

Ilmington Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 26th March 2015

Present: Cllr. G. Davies, Cllr R. Hawkins, Cllr J. Sherwood (Chair), Cllr T. Wilkins and Cllr G. Osborne

Also present: District Cllr C. Saint (arrived at 8.00 pm), Gill Bailey (Clerk) and 5 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S. Wright and County Cllr Izzy Seccombe.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Wilkins declared an interest in Item 5iv as he is the current VH representative. Cllr Osborne declared an interest in Item 11a as he was in discussions on behalf of his son with one of the contractors who had tendered for the IPC grass mowing contract.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- Mr Blackman spoke in support of his planning application **15/00640/VARY** at Clifford Orchard, Frog Lane, Ilmington. Cllr Osborne why he had submitted a retrospective application and why he hadn't complied with the original conditions. Mr Blackman said that it was perfectly in order to submit a retrospective planning application. It was agreed to discuss this matter under 'planning'.
- Mrs Jill Copeland advised that dog refuse posed a health risk, particularly to children and that this was an on-going issue and should be resolved.
- ***The Clerk read out a letter that had been received from a Parishioner regarding the Blackwell Solar Farm.***

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. COUNCIL REPORTS

- **General Village Maintenance: Cllr Hawkins reported on the following:**
 - That there was a hole full of water in the sandpit in the Playing Field. Following a discussion, it was RESOLVED that Cllr Hawkins and Fred Edmunds investigate why the hole was full of water with a view to looking at the drainage and infill the hole as necessary at a cost of up to £100.00. This motion was carried unanimously.
 - That the outside toilet at the Pavilion needed to be cleaned and re-stocked. It was agreed that Cllr Hawkins and Mr Edmunds would approach the Sports and Social Club and/or other user Clubs to request that they take over the responsibility for servicing and cleaning the toilet on a regular basis.
 - That the Bus Shelter needed to be painted and IPC to look at the possibility of placing a community notice board on the shelter. It was agreed that Cllr Davies paint the Bus Shelter. Cllr Sherwood advised that there was going to be a community notice board placed outside the community shop when it was completed and there may not be the need for one between the Village Hall and the Shop.
 - That directional signage to the Sports Field and Pavilion could be considered and it was agreed to place this item on the Agenda for the next IPC meeting.
 - That the windows needed to be re-painted on the outside of the Sports Pavilion. Cllr Osborne advised that this item had been budgeted for in the next financial year.
 - That the leaves and debris should be cleared from the footpaths in the Village and it was agreed to place this item on the Agenda for the next IPC meeting.

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- **Dog refuse**

Cllr Osborne advised laws were in place to enforce the penalty for not clearing up dog refuse and that though there was genuine concern, it would be onerous for IPC to create Bye-Laws requiring dogs to be on leads. Cllr Sherwood said that IPC does not have the resources enforce a Bye-law and unless there was clear evidence of who the perpetrators were, it would be difficult for IPC or anyone else to take further action. In response to a letter from a parishioner, it was agreed to request them to place a notice on their own land requesting dogs to be on leads. Mr Copeland, a parishioner present, -who was also a Church Warden advised that he would bring up dog refuse in the Churchyard at the next PCC meeting. It was agreed to debate this matter more fully at the Parish Assembly and ask Parishioners if they had any ideas on how to best resolve this issue. The Clerk advised that if a perpetrator was reported to IPC, they could be reported to the Dog Warden at SDC and that the details of the informant would be kept in the strictest of confidence.

- **Playing Field Car Park and Lease**

Cllr Sherwood reported that IPC had applied for two grants for the partial re-surfacing of the Playing Field car park and there may be the possibility of applying for further grants from additional grant providers. Cllr Sherwood explained that sports clubs wanting to pursue grants may need to have individual leases of a minimum of 7 years.

Cllr Wilkins felt that for each club to enter into an individual lease was un- and that the need for a lease had been overcome in the past. It was agreed that a number of Councillors, including Cllr Hawkins should meet with representatives of the various clubs to discuss the issue of leases.

- **Parish Council representative to the Village Hall Committee**

Cllr Sherwood received a request from the VH Committee for a member of IPC to be nominated as a representative on their Committee. Cllr Sherwood asked Cllr Wilkins if he was prepared to remain as the representative on the VH Committee until such time as the new council had been formed and made their decision as to the appropriate representative and he agreed. Cllr Osborne questioned whether the Clerk should have a copy of the VH Constitution. Cllr Wilkins agreed to give the Clerk his copy.

- **To discuss & ratify instructions for the successful Grass Mowing Contractor**

Cllr Osborne reported that this issue was on-going. Three tenders had been received and a decision would be made by the council, once the figures received had been analysed.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted as received.

- i. Letter from The Local Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Warwickshire
- ii. Email from HMRC – Successful Submission
- iii. Email from WCC – Have your Say – Health & Care Services in the area
- iv. Email from Entrust – Holiday – Short Breaks Launch
- v. Emails & Responses from/to concerned Resident re: Dog Fouling
- vi. Email Enquiry : Village Show (Bouncy Castle)
- vii. Email Enquiry: Monuments at Church
- viii. WALC Legal Briefing – LTN Freedom of Information – ‘Datasets’
- ix. Email Enquiry – Free Oil Buying Club

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- x. Email re: Cotswold District Council Consult Registration
- xi. Email to Enforcement Officer at SDC
- xii. Email from Planner at SDC re: 15/00194/VARY – Rowneys Farm
- xiii. Letter from the Pensions Regulator regarding law on pensions
- xiv. Letter from SDC: Notification of Planning Committee 18.03.15 (Blackwell Solar Farm)
- xv. Letter from Grant Thornton re: External Audit
- xvi. LCR Magazine
- xvii. Email from Jeff Morris – WCC, Highways
- xviii. Parish & Partners Briefing

7. PLANNING

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following comments on planning applications received:

Application no.	Proposal	Address	Submitted by	Comments due by / decision
14/03048/TREE	T1 ; Pine : Remove T2 : Red Maple : Remove T3 : Balsam Poplar : Remove	The Bevingtons, Valenders Lane, Ilmington	Mr & Mrs Tustain	Granted
14/01089/FUL	Erection of 11 dwellings & garages – including 4 affordable units and associated access road and full treatment plant (and the proposal requires the diversion of a public right of way)	Land Off, Armscote Road, Ilmington	Mr P Coton – Stratford Homes	Pending – SDC Planning Committee 31.03.15 It was agreed that Cllr's Davies & Sherwood attend the meeting on behalf of IPC.
15/00153/FUL	Installation of a free standing air source heat pump within the garden of the dwelling	The Hayloft, Front Street, Ilmington	Mr T Allen	Cllr Sherwood reported that IPC had responded to the amendments received & details were on the SDC web site.
15/00276/TREE	T1 : Leylandii – Remove, T2 : Cypress – Remove, T3 : Yew : Remove	Garden House, Back Street, Ilmington	Mr D Grieve	A response of 'No representation' had been submitted.
15/00194/VARY	Application for the variation of condition No. 2 (approved plans) and removal of condition No. 15 (Level 4 Code for Sustainable Homes) imposed on planning application 13/03310/FUL for the erection of two dwellings to include the closure of the existing access and the creation of a new vehicular access	Rowneys Farm, Foxcote Hill, Ilmington	Mr A Gunn	IPC commented on the application. Details of their response can be found on the SDC web site.
15/00256/VARY	Variation of Condition 1 (List of approved plans) and 8 (drainage) of planning permission 14/01808/VARY to allow for substitution of rooflight with dormer window to the rear of the attached garage on Plot 1 & changes to the drainage layout (Application 12/02361/FUL for 'Removal of existing tin shed & timber shed.	Clifford Orchard, Frog Lane, Ilmington	Mr M Blackman	A response of 'No representation' had been submitted on behalf of IPC.

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	Construction of 2 No. dwellings with associated works).			
15/00585/TREE	T1: Apple: pollard by one third	Cedar Cottage, Front Street, Ilmington	Mr S Lowe	A response of 'No representation' had been submitted on behalf of IPC.

- ***15/00640/VARY** received 24.03.15 after publication of Agenda, comments due by 16.04.15. Cllr Osborne felt Mr Blackman was in breach of the conditions placed on the previous permission granted in respect of the wall's appearance at Clifford Orchard.
- Councillors felt the wall was not in keeping with character of the Village and expressed frustration that the conditions had not been enforced by SDC. Two pillars had been erected, the wall had been built utilising the wrong stone and was too much in alignment. Cllr Davies obtained signatures of objection from the residents in Frog Lane and suggested that a concrete backing for the wall but the front needed to be constructed out of dry stone walling.
- Cllr Saint said that if IPC and Villagers felt strongly about the situation, they should report the matter to Enforcement at SDC. Mr Blackman (the applicant) explained things had changed, repair was not viable so he chose to risk using different stone and repositioned the wall.
- Agreed that IPC's objections to the retrospective application be lodged with SDC as a matter of urgency.

The following planning up-dates were noted:

Application no.	Proposal	Address	Up-date
14/03048/TREE	T1 ; Pine : Remove T2 : Red Maple : Remove T3 : Balsam Poplar : Remove	The Bevingtons, Valenders Lane, Ilmington	Granted
14/01732/FUL	Construction of a Solar Farm comprising ground mounted solar panels for electricity production, together with inverters, substation, DNO substation, inward facing CCTV cameras, 1.8 m high deer fencing, permeable stone access tracks, temporary construction compound and landscaping	Land Off, North of Ilmington, Blackwell	Cllr Sherwood reported that this application had been refused at the SDC Planning Committee.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

- Cllr Saint reported that the SDC Council Tax request had not changed for the next financial year. He went on to report that the Boundary Commission had revised the boundaries for SDC and he would no longer be the District Cllr representing Ilmington and that he would be standing for a different ward at the Elections on 7th May. Cllr Saint also reported that SDC was doing particularly well with re-cycling in the district.
- Cllr Saint advised that the Planning Inspector had submitted an interim report following the public examination in January in respect of the Core Strategy. He reported that there had been both positive and negative comments made and that it was work in progress.
- Mr Fred Edmunds as a previous member of IPC thanked Cllr Saint for all his help and support over the years and this thought was echoed by existing members of IPC.

9. TO CONSIDER RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS

a. Development Strategy & Site Allocations – Cotswold District Council

It was agreed that this consultation would be discussed at an internal planning meeting on 8th April and a response formulated, if appropriate.

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10. FINANCE

- a. **RESOLVED** to approve the payments set out in Annex A.

11. COUNCILLORS REPORTS OR ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- a. Grass Mowing Contract –

Cllr Osborne reported that three tenders for the grass mowing contract had been received and the figures would be analysed and a decision made in due course.

- b. Treating Public Seats in the Village

It was agreed that Cllr Hawkins would request that Cllr Stephens formulate a plan of all of the public benches in the village and whether they needed maintenance. Cllr Osborne advised that this item would fall in the routine maintenance budget which had been agreed for the next financial year. It was also agreed that the Clerk respond to the Parishioner who had requested that benches in the Village be maintained.

- c. Highways Issues – Surface water : Featherbed Lane & outside Primary School

The Clerk read out email correspondence which had been received from WCC, Highways which confirmed that defects had been raised for both of the above issues.

Cllr Wilkins reported that 500 Leylandii had been planted at a Farm on Compton Scorpion Road. He felt that there was a highways safety issue as the Leylandii reduced visibility for vehicular traffic on that stretch of road. It was agreed that the Clerk contact SDC Enforcement and request them to look at the Landscape Plan and obligations that were submitted with the planning application for the Farm, to ascertain whether they complied with the conditions.

12. TO CONFIRM THE DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Parish Assembly on 9th April 2015 commencing at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Ilmington.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

ANNEX A

The following payments were approved:

i.	Clerk's salary & expenses – February 2015	£290.19
ii.	HMRC – Tax & NI Clerk, February	£115.10
iii.	R Hawkins – P/F Maintenance	£ 60.00
iv.	Clerk's Salary & Expenses (01.03.15 – 20.03.15)	£225.12
v.	B McFarlane - Renew Hosting for Web Site (1 Year)	£ 44.39

Signed _____ Chairman

Date _____