

# Notes of Ivychurch Parish Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015

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## **Persons present: 15**

Following the elections which took place on 7<sup>th</sup> May, notice has been received from Shepway District Council Democratic Services that 4 Councillors have been elected to the Parish Council without a contest. The Ivychurch Parish Council will resume normal duties with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> June.

The meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May was conducted as an informal meeting and issues were discussed which were of concern to many residents. We were pleased also to welcome Councillor Clive Goddard, who has been elected to represent Walland & Denge Marsh Ward, which includes Ivychurch.

Rick Bailey gave a summary of a recent meeting with Margaret Blackwell of KCC Highways Department where the main subject for discussion had been the problem of vehicles speeding through the village's 30mph zone.

The main points arising from discussions are listed briefly below:

A flashing speed sign costs a minimum of around £3,000 and investigations are under way to see whether Ivychurch might be able to collaborate with a couple of other local villages to share a sign between them. Councillor Goddard suggested that our new District Councillor, Carole Waters, may be able to help.

A suggestion was made that the road at the village perimeter could have a stretch of red tarmac, as is the case in Hamstreet. Councillor Goddard indicated that KCC may be able to provide funding for this.

The southbound village name and speed limit sign had been observed to be bent and dirty and would be straightened and cleaned.

If there is sufficient support for a Speedwatch initiative, training and equipment can possibly be provided by Lydd Police Station – an approach will

be made to find out more about this, and an email will be sent round to gauge interest. **(Action – Parish Clerk)**

Other suggestions made at the meeting included speed bumps and involvement of the local Press. It was generally agreed that a “Speeding Action Day” could be arranged, where vehicles could be strategically parked so as to calm through-traffic – there are no parking restrictions but consideration would be given to ensure large vehicles could pass through with care. If an “Action Day” is arranged, villagers will be advised by email and/or a note through the door.

Further suggestions included the use of a dummy in high-viz clothing which may slow traffic, and the possible use of Ivychurch by the Police for their traffic monitoring training.

Comments were made that cars parking by the Church/Pub often block access to both the postbox and the phone box. The Church path is also sometimes obstructed. These comments will be passed to the PCC, as this parking is owned by the Church, with a suggestion that wooden posts might deter obstructive parking. **(Action: Parish Chairman)**. Other parking concerns were aired.

The noise from the Autograss site had been a problem for some residents. A list of fixture dates is available on the Invicta Kent website, [www.invictakentautograss.co.uk](http://www.invictakentautograss.co.uk). – around 12 track dates are scheduled this year.

Several residents had noted that dogs could be heard barking, especially at night.

The development of the White House Farm light industrial site was discussed, and if any change of use occurs this should show up on Shepway’s planning applications.

A new treasurer has volunteered for the Parish Council.