

**Minutes of Inkberrow Parish Council meeting held in The Pavilion, Sands Road.  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024, commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors David Hunter (Chair), Chris Burdett, Rodger Fooks, Anthony Hopkins, Richard Jordan, Robin Lunn, Jane Neal

**In Attendance:** Robert Wilcox (RFO), Paula Gittoes (Clerk)

**Apologies for absence,** District Cllrs B Hurdman, N Dawkes, Dinah Griffin, Elizabeth Jordan

**Democratic fifteen minutes public question time.**

1. Mr Tolley Inkberrow Resident. Raised concerns about contractor activity at Withyfields on Withybed Lane. It was thought that outline planning had been approved for 30 to 35 properties on the site. Concern was expressed about the ability of Withybed Lane to manage a further increase in traffic, there are no footpaths, the Lane is not wide enough in part for 2 cars, there are few clear speeding signs, and no VAS on Withybed lane.

The Chair responded with reference to previous Parish Council comments of objection on applications. In support of the residents' concerns he advised that when an application was received through the correct channels the Parish Council could set up an extraordinary meeting to discuss and would comment appropriately.

Cllr Hopkins noted at the end of the meeting that there had previously been many planning applications on the Withyfields site for housing and it may be that there is a granted unexpired planning application for housing that could account for recent activity.

2. Mr Baldwin Inkberrow resident. Raised concerns about contractors parking on Stonepit Lane near the junction with Withybed Lane. On some occasions there are up to 17 vehicles parked on that stretch of road which caused difficulty 4 other road users to pass safely. The bank on the opposite side of the road is being eroded away through inappropriate use and the road is often covered with mud that is spread throughout the road.

Mr Baldwin also raised concerns about the speed of traffic on Withybed lane, particularly tractors, the number of vehicles that use Withybed Lane as a shortcut from the A422 to B4092 and the safety of pedestrian road users with no footpath provision.

The Chair responded with empathy and reminded the meeting that police data analysis had been collected previously and could be raised again with the police community representative. Chair also advised that Withybed Lane did not meet the criteria for speed van placement. It was agreed that these issues would be reported to WCC Highways Dept and the police community safety representative

3. A resident raised an issue over the verges on Stockwood Lane. Due to the recent road diversions and general use of the road, cars are having to use the grass verges to pass each other, which is causing a 'rut' within the verge and the tarmac of the road, making it dangerous for cars. Parish Council agreed to raise with the Highways. **Action PG**

1. **Apologies** for absence were recorded. Cllrs Elizabeth Jordan and Dinah Griffin
2. There were no **declarations of interest**.
3. The minutes from the previous meeting were signed.
4. **Progress from Previous minutes.** None
5. The **action tracker** was updated.
6. **Highway matters**
  - a. The meeting was updated on the receipt of 2 x VAS signs for Inkberrow.
  - b. The meeting was also updated on the VAS sign in Holberrow Green. It has been confirmed by WCC that the current VAS has to remain in current position to protect the corner of the road and the housing on the corner.
  - c. An additional VAS post in Holberrow Green nearer the A422 would require a permit and Barry Barnes has responded in support of this when the Parish Council make an application. Following further discussion on this and the previous discussion re Withybed Lane it was suggested that the WCC be approached to inspect Withybed Lane for any advice on potential location for any future VAS signs. It was considered that if funding were available a 3<sup>rd</sup> VAS sign could be purchased and be mobile between Holberrow Green and Withybed Lane **Action PG**
7. **Lengthsman**
  - a. It was noted that an invoice for August was expected.
  - b. Following a Parish Council representative village walk around with the Lengthsman, a schedule and drawing had been agreed to improve footpath access, address overhanging tree branches, get on top of hedging maintenance, and improve access to mowing grass. This was agreed by the Council and funding was available within the Lengthsman scheme. **Action PG**
8. **Inkberrow Neighbourhood plan**

No alternative date has been reported as agreed with Wychavon Planning by Cllr Dawkes.  
Contact Cllr Dawkes for an update. **Action PG/ND**
9. **Police Report.** No police report has been received.
10. **Report from the County Councillor** None received.
11. **Report from the District Councillors** None received.
12. **Finance**
  - a. It was reported that outgoings anticipated for August included expenses, Parfit, Smart Cut, removal of the wasp nest in the play area and payroll. There would also be a payment for mistletoe removal to be shared with the ICC.
  - b. A quote for the additional water trough at the allotments would be sought and the work likely to be scheduled for Spring 2025 **Action AH**
13. **Planning**
  - a. W/24/01432/HP June Lodge Withybed Lane. Rear Extension replacing conservatory including solar panels and Front Porch. Agreed to reply no comment **Action PG**
  - b. W/24/01422/FUL The Nest Stockwood Inkberrow. Change of use of cow shed to residential (retrospective). It was agreed to reply with objection based on inaccuracies held within the application namely former use of building. And there are drainage issues recognised by WCC, and no footpaths for safety **Action PG**

**14. Any other business from Clark or parish councillors**

- a. 'Buddy benches' were discussed, and it was agreed that the Forge Shop owner would be approached to replace / add to the bench outside the store. **Action RF**
- b. It was noted that the Parish Council Complaints, Accessibility, and Code of Conduct Policies were accepted through no comments.
- c. It was noted that a review of allotment finances show the allotments are currently in balance. No increase in fee was proposed.
- d. It was noted that the ICC have agreed to the Inkberrow Environmental Group planting and maintaining 5 x fruit trees on the land at the rear of the Village Hall and Tennis Club. It was noted that the Heart of England Forest would be providing the trees (free of charge) and providing advice on planting and pruning to the Environmental Group
- e. It was noted that a number of the trees planted to celebrate the Jubilee were dying back. 2 in Chestnut Lane. Thanks were given to EJ for watering and caring for those trees in need.
- f. Councillor Fooks raised the issue of potholes in the ICC car park. It was agreed that this would be put onto September agenda **Action PG**
- g. It was noted that the Parish Council were represented at Feckenham PC meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup> 19.30 pm in the Village Hall. It was noted that the battery store development is in its very early stages and no formal planning application had been received. There was widespread objection to the development
- h. It was noted that no responses had been received from the letter sent to the Trustees of the ICC /CIO regarding licences / leases.

**15. Any other business from the public**

- a. A request was made for the Parish Council agenda to be published. The Chair clarified that the agenda and minutes are currently published on the Parish Council notice board and on the Parish website. They could also be requested by email via the clerk [parishclerk@inkberrow.org](mailto:parishclerk@inkberrow.org)
- b. A resident made an observation that a number of trees are overgrown on Broadclose lane. The chair agreed to ask the Lengthsman to drop a note in to the property asking for the overhang to be maintained. The Chair also requested that a further reminder to residents to maintain hedging / trees that adjoin public rights of way be maintained in What's On.
- c. The Inkberrow Environmental Group requested if trees could be planted on the land / footpath between Tuer Way and the new estate, up towards Churchway Piece. The Chair advised that this land is very prone to becoming waterlogged and flooded during the winter months and the ownership of the land was unclear. It was agreed that the area and conditions would be reviewed this coming winter.
- d. A Resident wanted to give thanks to those residents who currently litter pick within the village. It was acknowledged that there are many who voluntarily pick litter within the village keeping it tidy and the Parish Council express their gratitude and thanks to those volunteers.

**Next Meeting**                      September 18<sup>th</sup> 2024, 19.30 Bowls Club, Sands Road.

Apologies to the Clerk please [parishcouncil@inkberrow.org.uk](mailto:parishcouncil@inkberrow.org.uk)

**Closed Meeting.**

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A meeting had taken place between the SCI and the PC to discuss the condition 6 of the planning application. Cllr D Hunter and A Hopkins attended with Cllr Dawkes, Cllr Ben Hurdman, Rob Bailey (SCI rep), and Jem Teal. It was noted that there was an all party agreement for a licence to be detailed and signed. It was also noted that a process in principle to move the issues forward had been agreed.

The PC also discussed a working party would be set up to include the ICC, IPC, Bowls Club and interested parties to draft licences and move forward. **Action PG / DH**

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