

**Draft Minutes of the Ipsden Parish Council meeting held at Ipsden Memorial Hall
on Thursday 23 March 2017 at 6.30pm**

1	Present: Members: Mr Nick Miller - NM (Chair), Mr John Jeffery - JJ, Mrs Wendy Clark – WC, Mrs Heather Llewlyn - HL Clerk: Mrs Amanda McCrea – AM OCC: Cllr Mark Gray – MG (part-time), Cllr David Nimmo-Smith – DNS (part-time)	Action
2	Apologies: None	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting The minutes of the previous meeting of 23 January 2017 were agreed and signed by the Chair.	
4	<p>SODC report: Cllr Nimmo-Smith referred the meeting to his March report previously circulated by email. (Appendix 1).</p> <p>OCC report: Cllr Gray reported that the council tax rise will be 5% not 7% as previously expected. 3% of this is for adult social care and will go towards augmenting the workforce and possibly bringing it back in-house rather than using agencies.</p> <p>Cllr Gray also reported that the unitary council debate has moved on and that a single council proposal has been submitted to central government. Councillors expressed concern that a single council will be too large to manage successfully especially in light of the expected increase from 600,000 to 800,000 households within Oxfordshire.</p> <p>Finally, Cllr Gray informed the meeting that he would be standing for re-election in May as an Independent candidate. During his tenure, he has been pleased to be able to influence decisions regarding children’s centres in order to ensure that a good number (37) remain open. Councillors thanked Mark Gray for the excellent help and support that he has given to Ipsden Parish Council over many years.</p>	
5	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>5.1 A4074: JJ and AM reported that they had met with Area Steward, Keith Stenning, to discuss the intended improvements to the A4074 (appendix 2) and were now awaiting plans from Traffic Technician, Mark Francis. Cllr Gray agreed to chase this up.</p> <p>5.2 Quickset Path: Signs stating ‘For pedestrian use only’ have now been installed.</p> <p>5.3 Playground: JJ to brief Mr Hemming concerning maintenance recommendations. NM reported that he had received complaints about dogs faeces being found in the playground. NM to source signage to remind patrons that dogs are prohibited from the playground.</p> <p>5.4 Passing place maintenance: NM has received a quote for £800 to carry out passing place maintenance however this exceeds budget expectations. NM to enquire as to how much of the work can be done for £500.</p> <p>5.5 Oxfordshire Together: Clerk reported that she had informed Cholsey Parish Council of IPC’s decision to go ahead with joint urban and rural verge grass cutting. This will be carried out by BGG Grounds Maintenance in late July.</p> <p>5.6 Ditch maintenance: NM to ask Mr Vernon to check regularly the ditch at the dip in Church Lane (Drunken Bottom). NM will also ask Mr Vernon to include a path just beyond the pub on his litter-picking route.</p> <p>5.7 Telephone Box: Clerk reported that she is still awaiting information from BT regarding adoption of the phone box. Councillors discussed a possible use for the phone box being to display local tourist information.</p> <p>5.8 The Mere: Cherry tree saplings in The Mere have been cleared as per Mr Williams’ email.</p>	<p>MG</p> <p>JJ NM</p> <p>NM</p> <p>NM</p>

6	Finance:															
6.1	<p>Payments for approval: Clerk reported the following interim payments during Jan/Feb:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Litter picking Jan/Feb</td> <td>90.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quickset Path sign</td> <td>27.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual website charges 2017-18</td> <td>71.94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Council then approved the following recent invoices:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>OALC annual subscription 2017-18</td> <td>133.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Litter picking March/April</td> <td>90.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Clerk reported that the current account balance is £389.74 as at 23 March 2017 and the deposit account balance is £5574.26. Clerk offered to investigate moving the deposit account to one with a better rate of return.</p>	Item	£	Litter picking Jan/Feb	90.00	Quickset Path sign	27.59	Annual website charges 2017-18	71.94	Item	£	OALC annual subscription 2017-18	133.07	Litter picking March/April	90.00	
Item	£															
Litter picking Jan/Feb	90.00															
Quickset Path sign	27.59															
Annual website charges 2017-18	71.94															
Item	£															
OALC annual subscription 2017-18	133.07															
Litter picking March/April	90.00															
6.2	Council approved Clerk's salary for the period 12/01/17 to 23/03/17 (10 weeks) - £450 and office service charge for Jan/Feb 2017 - £40.															
6.3	<p>Internet banking: NM to request bank to set up a facility for clerk to view statements online.</p>	NM														
6.4	<p>Precept: Clerk reported that the requested precept of £7560 for 2017-18 has now been approved by SODC and the first instalment of £3780 will be paid in during w/c 3 April 2017.</p>															
7	<p>Planning: There are currently no planning applications for approval.</p>															
8	<p>Any Other Business: HL reported that she had invited the local PCSO to attend the meeting but she was unfortunately unavailable. HL agreed to continue to pass on future meeting dates.</p>															
9	<p>Date of next meeting: The next meeting of the Ipsden Parish Council will be held on Thursday 11 May at 6.30pm in the Ipsden Memorial Hall. This will also include the Annual Meeting of the Council.</p>															
	The meeting closed at 19:30.															

Approved by:

Date:

(Chairman)