

# West Ilsley Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 13 July 2015 at 7.30pm

### **1. Apologies:**

Sean Ryan,  
Anna Sugden.

### **2. To receive any changes to declarations:**

None received.

### **3. To receive and, if approved, confirm the minutes of the meeting of the West Ilsley Parish Council held on Monday 9 March 2015:**

Signed as a true record.

### **4. Matters Arising:**

To be taken in the minutes.

### **5. Correspondence received:**

To be taken in the minutes.

### **6. Improvements to existing open spaces:**

There was general discussion about how to spend the remaining money available for the improvement of green spaces in the village (about £1500):

- Cllr Bloor suggested spending the money on tidying up the pond area (top soil, grass seed, gravel etc).
- Chairman Hagen discussed a new oak notice board for the village hall. Alison Banks said a quotation for that was approximately £1000.

Chairman Hagen will write to WIN to ask residents of the village what they think. Cllr Bloor will get quotes for tidying up the pond area and determine what exactly needs to be done.

### **7. Village Funding applications:**

No new applications.

### **8. Village Hall update:**

Following the discussions regarding the village hall work programme, it was reported that a skip had now arrived and the work would commence by the end of July. Key points are: lighting, tidying up outside, and the fence. Chairman Hagen and Mr. Ian Fewtrell-Smith will team up together to get things going as James Hanbury was too busy at the moment to coordinate work on the village hall.

District Cllr Hooker raised a concern about public liability insurance for the area outside the village hall. Mr. Cook will be asked to check the village hall insurance policy in this regard.

District Cllr Hooker reported that the wall adjacent to his property had been damaged. The issue will be discussed at the next village hall meeting.

The Parish Council agreed generally that the village hall needs to progress its refurbishment.

**9. *Transport and Safety (VAS update):***

Following the discussions on 12 June 2015 between Mr. Davies (Highways Officer, West Berkshire Council) and Clive Hooker regarding the speed traffic indicators in both West and East Ilsley, the West Ilsley Parish Council agreed that it would be a sensible idea to move the existing unit (VAS) in West Ilsley from its current location at the eastern edge of the village to a new position at the western edge of the village where it would be more effective. The western installation would be more flexible in its positioning, as there would be no overshadowing of the unit. It was decided that no other alternatives of traffic calming (e.g., humps, narrow sections) were currently required.

**10. *Environmental issues:***

District Cllr Hooker reported that he had had a conversation with Mr. Clark about the ponds drainage / flooding issues. All agreed that Chairman Hagen should contact the Chairman of the East Ilsley Parish Council about working together to resolve the issues regarding the dredging of the ponds.

District Cllr Hooker reported that he had had a meeting with Mr Reynolds (Principal Highways Engineer, West Berkshire Council). He agreed that the work on widening Catmore Road to drain surface water into the Catmore Pond would be done by the West Berkshire Council.

There was general discussion regarding a larger scale plan to redo the overall drainage system within the village. There were ongoing problems at Keeper's Pond towards Mr. Channon's property. Various opinions regarding the ditches and stormwater and wastewater pipes, and the cost and liability of repairing and maintaining them, were expressed. Discussion on this would continue.

**11. *Cricket Club/Play Area/Tennis:***

No matters for discussion.

**12. *Accounts for payment/receipts received:***

The following items were presented and discussed:

- A new accountancy agency to run the payroll (£75 plus VAT) was agreed.
- The final salary payment £198.51 for Alison Banks (outgoing Parish Clerk) was agreed.
- The cost of a training course £48 for the new Parish Clerk, Inna Fauler, was agreed.

**13. *West Ilsley Trust - defibrillator:***

Cllr Beaumont confirmed that he had checked the defibrillator and that it was working.

**14. *Planning Applications:***

A planning application for the renovation of the garage and car port extension belonging to Lady Huntingdon at Keepers Barn, Churchway, West Ilsley, Newbury, Berks, RG20 7AH was returned without objections.

**15. *AOB:***

It was noted that the hedges along houses Nos. 17 and 18 on Main Street were overhanging. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would write to Lockinge Estate, requesting that they arrange for the hedges to be cut back.

Cllr Bloor noted that some cars had been parking on the pavement, thereby preventing passersby (including people on mobility scooters) from passing through. It was agreed to continue with the policy of a polite notice to offenders requesting them to desist.

Cllr Bloor raised a concern that Lockinge Estate was selling land and houses Nos. 17 and 18 in Main Street. He wondered whether the Estate also intended to sell the village hall or recreation ground. It was agreed that Chairman Hagen would speak with Julian Sawyer to find out more.

***16. Open forum:***

It was noted that the village hall garage roof was scraping. Mr Hooker and Mr Elliot were able to confirm that the underlying material was not asbestos.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

Next meeting: Monday 14 September at 7:30