

IVINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting Held on
Tuesday 7th January 2020 at Ivinghoe Old School, Village Hub at
7.30pm

PRESENT:

Chairman Councillor Karen Groom, Vice Chairman Councillor Claire Bamber, Councillor Sheena Bexson, Councillor Andrew Dicker, Councillor Pat Roach, Councillor Anna Stone, AVDC District Councillor Chris Poll, AVDC Councillor Derek Town and Bucks County Councillor Anne Wight.

Mrs B Knight – Ivinghoe Parish Clerk.

Thames Valley Police Police Community Support Officers Natalie Hall and Alex Brown.

17 members of the public.

C/001/20 Chairman's Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

C/002/20 Public Question Time.

1. Community Bus Survey.
The questionnaires have been available locally and will be included in the February issue of The Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine which is delivered to local residents. The deadline will be extended to the 6th March 2020.
2. Curisotea (Tea Rooms).
A question was asked about the banner which was covered later in the meeting.
3. Brownlow Bridge.
Following the Bucks CC press release it was confirmed that the bridge weight limit will remain until the bridge is repaired by Bucks CC. In the meantime, ecological surveys will take place to monitor any bats present. It is expected that the bridge work will start in the Autumn, Bucks County Councillor Wight confirmed that work is underway to investigate zonal areas for long distance HGVs travelling through the area, there is a balance to make sure local business HGVs and farm vehicles are allowed access. Bucks CC will be conducting a consultation which will be widely advertised.
4. Nectar Trail/Wild Flowers.
The idea of a nectar trail to encourage bees and other insects into the area was explained. St Mary's Church has agreed to allow wildflowers to be planted within the church grave yard and the resident explained the Scouts are interested in helping with this project to involve the whole of the parish. A meeting will be organised for next week to discuss the idea in more detail.
5. Thank you to the council.
A local resident thanked the Chairman and the fellow Councillors on behalf of the parish for all the remarkable work they do which is free of charge and ongoing, an applause followed this remark. The Chairman thanked the residents for their kind words and appreciation.

C/003/20 Attendance and Apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from AVDC District Councillor Jenkins.

C/004/20 Declaration of interest.

The Ivinghoe Parish Councillors declared an interest in planning application 19/00080/ALB – Beacon Villages Community Library because the parish council is the main lease holder of Ivinghoe Town Hall.

C/005/20 Thames Valley Police

Thames Valley Police PCSO Natalie Hall reported there have been 4 burglaries within the last 2 days including the theft of 2 keyless expensive cars stolen from Wing and Edlesborough. PCSO Hall urged drivers to keep their 'keyless' key fobs in tins and move them upstairs to prevent the signal being beamed and the cars being unlocked remotely. The use of full steering locks was encouraged. The public are encouraged to report anything suspicious to the police by reporting through Thames Valley Police website or calling 101.

AVDC District Councillor Town reported that he had watched a man going through bins, he was looking through bins to see which ones were empty on bin day so to see who was on holiday.

C/006/20 To receive reports from District and County Councillors.

AVDC District Councillor C Poll wished everyone Happy New Year and explained that an AVDC council meeting is due within the next few weeks, he understands everything is going through ready for the end of March.

AVDC District Councillor D Town reported that he has been pursuing a waste campaign when if you take certain types of rubbish to the tip you could be charged. If anyone wants to collect any fly tipping rubbish, they should inform Bucks CC prior to visiting the tip and obtain a reference number to avoid being charged. AVDC District Councillor will produce an article for the Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine to warn residents.

Bucks County Councillor gave her report:

New Year, New Buckinghamshire Council

Preparations are well underway to create the new Buckinghamshire Council that will launch in April this year, as we now have fewer than 90 days left before the change comes into effect.

The new council will deliver the whole range of local services currently delivered by the five current councils as a single organisation.

For most people there will be no change to the day-to-day services they use, like bin collections, social care, libraries and parking. Getting in touch with their local council will be more straightforward because from 1 April residents will only need to contact one council for all of these services.

New from April, residents will be able to access information, advice and support on a range of topics near where they live or work through a network of 17 local Council Access Points (CAPs). These will offer a face-to-face contact point at the heart of the local community – usually in a library or a council office in one of the county's main towns.

The current council main offices located in Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Amersham and Denham will become 'access plus' points, geared up to handle more complex enquiries.

In addition, 16 Community Boards will be set up across the county to help the new council build strong links with local communities and respond to local needs more effectively.

Buckinghamshire Council councillors will work closely with local people and community organisations to understand the key issues affecting their local area. Each board will be made up of local people, town and parish councils, community groups, police and healthcare organisations who will focus on finding solutions to local issues. These local issues could include improving facilities for young people, tackling social isolation of older people or helping to set up a community bus.

All of the current elected members from the five existing councils will continue serving their communities until the councillors elected to the new Buckinghamshire Council in May take up their posts.

Leader of the Shadow Executive that is paving the way to the new council, Councillor Martin Tett, said: "We are just three months away from the new council and our countdown clock is ticking. We've come a long way in the last few months and the five councils are working really hard to create a brand new council – a council which our residents, councillors and staff can all be really proud of. The next few months is all about making sure we are ready for April and residents know how to find out about the new council and where to go if they need us. As one council from April, our focus will then be on how we can improve services for our residents."

Deputy Leader of the Shadow Executive, Katrina Wood, said: "We're looking forward to the future. It's exciting and

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a privilege to be part of this historic change for the county. The Council Access Points and Community Boards will keep the new council local, making it easier for people to access face-to-face support and get involved in improving services at a really local level. “

Find out more about Community Boards at <https://shadow.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/communityboards>.

A map showing the locations of the Council Access Points is attached and more information about Council Access Points can be found at <https://shadow.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/council-access-points>.

In the run up to the start of the Buckinghamshire Council there will be regular news and updates, including on Twitter and Facebook (@DeliveringBucks) and at www.shadow.buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Repair plans for Ivinghoe canal bridge

An update on the Brownlow Bridge has just been published, and I have reprinted it below for any residents who may have missed it in the press. I will continue to keep the parish councils apprised of any developments going forward.

The 200-year-old Ivinghoe Bridge, near Cheddington, is to be repaired and strengthened following a structural review.

The work, originally planned for January, has been rescheduled to start in the autumn following an ecological survey that identified possible bat nesting sites. Further bat activity surveys will now have to be done during the breeding cycle until September.

The Canal and River Trust (C&RT), which owns the bridge - known locally as Brownlow Bridge - that carries the B488 across the Grand Union Canal, undertook a review following concerns about its structural condition.

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB), which checked C&RT's findings, agree it's strong enough only to handle traffic loads up to 18 tonnes, and a temporary weight restriction has been imposed on the bridge to protect it from possible further weakening.

The weight restriction will stay in force until the strengthening works have been done. Meanwhile a ground penetration radar survey of the bridge deck has been commissioned to help advance the design of the strengthening work.

Paul Irwin, Buckinghamshire County Council Deputy Transport Cabinet Member said it was important the bridge works were done as soon as possible to stop any further deterioration and to maintain a structure that was sound enough to be part of the highway.

"TfB will increase the frequency of their structural inspections and, in addition to the Canal and River Trust inspections, we'll have a much clearer picture of the bridge's condition to check it doesn't get any weaker."

Paul added: "I've met with a number of local people who are concerned that the bridge is being used by heavy lorries. I understand these concerns, which is why we've been considering ways to enforce the 18 tonne limit, and why we're moving as quickly as we possibly can within the scope of ecological legislation to start strengthening work."

Paul said the bridge works were being considered in tandem with a proposed longer-term area-wide plan for handling heavy lorries.

The £100,000 cost of repairs will be met from TfB's structures fund.

The C&RT is statutorily required to maintain the bridge, a Grade 2 listed structure, to carry a maximum nine-tonne weight. But as it forms part of Buckinghamshire's road network, requiring a higher weight limit for traffic, it falls to the County Council to oversee its maintenance.

Winter Health Awareness

We have been asked to remind residents that A&E may not be the most suitable place for them to receive treatment for non-urgent conditions, as the health services across the Thames Valley area are managing large numbers of patients.

In Buckinghamshire A&E at Stoke Mandeville Hospital is particularly under extreme pressure. Staff are working exceptionally hard across all services to make sure people receive the care and treatment they need.

This means that non-urgent patients can expect long waits in A&E and we are reminding residents to use hospital accident & emergency departments for emergencies only.

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Unless there is an emergency, residents should seek advice and treatment at other centres including local pharmacies, GP surgeries and the Urgent Treatment Centre in High Wycombe.

If it is not an emergency and you are unsure what to do contact NHS 111. Trained staff will advise and guide you to the right service - including booking an out of hours GP appointment. The NHS 111 service is open 24 hours a day, every day and also available online:

<https://111.nhs.uk/>

However, ambulance services should be called via 999 for any life threatening situation or go straight to accident and emergency in such cases.

Many thanks for your cooperation, as it will help hospital staff prioritise cases effectively.

New Online Speed Limit e-learning Module launched

(TfB) has launched a new online e-learning module, designed to help drivers be fully aware of the speed limit for their type of vehicle and the type of road they are driving on.

The module also includes information on:

- Stopping distances
- Hazard perception
- Tips to help you drive within the speed limit

Speeding or inappropriate speed increases the risk of a collision and the severity of the consequences. Throughout January, TfB will be focusing on speed, tying in with the National Police Chiefs' Council national speed campaign. TfB's Road Safety team will join forces with the joint operations unit from Hampshire & Thames Valley Police and Bucks Fire and Rescue to promote the campaign, which encourages drivers to think about their speed and to travel at an appropriate speed within the limit.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transport Mark Shaw, said:

"Following the success of the winter driving module last year, I am pleased to say that the new speeding module is just as informative and beneficial to all road users. I would encourage all drivers to complete it to help them recognise the speed limit on different types of roads.

"Speed limits are designed to keep all road users safe and it is important to remember that they are limits, not targets. They should always be respected and adhered to, taking into consideration traffic and weather conditions that may require you to drive more slowly.

"Throughout January, TfB's Road Safety team will be promoting this campaign because we know the unacceptable risk that inappropriate speed causes to all road users."

Try the new speeding module at www.buckscc.gov.uk/speeding

C/007/20 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and APPROVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December 2019 were correct and were signed by the Chairman.

C/008/20 Planning Applications:

19/009/APP – Beacon House, Orchard Farm, Ivinghoe Aston, Ivinghoe, Bucks LU7 9DL.

Demolish existing office and outbuildings and erection of 4 dwellings.

No objections. PROPOSED BY Councillor Roach and SECONDED BY Councillor Bexson and carried unanimously.

19/04480/ALB – Beacon Villages Community Library, Old Town Hall, Ivinghoe, Bucks LU7 9EP.

External repair and redecoration of walls, chimney and windows.

No comment.

C/009/20 Parish Council response to issue raised by Curisotea (Tea Rooms).

The Chairman did not take part in this section of the meeting and the Vice Chairman took the Chair. The Vice Chairman read the following:

Response to Mr Tonks and Ms Wesley – Curisotea Rooms

1 & 2. Lawn Booking

The correct procedure for booking the Lawn is to complete a Booking Form available on the IPC website, this is sent to the council and if the Lawn is available the booking is confirmed by email. The Clerk received Ms Wesley's (Curisotea) booking request via email 4 days before the proposed event. All bookings require a minimum of 7 days' notice.

The Lawn was already booked 3 months in advance for a big birthday party including games on the Lawn and a hog roast which would be roasting all afternoon. The Clerk responded by email to let Ms Wesley know this booking was in place and a second booking could not be taken.

The parish council offered to meet with Ms Wesley on Wednesday 18th June (the day after Ms Wesley's booking enquiry was received) the meeting was declined by Ms Wesley.

3. Ms Groom

On the 19th of June Ms Groom in a personal capacity spoke with Ms Wesley to see if a workable solution could be achieved to accommodate both parties, she sought to speak to Ms Wesley following inflammatory comments that had been posted on social media about the parish council.

The conversation took place outside the Hub, next to the busy High Street and Lawn. As you may know Ms Groom has a disability and wears two hearing aids, it is unfortunate if the ambient noise level meant that she was perceived by Ms Wesley to be raising her voice.

If Ms Wesley or Mr Tonks feel a Councillor has acted inappropriately the correct procedure is to raise a complaint with AVDC. Parish Councils do not have the power to pass comment on any individual Councillors.

4. Curisotea customer comment via Social Media

The parish council is unaware of this complaint or who made it and is therefore, unable to comment.

5. Social Media.

The elected council represents the community and the businesses that operate in it, the parish council does everything within its power to assist in the success of the community and will continue to do so.

The council sees social media as a positive resource to the community and uses it to interact with the community in a positive manner. The parish council finds it regrettable that social media was used for this negative turn of events.

6. Advertising Banner.

The parish council has made no threat of legal action about the banner.

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7. Going forward

The parish council supports all local businesses and wishes the tea rooms every success.

C/010/20 St Mary's Church, Ivinghoe.

The Chairman reported that the Church is fundraising to pay for the organ to be repaired. The Chairman resolved to donate £500 from the Chairman's Allowance towards the repair of the organ.

C/011/20 Ivinghoe Town Hall.

The Town Hall Committee plans to install WiFi in the Town Hall.

C/012/20 Report from Unitary Planning Meeting.

Councillor Lott gave a report about the Unitary Planning Meeting he attended with Councillor Brazier the Chairman from Mentmore Parish Council. The meeting was very positive and the best practice from each individual council will be combined to establish a new planning department for the new council. The new planning authority will be divided into 5 areas, AVDC area will be split into two areas, further information will be available in due course. Local Area Forum will be replaced with Community Boards. Councillor Town reported there will be 16 Community Boards.

C/013/20 Footpaths, Bridleways, Trees and Playgrounds.

The Chairman reported that there are plans to have a new pedestrian, wheelchair and buggy gate and fencing around the Ivinghoe play area and a new accessible entrance to Ivinghoe Aston. New roundabouts will be installed at both parks. The Clerk has received the quotation from the fencing supplier which will be circulated to the Councillors for approval, the funding is from AVDC New Homes Bonus and needs to be spent by April.

A quotation has been received from Robert Landers to cut back the Ivinghoe Aston trees, hedges and to jet wash the play area. The quotation for £1190. The quotation was PROPOSED BY Councillor Groom and SECONDED BY Councillor Bexson and carried unanimously.

C/014/20 Highways, Streets and Transport (to include Lighting and Speed Watch).

Councillor Bamber explained that the council has had a demonstration of a Speed Indication Device which is solar powered. It was agreed to purchase the TruSign 30CR SID at a cost of £3495 plus VAT and the post at £225 (inc delivery) PROPOSED BY Councillor Bamber and SECONDED BY Councillor Lott and carried unanimously.

C/015/20 Allotments report and Update.

Councillor Dicker said there are no problems with the allotment, and they look good. More clearance has taken place, there is a huge shrub which is crossing the rag pit lane track which the Handpost Cottage owner has agreed to remove, this will be monitored.

C/016/20 Ivinghoe Rag Pits

No update.

C/017/20 VE Day.

The Royal British Legion and the Church are organising an event.

C/018/20 Clerk's Report.

This was circulated before the meeting and there were no further questions. The Clerk mentioned that the Woodland Trust have told us that the saplings will be delivered at the end of February.

C/019/20 Financial Matters, Payment of Accounts & Balances.

The following accounts were authorised for payment during the meeting:

Accounts for Payment January 2020

Payee	Description	Total Paid
B Rogers	Reimburse electrical items	£59.97
Litter Picking	Dec-19	£100.00
Chairman	Office mobile	£42.58
HMRC	PAYE	£114.95

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Bucks CC Pensions	Clerk Pension	£270.82
Anglian Water	Allotment Water	£174.21
Eon	Streetlight Electricity	£174.56
Clerk	Payroll & Expenses	£1,136.96
Ivinghoe Old School	07.01.20	£16.00

07.01.20

Income:	
Source	
Beacon Mag Adverts	£95.00
Lawn Hire	£30.00
Bank Interest	£12.01

£137.01

Balances at 06.01.20	
Community Account	£24,220.49
Main Account	£70,199.77
Beacon Account	£702.60
Petty Cash	0
	£95,122.86

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

C/20/20 Date of 2020 Parish Council Meetings:

4th February, 3rd March, 7th April, 14th May (inc Annual Meetings), 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December all to be held at Ivinghoe Old School Village Hub.

Signed:

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