



Council meeting – 26th March 2025

Minutes of the Council meeting of Isfield Parish Council as above, held at Isfield Village Hall, TN22 5XG at 19:30.

Present: Cllr G Sambrook (GS) (Chair), Cllr A Keys (AK) (Vice Chair), Cllr P Roundell (PR), Cllr Mitchell-Cobb (TM-C) and Cllr Cramond (SC).

Absent: Cllr Galley (ESCC)

In attendance: A Emery Clerk and RFO; Cllr Coleman (WDC); 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

To **RECEIVE** any apologies.

- Cllr R Galley (RG) (ESCC) tendered his apologies.

2. Declarations of interest/Request for dispensations

To **RECEIVE** any declarations of interest. To **RESOLVE** to grant dispensations where appropriate.

- None

3. Public Participation

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting. Any member of the public, who so wishes, may speak at this point of the meeting on items within the remit of the Council. No previous notice need be given. The Council are happy to receive comments but responses will be made outside meetings should they be necessary. Time limit to speak with the discretion of the Chair.

- MOP – can PC do anything about the timber bridge across the river by the church the steps are too deep (ESCC RoW) – bridge number 2033. **Clerk to report/action.**

4. District and County Councillors' reports

- Cllr Galley had circulated his report which was also published on IPC's website.
- **District Report**
Cllr Coleman reported;
Devolution issue – interim plan likely there will be an ES unitary authority WDC pushing back explore diff ways. WDC digging in the most. No intention to have 3 unitary authority. IPC would like to see as much opposition as much as WDC along with the MP's can.
Local Plan changes to NPPF, housing numbers now 5 year supply now at 3.6. Attended two parish clusters – was very useful as much going with local plan and planning. Cllr Crammond was unable to attend. New planning infrastructure bill works when a good local plan in place. Owlsbury isn't approved in the latest SHELAA. Are major issues with transport connections to Uckfield. Cllr PR reported – Intention of developer is that planning

application going in the summer – of 1700 houses would only build and sell 100/150 per year and could go on for up to 17 years.

Sewage – Grampian issue appeal – good outcome.

Transport now a vision lead – major issues for local plan. Guide from Government.

Ripple effect – river testing OUSE Group forming.

Appeal on Top Barn awaiting date on that.

5. Full Council meeting minutes: 22nd January 2025

To **RESOLVE** that the minutes of the meeting as above having been previously circulated, be taken as read and approved.

- Agreed – Chair signed to that effect. It was noted that Cllr's CR and TC were not in attendance and therefore abstain.

6. Matters arising from previous minutes

- Nothing to report that isn't on the agenda.

7. Clerks Report [Clerks Report March 2025.docx](#)

- Clerk circulated report prior to the meeting. Clerk also advised that the end of year audit to take place on 4th April.

8. Correspondence

To note/discuss correspondence received. [Jan-Mar 2025.pdf](#)

- Duly noted.
- Fence across railway – not PC land and therefore nothing IPC can be do about it. **Clerk to respond.**

9. Planning Applications

- Additional application received after publication of the agenda.
- **Oak Tree Barn – variation of conditions**

Decision: No objections

To ratify the following applications

To note the following decisions

4 Northfield Cottages, Isfield – APPROVED [4 Northfield Cottages - APPROVED.pdf](#)

Top Barn, Station Road, Isfield – DISMISSED [3348203 Appeal Decision Top Barn - DISMISSED.pdf](#)

- Duly noted.

10. Expenditure

To ratify February expenditure [Feb 2025 Expenditure.pdf](#)

To approve March expenditure [March List of Expenditure 2025.xlsx](#)

- Unanimously approved to ratify the February payments of £3815.38 - Chair signed to that effect.
- Unanimously approved to approve the March payments of £3748.22 - Chair signed to that effect.

11. Bank reconciliation

To **RESOLVE** to approve the bank reconciliation and corresponding bank statements for IPC. [Current Bank reconciliation 17.3.2025.pdf](#)

- Unanimously approved the bank statement and corresponding bank statement. Chair signed to that effect.

12. Year to Date Accounts

To note the year to date accounts, earmarked reserves and general reserves. [1st April 2024 to 17.3.2025 YTD inc reserves.xlsx](#)

- Duly noted.

13. S106 and CIL Balances

To note the remaining balance and deadline of spend of S106 and note balance of CIL and expiry dates. [20250127 Isfield parish CIL statement 27.1.2025 inc spend deadlines.xlsx](#)
[S106 Email from WDC confirming balance 27.1.2025.pdf](#)

- Clerk requested to write to WDC to ask for an extension on the deadline of some CIL which was passed over before and during covid. **Clerk to action.**
- Cllr Key did procure – the remaining S106 money facilitates potential for a new storage shed.

14. Village Hall Grant

To discuss and agree grant via CIL regarding new proposal from Village Hall Committee. [Village Hall 2025](#)

- VH committee reported chimney got into a dangerous situation – had to bring that part of the project forward – boiler now outside and 95% efficient – all part of original project but had to expedite quickly. Cost would be £30k. Agreed in September that IPC would grant some funds towards some of the works. Floor being re-sanded and resealed. Builders have donated some solar panels that run the fridges and water system during the year, impressed with workmanship. IPC agreed to fund from CIL and grant £10,000. **Clerk to action.**

15. Playpark repairs

To ratify the approval of the roundabout repairs with Playdale, following subsequent quote with Foster Landscapes [Foster Landscapes quote.pdf](#). [99396 Isfield Parish Council.pdf](#) and to agree spend via community infrastructure levy.

- Repairs have taken place and advice given to Cllr Keys on the maintenance of the roundabout going forward.
- Unanimously ratified and agreed to spend funds from CIL. **Clerk to action.**

16. Speeding

To discuss correspondence received from resident regarding reducing speed limit in the parish

- The above has been discussed on many an occasion. Cllr GS advised that if there are residents who want to change the speed limit – a speed watch needs to be created by residents and evidence provided.

17. Update: EV Charge Points

To **RECEIVE** as above from Cllr Cramond.

- Waiting on land registration with Surrey Hill Solicitors.

18. Update: Recreation Land Registration

To receive the above from the Clerk

- Clerk advised that the registration is in the hands of Surrey Hill Solicitors and awaiting to hear on progress. **Clerk to chase.**

19. Reports from Council representatives

To **NOTE** verbal reports from Councillors – e.g. Recreation Ground, Village Hall.

To confirm to allow Newick Stoolball Club to use the playing field for 2025 season and agree rental charge.

- Cllr Keys Stoolball Club – Newick have not followed up with request – proposal to charge same as Isfield plus 10%. Cricket Club have been approached by another club to sublet. It was agreed that if another club approaches to hire the playing field they must go through IPC. Agreed that a one off charge of £75.00 for hire and must be hired through IPC.
- Cllr Keys circulated a paper on the WDC grant available for sports facility improvements. Conclusion about the drainage is sensible and treat as routine maintenance rather than capital spend. Garage – has asbestos and has failing asbestos in the roof – think about health and safety – specialist job. Needs to be looked at. Currently the shed is not big enough to store all the equipment to maintain the grounds. Best long term solution would put an extension out towards the path on the pavilion which will provide convenient access to the ground. Cllr Coleman would forward the WDC grants email in order for the Clerk to register. Does IPC agree in principle Cllr Keys can move it along and investigate. Unanimously agreed in principle for Cllr Keys to investigate and report back.

20. Annual Parish Meeting

To confirm date and agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

21. Notification of meeting/Suggested items for next agenda

To **NOTE** any suggested items for the next meeting.

Grant application by Adele Scantlebury which arrived after the publication of the agenda but needed to be discussed/agreed – proposed to grant £100 for Artwaves. Unanimously agreed to grant £100. **Clerk to action.**

Meeting Closed 20.32

Date of next meeting: 21st May 2025 – Includes Annual Parish Meeting/Statutory and Full Council – **Clerk to action with Cllr GS.**