report:</p> <p>First AGM has taken place Library services provided are: Our core aims are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. firstly to provide access to information, education and literature, and 2. secondly to support a thriving heart at the centre of the community across the Beacon Villages – including Pitstone, Cheddington, Marsworth, Ivinghoe, and Slapton. <p>So far Michelle and our fantastic group of volunteers have allowed us to maintain all services that Bucks was providing, and to make some improvements. In addition to what the library has always done, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Open hours – now open Wednesday mornings • New DVD scheme to replace one withdrawn by council • Run extra story time sessions in the library and at play groups • Boosted membership • Have a presence on Facebook (72 ‘likes’) and Twitter (109 ‘followers’) • Launched BeaconLit – the very first festival of reading and writing in the Beacon Villages • Shortly installing wifi - demo ebooks <p>We have worked hard to support and engage the wider community. We have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's centre • Working to form a relationship with Brookmead school <p>All possible because of tremendous work of Michelle and the volunteers.</p> <p>Fundraising Without sufficient fundraising the library will not be sustainable. So we have taken fundraising very seriously. Bridge funding from the Parish Councils - fund first crucial years and build reserve.</p> <p>Now is crunch time as the library needs to earn £5-6k per year needed to fund service.</p> <p>BVCL are testing fundraising methods to see what works for us. So far have tried:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User donations at fetes/events/in the library • Tea/cake sales at events • Sales of fudge and sweets from the library counter • Table top sales • Book sales • Raffles • Craft stall • Children's craft session • Christmas mulled wine evening • Sales of walking and cycling maps of the local area • Some proceeds from BeaconLit • Library lunch <p>Future ideas are: Open garden Golf day Plasma screen advertising</p> <p>All we have done has been made possible by our</p>

	<p>Volunteers and funders - Ivinghoe Parish Council our committee, Ivinghoe Town Hall to the kind supporters who have donated funds, items and books and supported out fundraising to our members and of course Michelle</p> <p>Please get involved by:</p> <p>Using the library Volunteering Follow us on Facebook and Twitter Our contact details are:</p> <p>email info@bvcl.org.uk, ring 01296 387890, or drop in.</p>
<p>13. Carol Tarrant – Village SOS</p>	<p>Carol Tarrant gave the following report: Hi there Carol Tarrant here again - Chair of what was SOS – Save Old School.... now Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub, trustees.</p> <p>The quick history for those new to Ivinghoe is that the Old school across the way has been rescued from the jaws of developers for the next 24 years at a peppercorn rent from the County, with full responsibility on us for restoration and upkeep, through Community Asset Transfer, by our own ordinary community members.</p> <p>So IOSCH is now run by 12 voluntary trustees as a ‘not for private profit’ Community Hub space where two thirds is ‘rentable by the hour’ community space, and the other third is a welcoming community Café called CuriosiTea Rooms, providing four paid jobs within our community and paying us £500 a month rental to the Hub, which covers all our basic costs. The last twelve months since I spoke about this venture here, have seen the Hub transfer from a building site last June - to the Hub we enjoy today which has a thriving Café whose tenancy enables our flourishing and busy Community spaces to change daily into whatever cross-generational activities the community seek to use it for.</p> <p>CuriosiTea Rooms will celebrate its first Birthday on June 19th which we will do with a simple party including cake, candles, a Bouncy Castle, Pop Corn, Candy floss, Balloons’, and friends of the Hub – in a manner entirely appropriate for a happy ‘One Year Old’!</p> <p>At the beginning of that same mid-June week we will be hosting exhibitions on our Community space walls about both our own Ivinghoe village history, and World War One whilst refreshing the Church Fete alongside WI cake bakers – all emanating comfortably this year from our ‘on-site’ snug central Hub venue, inside or out – thus regardless of any repeat of last year’s welly filling downpour!</p> <p>So, from last June’s CuriosiTea Rooms quiet Hub Café opening just a few days after the Church Fete – they have in almost a year taken 11,915 till receipts – which of course represents only a fraction of Hayley’s actual happy customers. Once Hayley’s customers were filling her café seven days a week – we put the call out to this community to help us finish off all that extra DIY and decorating needed to set the community space up for use. By September our boisterous working parties had decorated the lower 2 metres of the building throughout, we had stripped the floors of their nasty carpet tiles, thick yellow glue – revealing the original floorboards, sanding and varnishing them over a very long weekend! Sadly we had had to prize some of the boards up and repair the deeply damp areas never having benefitted from a DPC and less expensively paint some cheaper wood in a Trompe’d’oil fashion to match the surrounding original floorboards. Can you spot which ones are the practice fakes and which the best fakes? Come in and see!</p> <p>Last autumn found us pulling together finishing touches to our furnishings – spending our rentals money on new chairs and tables to enable all sizes of community gathering....just in time for our really rather magical December 6th Christmas Fair with all its homemade wares on tables inside and outside its child and adult choirs and bell ringers, roasted chestnuts and mulled wine...and especially its grant body plaque presentations and final community space speeches and opening by our departing Vicar Rev Tracey Doyle.</p> <p>Hayley and her team’s hard working commitment and versatility has meant that the Hub has been able to feed and refresh a wide variety of social situations, often catering far wider around this community. She was awarded top marks, 5/5 after her surprise Environmental Health spot inspection earlier this Spring.....well deserved; and for those diners at her 6-weekly ‘Pop-Up-Restaurants’ on differing national menu themes....YOU can explain why they have become legendary!oh and by the way CuriosiTea Rooms has been asked to take part in a café popularity vote by the Chiltern Society which closes at the end of this month.....do pop in and collect one of these slips to show you appreciate all her effort put in on your behalf!</p> <p>This Café not only finances our Hub, but it also puts us at the heart (and belly) of what is happening in our community! Building on this we find that the Community Spaces we have created</p>

	<p>between us are in daily use – peopled by singing and instrument pounding toddlers, to exercising yogic adults, sewers, musical quartets, choirs, exhibitions of all kinds, Saturday table sales aplenty, May 10th/11th Art and makers fair was a riot of skilled artists explain and selling their wares, including two blacksmiths, one of each gender who made full use of a forge and anvil in front of the school, as did a wood turner and several others.</p> <p>The Hub has for the last nine months been reflecting each seasonal ‘special’ day on the calendar with something made as ‘props’ and something of an activity to celebrate the passing moment.</p> <p>Our Pancake Day races after school were excitedly attended by many and therefore both fun and scrumptious in the after event eating! The Saints Days and Valentines were nodded to and then -</p> <p>Easter brought 58 keen child egg hunters to our new kitchen garden and again yet another weekend of Easter outside fun, inside table sales and a rammed café of happy souls! Each school holiday is supported by a full-on Activity Day of arts and crafts, action songs and cooking for the children including a cooked lunch....going home at 3 with a goody bag full of their own creations.....followed by volunteer clear up and collapse!!</p> <p>Incidentally I would like to extend more diverse Arts activities to adults in the future too. A grant of £1000 has just enabled the purchase of another 5 tables and some more chairs to get us up to our 60 insurance capacity limit! This will help us fill our spaces. After School crèche – homework and activity sessions are being planned as we speak, collecting children from school and providing high tea in situ.</p> <p>We also plan to bring theatre to the village through a scheme with touring companies who would provide performances in our Hub for children, families or adults. The cost would need to be £10 a seat...so we are trying to work out a way to make that cheaper for children.....any ideas?</p> <p>So.....we offer you SO much more than the developer....! Do come in and use the spaces, they ARE for you.....or just volunteer to help make it all happen and reach ALL those who could benefit. Goodness knows what we will be telling you next year!</p>																					
<p>16. PC Gary Ratcliffe</p>	<p>PC Gary Ratcliffe reported on the crime figures for the past year. Burglaries had been the main priority in the past year.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="336 1019 790 1220"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2012/13</th> <th>2013/14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Violence against a person</td> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglaries to dwelling</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglaries to no dwelling</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft from motor vehicles</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criminal Damage</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drug related offences</td> <td>2</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The main thefts from vehicles were in the car parks of beauty spots such as The Beacon. He reminded that no emergency calls should use the 101 number.</p>		2012/13	2013/14	Violence against a person	4	6	Burglaries to dwelling	2	0	Burglaries to no dwelling	7	5	Theft from motor vehicles	7	5	Criminal Damage	5	5	Drug related offences	2	6
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<p>17. Keith Steers – Community First Responders & Ivinghoe 1st Ivinghoe and Pitstone Scouts</p>	<p>Mr Steers gave the following report: “When you dial 999, it takes 15-20 minutes for an ambulance to reach Pitstone from Stoke Mandeville which is our nearest depot. If you go into sudden cardiac arrest, for every 1 minute that passes without defibrillation your chance of survival decreases by 10%. The Community First Responders provide a vital service to villages like ours. They carry trackers when they are on call and are contacted by the 999 operator at the same time as the ambulance. Both are dispatched at the same time. The Community First Responder is likely to be with you within 5-8 minutes. Their job is to give emergency treatment, oxygen, defibrillation, CPR etc and keep you alive until the ambulance crew arrive 10-15 minutes later. If a Community Responder is on call in the village when your loved one suffers an emergency, their chance of survival will be much greater. A plea was put out amongst those present to consider volunteering to the scheme and speak to Mr Steers at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Steers is also the Group Scout Leader for the 1st Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scouts. A number of scout and cub leaders are resigning in the summer after long period of service. The scouts have been desperately trying to recruit replacement leaders or assistant leaders since January, without much luck. It will be a terrible shame if the cubs and scouts have to close, as this will displace over 100 young people in the village who currently enjoy these facilities. There will be insufficient capacity within the remaining Cub group for the existing Beavers to feed in to, and no-where at all for the Cubs to progress to. Age is no barrier. A plea was put out for volunteers to step forward to help save this vital service for our community. Again, anyone interested could speak to Mr Steers at the end of the meeting”.</p>																					

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed.....

Dated.....