

Ivychurch Parish Council - Minutes of Meeting

23rd September 2021

Present: Rick Bailey (**RB**), Andy Daburn (**AD**), John Goldsmith (**JG**), Alan Martin (**AM**), Jan Robertson(**JR**), Julie Devenish (**Jools**)

Apologies: Julie Bailey (**JB**)

Members of the Public: 3

Meeting Opening

Declarations of Interest : None ;

Previous Minutes : July minutes approved and signed off. Rick thanked Andy for chairing July's meeting.

New Items for Discussion

Outgoing hall bookings administrator

Rick proposed that the council make a presentation to the hall booking administrator in recognition of her valued work over the years. Jan will source a suitable item, for an anticipated spend of around £100.

Jan

Playground Inspection Report

The latest inspection report has been circulated – some maintenance has been recommended. Rick and John will look at what is needed.

Rick/John

Actions from Previous Meetings

Matters relating to the COVID-19 crisis

Hall Reopening : Andy has been waiting to speak to a previous cleaner about possibly resuming cleaning duties. Meanwhile hall bookings are picking up nicely. **Andy - ongoing**

Hall and Green Maintenance

Carpark Signs : Rick will obtain a quote for the carpark sign and replacement "Ivychurch Village Hall" sign.

Rick – ongoing

Outside water options: John agreed to check some prices. **John – ongoing**

Benches for Village Green These are now in place. **Complete**

Solar : Alan reported that we are now on the Octopus tariff. He will now be sorting out the export arrangements.

Alan

Hall Heating : Andy reported that the latest storage heaters would be expensive. It was agreed that this is the best time to consider – prices are rising after October, so a quote cannot be obtained until after the rises have been clarified. Paines will also check about inspection. **Andy**

The **fence opposite The Gardens** has been repaired. **Complete**

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Village Green Gate Rick said a replacement softwood gate will cost around £230. If posts are also needed these will cost around £100 each. He will ask Simon for a quote to supply and fit. The councillors agreed to a total spend of up to £500. **Rick**

Wildflower area: **Rick** will be strimming this shortly.

Jools will ask our gardener if she would tidy up the ivy encroaching onto the carpark, and possibly also deal with the ivy which is regrowing on the trees.

Indoor notice board – a second noticeboard was generally agreed to be a good idea. **Jools - ongoing**

Telephone kiosk Repainting will be attended to when possible. **Rick/John ongoing**

Dead trees at northern approach to village These have been removed. **Complete**

Highways Improvement Plan :

For a summary of progress so far please refer to minutes from June 2021. Items with actions attached remain minuted here. The latest HIP (v3) will be available on the council website. Although unable to attend tonight, Julie has updated the Council by email, this information is included in these minutes..

We paid for the **speed check strips** on 23rd August. **Julie** to chase for the survey – the attending councillors agreed the best position for this is near the Newchurch Road junction. If the results are favourable then KCC will authorise a **40mph limit. (cost £3,000).**

Additional signage – additional 30mph repeater signage to Ashford Rd and additional junction warning and bend signs can be added to the Ashford Rd/Newchurch Rd junction. The council agreed for **Julie** to go ahead and order these, KCC will pay for this. Also cutting back of hedge and siding-out on Ashford Rd (i.e. making good the carriageway) after August. **Julie** will enquire when this is to be done.

Bridge at Melon Lane / Ashford Road : KCC does not consider this to be an issue:

"Addressing the question of whether there is a weight limit over the structure – There is no weight limit. A load assessment was carried out in 1998 this found that the structure is able to carry 40t and so there is no weight restriction imposed. For clarity, at the time of the 1998 load assessment, the defect that has been seen and reported in this enquiry was present and was taken into consideration. In the assessment calculations a condition factor of 0.7 was used (condition factor of 1.0 would be new/as new/un-damaged). In conclusion the structure has no weight restriction and the defect is historic and is not undermining the integrity of the structure."

Escort of over-size vehicles : it was seen during the previous site visit that existing traffic rules need enforcing, i.e. An attendant is required where:

- The vehicle width exceeds 3.5 metres
- The rigid length (excluding the drawing vehicle) exceeds 18.75 metres
- The total length exceeds 25.9 metres
- Projections exceed 2 metres (front) and 3.05 metres (rear)
- Where an attendant is needed they can travel in the vehicle according to the STGO or Special Order movement. Alternatively they can travel in an escort vehicle, providing that they are in radio contact with the vehicle concerned, and are able to see the vehicle concerned during the journey as far as is reasonably practical
- Where 3 or more loads are travelling in convoy, only the first and last vehicles need an attendant.

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Static vehicle-activated speed sign : **Julie** will add this suggestion to the HIP to be looked at after the existing actions are addressed.

Community Speed Watch

The batteries for the Speed Indicator Device have been charged. **Rick** will arrange roadside sessions soon. Jools suggested it might be useful for existing CSW operatives to view the online CBT as a refresher as it has been a long time since the last session.

Rick considered the proposed additional CSW site at the grain store has insufficient visibility. This action has therefore been removed.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance 14894.64

Previous Balance 15147.04

Current Balance 23/09/21 14167.55

Previous Balance 20/07/21 14894.64

Debits

28/07/21	British Gas	13.59 DD
18/08/21	WSL gardening	51.00 BAC
23/08/21	KCC traffic	350.00 BAC
31/08/21	British Gas	8.04 DD
13/09/21	Octopus Energy	297.86 DD
20/09/21	Playsafe Ltd	111.60 BAC
20/09/21	WSL Garden	51.00 BAC

Credits

25/08/21	Hall hire	40.00 100492 via Tony
25/08/21	Hall Hire	120.00 100494 via Tony

Outstanding

240.00 to Littlejohn for external audit- cheque 000800 sent on 24/06/21 but invoiced again

10.84 to British gas for final bill to be collected by DD 03/10/21

Awaiting Payment of 1250 from Swarco

Pipeline : Expenses (or income) approved or anticipated

Income anticipated of £1,250pa for 7years from installation of vehicle charge points.

Potential large outlays for village green hedging

Highways Improvement Plan : £3,000 + £1,500

Contribution towards Childrens Christmas Party £300-£500

Replacement of storage heaters in hall £TBA

Planning

- **Ivychurch Business Park** – Rick has been asked to re-send the papers. **Rick**
 - **21/1646/FH Pond for Great Crested Newts** - Councillors were in favour of this.
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Diarised / Correspondence / Any Other Business

- **Martin Farm** – the new owner of the derelict house on Wenham Lane introduced himself and his partner. They are planning to build a family home for themselves on the plot. They have made a start tidying up the site and will be submitting planning applications in due course. John Goldsmith will be their nearest neighbour, and all the councillors expressed positive views about the building of a house on the plot.
- The post-lockdown village celebration was reported to have unexpectedly made a small profit of around £11. The council had originally planned to make a financial contribution to this event, but instead will contribute £300-£500 towards this year's Childrens' Christmas Party.
- **Diarised:** electrical test report; Andy will contact Paines. **Andy**

Meter Readings (taken July 2021)

Coin Meter – not emptied

Rate 1 :..... 4896 (previous 4873) ; Rate 2 : 15648 (previous 15631)

Solar : not recorded. Previous reading 2663.54

Next Parish Council meeting : Thursday 21st October 2021, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.
