

# **West Ilsley Parish Council**

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Present: Sean Ryan, Alan Bloor, Jo Scriven, Anna Sugden and Alison Banks. 7 members of the public.

### **Guest Speaker – Matt Allen – Neighbourhood Specialist Officer, Thames Valley Police**

In summary crime is down in the Downlands area as are the number of raves. Recent van break-ins were concerning. There are more reported incidences now and a 15% detection rate. Speeding was mentioned and the police will be checking with speed guns shortly within the local villages. Matt Allen has a good relationship with the local landowners and intelligence is often shared. The chairman thanked PC Allen very much for coming.

1. Apologies  
Dries Hagen, John Mountford
2. To receive any changes to Declarations  
None received.
3. To receive and if approved confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012.  
Signed as a true record.
4. Matters Arising

War memorial (from last meeting)

Unfortunately the lettering is hardly visible so it was suggested that a bronze plaque would be considered and costed. Action Cllr Hagen in conjunction with Ian Fewtrell-Smith – were not present at the meeting.

5. Correspondance received  
Taken in the meeting
6. Village Broadband Improvements

West Ilsley Broadband speed improvement initiative was discussed and as agreed the Clerk had confirmed our interest to go ahead with West Berkshire Council and pledged the required funds of £1663, West Ilsley's contribution to the scheme. This will be paid in 3 instalments over 3 years.

The improvements would vary depending on where you live in the village from 12-20Mbps to 5-8Mbps west of Bury Lane. This would take from 2012/3 to completion in 2015.

Mr Steve Cobrin had attended a meeting run by West Berkshire Council and updated the meeting. Basically as detailed in WIN, Superfast Broadband is on track but we need as many homes as possible to register. This will show potential bidders that there is a market for it. The Chairman thanked Mr Cobrin for attending the meeting.

## 7. Parish Plan

Cllr Sugden gave the floor a brief summary of the findings, which have been expertly collated in graphical form.

A copy of these results will be given to each household.

In order to apply for funding, the plan needs to be adopted by West Berks Council. To achieve this, feedback from the plan needs to become the future action plan for the village with a new committee forming to take this on. Realistically this does not seem likely but it was agreed to publish the results and see if volunteers come forward.

## 8. Transport and Safety

Speeding – several initiatives. The Police will be out with their speed gun. SID will be coming to the village with Tony Elliot now trained and several volunteers from the floor offering to man the machine. Positioning was discussed - outside the pub/Scriven's residence, Moorlands Close, and the Chapel were the favourites.

No further news re Gail's wall. Investigations are ongoing with the Highways department as to whether additional markings would prevent a further smash.

A34 junction at East Ilsley (raised by Rollo Duckworth) – this has been discussed at length and Highways will not consider improvements.

Buses – Re-tendering of the local service. Most likely to go to Reading Buses. An additional service has been suggested which we showed our support for, however it is probably unlikely to go through.

Winter service plan/salt plan. Not available but The Clerk will chase it up.

## 9. Environmental

An email had been received from Andrew Lord asking if the village was interested in joining a group in favour of underground electricity cabling. There is some funding available from SSE and there will be an initial discussion at the end of May. The Clerk has registered our interest, but photographic evidence is now required. Mr Beaumont drew our attention to the cables/transformer in the field by Church Way – he would take some photos.

## 10. Cricket Club

Generally a good season, interrupted by the weather. Junior games were on the increase but senior ones (perhaps) in decline. The Parish Plan had indicated that there was “about enough” usage of the Recreation ground for cricket. This will always be monitored.

## 11. Village Hall

Roof repairs complete plus electrical safety check done and some sections up graded.

12. Play Area

Play Area RoSPA inspection drew our attention to a collapsed safety fence. This has been fixed thanks to Cllr Hagen. The Clerk reported that over time the Play Area will need a working party to maintain the area – eg for weeds and tree pruning and to fund raise for more bark etc. Help from the young families on the rota will be sought. Currently Cllr Hagen and Alison Banks are the only two looking after the area.

13. Tennis Court Management

No comments

14. Adoption of New Code of Conduct

All Councillors voted in favour and returned their completed Register of Interests forms.

15. Accounts for Payment/receipts received

None

16. West Ilsley Trust – requests for donations

The Clerk thanked Cllr Bloor for £200 it received from The Fete funds. Money was offered to part buy some fireworks for the Village Bonfire night on Monday November 5th. All agreed this was a great FREE village event and should continue as such with several volunteers helping and the profits offered to good causes in the village. Thanks to Richard Gore for his offer of land to host the event and to Alan Bloor and Tony Eliot who were helping run the event. The Clerk (and the usual team) offered to do the BBQ. All agreed to offer up to £200 from the West Ilsley Trust.

17. Planning Applications

Fir Tree Paddock cottages – window replacement approved

18. AOB

Football Goalposts for The Recreation ground. A great idea and all Councillors offered their support (and in part financially) if a volunteer came forward to manage it. Ideally someone or a small group who would like to purchase, position and look after two goalposts there was consensus that the village children would be delighted. It would protect the cricket side screens from being used as goalposts and as long as the grass was also looked after the cricket club, who kindly manage the grass would also be supportive. The Chair would add this to his article in WIN.

(From last meeting) The rapid response defibrillator was still under discussion. The Chairman offered to write his article for WIN

**Dates of the next meetings as follows: Mondays July 9th, Sept 10th, Nov 12th, Jan 14th 2013, March 11th and May 13th in the Village Hall at the time of 7.30pm.**