**IDE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 21st September 2011**

**Present: Barry Hookins (Chairman), Nick Bradley, Louise Watson, John Smart, Sarah Tiley, Chris Bishop, Sally Cooke and Matt Ward.**

**In Attendance: Samantha Young (Clerk), 4 members of the public, Alan Connett (D.C. Councillor), Sue Hitchcock (Rural Housing Enabler) and John Goodey (T.D Councillor).**

**1.**     **Apologies for absence:** None

**2.**     **Public Participation:**

2.1A member of the public informed the PC they were concerned with potholes in the road, specifically in Ide Lane. It was reported that there is also a problem with the man hole cover outside Carole Whiteheart’s house. (ACTION – Alan Connett (D.C Councillor) will look into these problems).

2.2A member of the public asked for clarification regarding the proposed car parking opposite Green acres. (The proposed new car park was being discussed later in the meeting as per the agenda but the matter was bought forward due to public participation queries). It was noted that the trees must remain near the ‘curly bridge’; these were originally planted to provide a sound barrier to restrict noise from the A30. Ownership of the land is unknown and this would not be a suitable site for the proposed car park. It was also mentioned that turning the land into a car park may cause potential problems with travellers. Although the Planning Office at Newton Abbott have stated there would be no immediate objections the visual impact of a car park may be deemed unacceptable. (ACTION – Barry will provide and update at the next meeting).

**3. Sue Hitchcock – Rural Housing Enabler:** Sue discussed the matter of affordable housing and asked if this was something the PC would be interested in taking forward. It was agreed that a housing needs survey would be conducted to establish any need for affordable housing within the Parish. Once the survey has been completed, and the data collated, if there is a need for affordable housing then potential development sites would be investigated with a view to building new affordable properties for local people. Mention was made of a previous survey conducted which did not establish a need for housing and it was also noted that there is very little private land available for development. (ACTION – Sue to contact Clerk in a few weeks to progress with the survey. Sue to contact Barry to take an initial walk around the village, to establish the availability of potential sites).

**4. Minutes of last meeting:** to approve minutes of 20th July 2011: agreed and signed by the Chairman as being correct record of the meeting.

**5.**     **Matters arising from previous meeting:**

5.1**Website:** Sarah has obtained a quote for £250.00 for a company who will manage the website, enabling several councillors’ access to update the site. This quote was cheap compared to similar quotes of over £1000.00. Sally mentioned that Colin could do this for us for free and the website can be updated via an already set up password. It was agreed the Council would ask for Colin’s assistance and allow 2 people access to the password for website updating. (ACTION – Sarah to contact Colin to set up access and run through how to update the site).

5.2    **War Memorial:** The War Memorial work was completed, at a cost of £235.00 net, by Langmead Fine Memorials. No further work regarding the lettering is required.

5.3 **Hedge at 5 Old Vicarage Close:** The Clerk queried the action on this matter as previous minutes indicated that a letter had already been issued. The letter was not sent so no contact has yet been made regarding the overgrown hedge. The hedge is still a problem. (ACTION – Clerk to write to owners requesting the hedge is trimmed).

5.4 **Horse Fouling:** The Clerk contacted DEFRA regarding any rulings on horse fouling, none were found so no further action is being taken.

5.5 **Bus Stop:** The Clerk investigated the responsibility of bus shelter maintenance and cleaning. TC were contacted and advised the Clerk that the responsibility either lay with DCC or the bus company. As the shelter was originally built by a village resident it was decided that the bus company would not be responsible. Alan (D.C Councillor) advised DCC would contribute to the cost of the maintenance. (ACTION – Clerk to obtain quotes).

5.6 **CCTV in Car Park:** Due to the proposed shop move the CCTV will no longer be able to cover the car park area. The CCTV was paid for by donations of £500 from the Shop Committee, £500.00 from DCC and £200.00 from the PC. As these donations were ‘gifts’ it is the choice of the Shop Committee as to whether the CCTV is sold as part of the Portakabin, sold separately or kept to provide CCTV at the new shop location. (ACTION – Barry to discuss matter further with Shop Committee).

5.7 **Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Gifts:** Sally showed the PC an example mug that could be issued as a gift to mark the occasion. It was decided that quotes would be obtained to cover both the school children numbers and the children in the Parish numbers. Also obtaining quotes for the official Queen mugs and personalised Ide mugs. Nick raised the question as to whether this could be a joint venture with the churches. (ACTION – Sally to obtain quotes and update the Council at the next meeting).

5.8 **Work on the Ford:** John (T.D Councillor) told the PC that there is currently no funding available for the repairs needed and the work would need to wait until the next financial year. It was previously suggested that the pebbles could be moved to provide a temporary fix until the funding becomes available but John informed us that this proposal would not be cost effective.

**6. Allotments: Update from Nick Bradley:** The PC has served notice to allotment owners regarding the termination of agreements. The allotments will move onto remnant land on the weekend of 8/9 October, any help available on the Saturday morning would be greatly appreciated. Nick reported that the allotments are going to ‘bunch together’ as opposed to taking new plots. After the weekend of 8/9 October the site will be closed at weekends and access after completion of the MUGA can be gained at the far side by the stream and not via the school. DCC are drawing up terms of the lease and continue to correspond with Nick. Nick suggested the new leases should be seen by a lawyer, it was mentioned that the PC have previously used Cross & Cross Solicitors and John (T.D Councillor) suggested Nick contact David Howes from TC for rates of their Legal team. Nick confirmed he has written 2 e-mails chasing Strutt & Parker for an update on the Weir Meadow site but the only reply has been a request for a village plan. (ACTION – Nick to contact solicitors and TC Legal Team and provide an update at the next meeting).

**7. Finance:** **Receipts and Payments for previous 2 months**: Net Receipts = £504.04, Net Payments = £707.92. Total in bank accounts = £10,298.82.

**8. Matters arising – New items:**

8.1.**Trees over the Car Park:** It has been reported that the trees in the car park are causing a problem due to dropping debris. Ownership of the trees has not been confirmed but quotes have been obtained at a cost of £200 + VAT and £420 + VAT. (ACTION – await confirmation from TC to see if they can do this work).

8.2. **Trees in school grounds:** (This item was not on the agenda but followed on from the trees in the car park item). It has been bought to the PC attention that a tree with berries is causing a problem in the school playground. The berries are dropping over the toddler’s playground which could cause a potential hazard. (ACTION – Barry to speak to the school head)

8.3. **E-mail response from Councillors:** Barry reminded councillors to reply promptly to e-mails issued. It was also confirmed that councillors were happy to receive correspondence via e-mail when received by Clerk, as opposed to bringing documents to the meeting which often resulted in delays in dealing with issues and meeting invitations missed. (ACTION – Clerk will continue to pass correspondence via e-mail, once filtered for relevance. Clerk will speak to John regularly and update him on any e-mails as he does not have internet access)

8.4. **Grave Plots:** The PC has received a request from a non-resident for a grave plot. Due to lack of grave space this could not be granted but as a compromise an internment plot can be offered, this was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED. The PC has also received a request for a refund on a pre-purchased grave plot as the deceased has been buried elsewhere. It was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that this request be granted. (ACTION – Clerk to contact non-resident and inform Council’s decision. Sally to arrange refund for pre-purchased plot)

JOHN SMART LEFT THE MEETING AT 8:50 DUE TO PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS.

8.5. **Councillor / Clerk training events:** Louise requested attendance of a new councillor course, at a cost of £25 + VAT. The Clerk requested attendance of a new clerk course, at a cost of £25 + VAT. Both requests were UNANIMOUSLY AGREED and granted. (ACTION – Clerk to book both courses).

8.6. **Coronation Gardens:** The PC has received an invoice for work to be completed on Coronation Gardens. It was agreed that a yearly budget will be set for the work. (ACTION – Barry will take this further and provide an update at the next meeting)

8.7.  **Councillors Register of Interests:** These were distributed to Councillors and a copy was kept for the PC records.

**9. Recent Planning Applications:**

9.1     11/02316/TPO – Mr C Parkinson, 4 Old Vicarage Close – Crown reduction of 2 Poplar and crown lifting of 2 Silver Birch – Result GRANTED with conditions.

9.2     11/01782/CLDP – Mr P Vosey, 3 Fore Street – Certificate of lawful use of development – Result GRANTED. The PC noted that it had not been passed details of this application. (ACTION – Clerk to contact TDC to enquire as to why application was not passed to PC for consideration).

9.3     11/01594/FUL – Mrs R Thomas, 1 Station Road - Single storey extension to north elevation. – Result GRANTED.

**10. Councillors Report:**

10.1     **John Smart:** John was not present at this point in the meeting.

10.2     **Sarah Tiley:** Sarah had nothing to report.

10.3     **Sally Cooke:** Sally had nothing to report.

10.4     **Matt Ward:** Matt had nothing to report.

10.5     **Chris Bishop:** Chris returned to the discussion regarding the shop parking and asked if the ground to the left of the bridge was also included in the ‘sound proof’ project. (ACTION – Clerk to establish ownership of land)

10.6     **Nick Bradley:** Nick mentioned the leak near Canns Farm. South West Water have traced the leak to the bungalow opposite but SWW have not taken ownership of the problem. It was reported that Environmental Health have been out to investigate the problem. (ACTION – Alan (D.C Councillor) will deal with this issue and provide an update at the next meeting)

10.7     **Louise Watson:** Louise confirmed that the hedge work along Ide Straight had been completed and she had been in contact with Jamie Hewitt regarding the height of the hedge by the ford, near the college. (ACTION – Louise will contact the land owner and ask for the hedge to be cut)

10.8     **Barry Hookins:** Barry asked in anyone wanted to be a School Governor, the reply was generally that this would be too much of a time commitment. Barry also asked for confirmation of War Memorial cleaning and an item regarding the current Councillor vacancy to be added to the Ide Times. Barry also asked for an invoice to be drafted to bill the school for half of the costs of the field maintenance. (ACTION – Clerk to add items to Ide Times page and send invoice to the school)

**11. Correspondence Received:**

11.1. Letter from TDC – Active Leisure Strategy Consultation (ACTION – Clerk to place a copy in the PC notice board and include an entry in the Ide Times).

11.2. Letter from DALC notifying the PC of their AGM to be held 8th October 2011.

11.3. Issue 125 – Autumn 2011 edition of Village Green

11.4. Example of ‘Ide Parish Housing Needs Survey’ left by Sue Hitchcock.

All other correspondence received has been dealt with under item 8 – Matters Arising: New Items.

No further business, the meeting closed at 9:20pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16th November 2011, Ide Memorial Hall, 7:30pm

**Minutes Signed………………………………..  Date…………………………….**

**(Mr Barry Hookins – Chairman)**