

# Instow Parish Council Meeting

on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at Instow Village Hall

The meeting was preceded by a planning presentation at 7pm by Oliver Gibbin, on behalf of Christie Estates, concerning housing proposal at Rectory Lane for 9 dwellings, 3 of which are to be 'affordable' homes.

15 members of the public attended. Many expressed their concern for the need for the dwellings to be primary residences for local people. There was also concern about highways issues. Both Oliver Gibbin and Andrew Woollacott, of Christie Estates, assured the public that this was an initial dialogue only, and there would be future consultations and surveys before applying for full planning permission in May or June 2024. Oliver Gibbin will forward a copy of the presentation to the Clerk for distribution to the members of the council and posting on the IPC website. In addition, the final plan can also be uploaded to the IPC website.

## MINUTES

**Present** Councillors MJ Scott (Chair), S McCrum, E Johnson, M Foster, C Hopkins,  
N Arthur.  
NDC Councillor L Renshaw  
Clerk C Merrill

**In attendance:** 8 members of the public.

173. The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.35pm

174. Apologies received- Cllrs Edwards and Allen. DCC Councillor Frank Biederman

175. Councillors' Declarations of Interest- none

176. Public Session –

- a) James Woollaway (Commodore Hotel) expressed concern over the levels of sand alongside the sea wall, and the potential cost to local businesses for clearing this. He is in dialogue with various agencies about the issue.
- b) James Woollaway asked whether there could be a one-way traffic system along Marine Parade. Cllr Scott said that this had been investigated previously, but not pursued due the ramifications, such as traffic cutting through other smaller roads.
- c) James Woollaway asked whether there could be metered parking along Marine Parade, to maximise village revenue and reduce opportunities for irresponsible dog owners taking advantage of the free parking. Cllr Arthur explained that parking revenue would go to Devon County Council, and that a parking and congestion survey is underway.
- d) Jeremy Thompson raised the issue of parking by school parents in Rectory Lane, and the refusal of DCC to instigate yellow lines.
- e) Jennifer Woollacott raised the issue of the excessive amount of dog fouling on beach and paths. It was acknowledged that this is an ongoing problem. She has also cleaned graffiti

from bus shelters, and would continue to do so. There is now a new cleaning regime for bus shelters. This matter was also raised under Finance.

177. County and Ward Members reports.

- a) NDC Cllr Renshaw reported that The Sands is up for sale in a low-key way with agents Philip, Smith & Dunn. Cllr McCrum reported that an interested party is meeting challenges with potential purchase. Item is also on the Tracker. **Action Cllrs Johnson and Renshaw** to liaise on this item.

John's kiosk on the quay has been granted permission to be in place from Christie estates. NDC is responsible for a trading licence. This is also under correspondence.

Garages in the car park- no further information is available about the end wall/siting of Parish noticeboards. Cllr Arthur has been in dialogue with Helen Bond at NDC.

- b) DCC Councillor Biederman had provided a 7-page report about local issues and budget planning. It will be made available on the IPC website and sent to the Parish News and Cllr Renshaw. He encourages any parishioners to contact him about any issues affecting them. [Frank.Biederman@Devon.gov.uk](mailto:Frank.Biederman@Devon.gov.uk) Mobile number 07595988704.

178. Confirmation of Minutes from the **18<sup>th</sup> January 2024**- approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

179. Any matters arising.

- a) Dog waste bins emptying. IPC has a contract with NDC for emptying x 3 per week. The frequency could be increased if required, at a cost. NDC allows, but does not promote, use of ordinary bins for disposal of dog waste, therefore advice stickers are not available.
- b) 'Thank you' party on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at The Commodore Hotel. Currently 26 respondents.

180. Tracker update- see separate spreadsheet.

181. Correspondence

- a) Maria Williams, Instow School email 19.1.24 re Snow Warden Scheme- forwarded to Parish news.
- b) Pam Cantle by email 1.2.24 re Johns kiosk on quay (not slipway as on agenda). **Action Clerk** to enquire on parishioner's behalf about trading licence with NDC.
- c) Yacht Club Nationals in October 2024- IPC agreed to let the yacht club use the beach 12-14 October. **Action Clerk** to reply cc Christies Estates
- d) The Devon Resilience Innovation Project (DRIP), Devon County Council's Flood Risk Management team is offering a free survey to identify what "Property Flood Resilience" (PFR) measures can be installed to selected businesses and community buildings. This has been forwarded to Johns. **Action Clerk** to forward to Commodore Hotel and Cllr Hopkins (Wayfarer) and other local businesses.

182. Parking and congestion in Instow-

Cllr Arthur advised that the report is almost ready for distribution. See also minute 176 c. Photographic evidence of controversial issues can be sent to Cllr Arthur for forwarding to DCC Councillor F Biederman.

183. Beach cleaning tender- IPC accepted the tender from Miranda Lloyd and Jennifer Kiely. **Action Clerk** to notify them, confirm paperwork and post on website.

184. Toilet tender. IPC accepted the tender from Julie Braddick **Action Clerk** to notify Julie confirm paperwork and post on website.

185. Gift of tools from Charlie Harper. IPC accepted the gift and agreed for the tools to be stored in the Undercroft. **Action Clerk** to thank Charlie Harper.
186. Parish Paths Partnerships (P3) finance forms -annual survey. Cllr Scott is completing the form. It was confirmed that the parish paths have been walked this year.
187. Email addresses for Clerk and Councillors.  
Following guidance from the External Auditors, the Clerk's email address is now linked to the IPC website [clerk@instowparish.com](mailto:clerk@instowparish.com)  
Councillors will also have email accounts linked to the website. **Action all Councillors** to liaise with Clerk over access to their new email accounts.
188. Use of land at Slee's corner/Chandlers Court.  
This area has previously been used for Instow in Bloom. The Land Registry documents identify National Highways Limited and Chandlers Court as the landowners. Ideally a group of local people could be identified to restore and maintain the area, and then permission sought from both Highways and the owners of Chandlers Court. **Action: Cllr Hopkins.**
189. Finance: Invoices for approval/ratification.  
All invoices approved for payment.  
There had been a misunderstanding about the frequency of bus shelter cleaning. **Action Clerk** to notify Pete Parker and Son that IPC requires these to be cleaned 4-weekly, not 2 weekly.
190. Planning  
**Reference: 78074** Responded 8 Feb 2024 NO OBJECTION Extension of cricket net by 4m at North Devon **Cricket Club** Instow Bideford Devon EX39 4LF  
**Reference: 78196** Responded 15 Feb 2024 NO OBJECTION - windows at **Hill Cottage** Instow Bideford Devon EX39 4LU
191. Any other business as raised by Chair.  
a) Mary Fisher of the Arromanches Twinning Association has approached Cllr Scott about an illustrated talk and guided walks to commemorate DD Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 8<sup>th</sup> June. The possibility of an exhibition was raised. **Action Cllr Foster** to liaise with Mary Fisher and Jennifer Woollacott.  
b) Cllr Hopkins reported that the Appledore/Instow Regatta/Instow on Show Day will be on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July. The organisers would appreciate community involvement to tidy and beautify the village.  
c) Flooding on Marine Parade- Long term issue, despite frequent drain clearance. Devon Highways will only act if the floodwater is still in place after 24 hours.
192. Any other Agenda Items for the next meeting- none
193. Next meeting –7.30 pm 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 in **Instow Village Hall.**
194. Meeting closed at 8.45pm