

# Ivychurch Parish Council - Minutes of Meeting

## 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Present:** Rick Bailey (RB), Julie Bailey (JB), Alan Martin (AM), Jan Robertson (JR), Julie Devenish (Jools)

**Apologies:** none

**Absent:** none

**Members of the Public:** 3

### Meeting Opening

**Declarations of Interest :** none.

**Previous Minutes :** May minutes approved .

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### New Items for Discussion

#### Co-Option

Following advertising the two positions for co-option to the council, a closed meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> June to consider the responses. Draft minutes of that meeting were approved and it was announced that John Goldsmith and Tony Viall are to be co-opted as councillors. John was not present but Tony joined the councillors and signed an Acceptance of Office form, and was welcomed to the council. The outgoing councillor, Andy Daburn was not present but Rick expressed the council's appreciation for his service over the years. Jools will arrange a "thank you" note for signature.

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### Actions from Previous Meetings

#### Annual Return (AGAR)

See Treasurer Report & Governance Section.

#### KALC annual subscription

Paid.

#### Air Ambulance request for donation

Uncertainty continues about the finances needed for the Highways Improvement Plan so this remains outstanding. Jools has emailed to let the Air Ambulance Service know it remains under review and will be decided as soon as possible. ongoing

#### Hall Heating

A quote is being prepared. Alan

#### Coronation commemorative item

Mugs have been ordered, expected next week. Julie

#### Permanent siting of picnic and memorial benches

Rick / Jools will liaise with the resident who has provided the memorial bench as to its best positioning. – ongoing.

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## Highways Improvement Plan

- TRO consultation : 15 responses were received, of which 12 were positive. Further feedback will be invited from the 3 less favourable responders, but it was confirmed that the project may proceed. One objection had been potential delay to emergency vehicles but it was felt the nature of the road did not support this assumption.
- Magnox have declined our grant request for £2,000, seemingly on the incorrect assumption that KCC should be funding. Julie can request some funding from the Members' Allowance, Cllr Hills is quite heavily committed but may be able to offer £300.

## Hall Refurbishment / Internal Decoration

- **Hall soffits and fascias** - the price is up 10% from November. Council agreed to proceed. Rick will request top coat as well as primer.
- **External decoration** - Agreed that we will paint the outside of the Hall in the spring. Ongoing
- **Telephone Kiosk** repainting on hold for now.
- **Kitchen fire alarm** – Julie will replace the battery. ongoing
- **Toilet flush** – despite being fixed this is only working intermittently. Tony will monitor.

## Hall and Green

**Playground:** Rick has carried out some recommended fixes, and the picnic benches are fixed. Swing seat still needs attention, clarification needed as to which part requires 400mm clearance off the ground. Jools will forward info.

**Outside water options :** Rick will check what pipework etc are needed. - ongoing

**Indoor notice board** – ready to instal. Rick - ongoing

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## Community Speed Watch

- Sessions continue to be arranged ad-hoc.
  - Jools will sort out a fresh recruitment campaign. - ongoing
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## Treasurer's Report

### Treasurers Report June 23

Current Balance 14426.82 15/06/23

Previous balance 14335.58 18/05/23

#### Debits

23/05/23 160.62 bac KALC

23/05/23 7.91 bac Business stream

01/06/23 60.13 bac F&HDC ballot

#### Credits

25/05/23 20.00 bac Hall hire

02/06/23 20.00 bac hall hire

14/06/23 280.00 paid 100508 post office(220) & hall hire

#### Outstanding Debit

nil

### Notes:

**Section 137 Spend (total available for 2023/24 = £1,986 assuming 200 electors) – running total period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023-now = £0**

#### Pipeline

##### Debits

Ext Decorating £1680.00

Highways £11500

Guttering repair £506

Air Ambulance ? possible donation

##### Credits

£1250 due November SWARCO

£1300? from Cllrs' funds (£300 Cllr Hills, £1000?

Cllr Martin)

2000 donation from magnox looking unlikely

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## Governance - Annual Return (AGAR)

1. The Annual Governance Statement was reviewed and signed.
2. The Accounting Statement was reviewed and signed.
3. The Certificate of Exemption was reviewed and signed.
4. Jools will publish the required documentation on the parish council website, and will email a scanned copy of the exemption certificate to Mazars, along with confirmation of contact details.

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## Planning

- Clubb Lane planning enforcement: Rick has chased, no feedback and nothing has happened at the site.
- 23/0654/FH/CON & 23/0491/FH/CON Pylon Cottages applications were discussed.

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## Diarised / Correspondence / Any Other Business

### Guest – Cllr David Evans

Cllr Evans stated that he and another member of St Mary in the Marsh parish council (StMitM) have discussed the traffic proposals with KCC.

IPC said that their original submission had been expanded by KCC but IPC supported the increase in scope, in the hope that it may make Ashford Road less attractive as a rat-run and encourage drivers to use the main roads between New Romney and the A2070. KCC had said that while they approved of the measures, it was down to us to fund it. Ivychurch residents are willing to contribute some funds if necessary, as through traffic has been a priority issue for many years. IPC considered they could pull funds together for this but other expenses such as heating improvements might need to be delayed.

Cllr Evans will make further recommendations at his next council meeting. IPC requested that he present the subject as two separate strands – (1) the traffic measures themselves, and (2) whether StMiM were prepared to contribute funds towards it.

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Cllr Evans voiced some concern about the ability of the Melon Lane bridge to withstand the increasing size of HGVs. Julie said KCC had satisfied themselves about this (they inspect every 10 years).

Cllr Evans then mooted a possible change of name of the parliamentary constituency to include Romney Marsh, (e.g. Folkestone, Hythe & Romney Marsh) which would help raise awareness of the area as part of the district. Potential boundary changes are currently being considered, based on electoral population, which will affect the area. He will raise the question at the Marsh Forum, which IPC attends.

### Upcoming events

The Church Warden reminded the meeting that there were several events coming up next month through JAM On The Marsh, some of which will take place in Ivychurch.

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**Energy usage** - *Summaries of energy usage (KWH) as billed from the Smart Meter are shown here as they become available; please note billing dates and periods vary from month to month, so standing charge periods will also vary.*

Coin meter : - .

Credit Note -£82.85;

Invoice :

Brighton Business Power 24M Fixed (28th Apr 2023 - 27th May 2023)

28th Apr 2023 2634.8 Smart meter reading

28th May 2023 2691.2 Smart meter reading

Energy Used 56.5 kWh @ 18.77p/kWh £10.60

28th Apr 2023 1903.9 Smart meter reading

28th May 2023 1913.4 Smart meter reading

Energy Used 9.5 kWh @ 14.44p/kWh £1.36

Standing Charge 30 days @ 37.53p/day £11.26

VAT @ 5% on £23.22 £1.16

Total Electricity Charges £24.38

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**Next Parish Council meeting** : Next meeting will be : **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023**, at the usual time of 7.30pm in Village Hall. Meeting closed at 8.45pm