

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11th November 2009 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr John Sharpe (Vice-Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Sophia Wilson, Cathy Goodson, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton, Alison Fairgrieve and Nick Laughton.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer, B Cllr John Griffiths, PCSO Krista Wilding and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings (October 14th 2009) as a true record of that meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

4. Report of Local Police Officer

PCSO Wilding reported that 12 crimes had taken place in the last month and are as follows; **Theft** – Peddars Close, **Criminal Damage** – Graveyard, **Criminal Damage** – Graveyard, **Common Assault** – Thetford Rd, **Theft** – High St, **Criminal Damage** – Allotments, **Criminal Damage** – Commister Lane, **Criminal Damage** – Village Hall, **Criminal Damage** – Thetford Rd, **Theft** – New Rd, **Theft** – Library, **Criminal Damage** – High St.

PCSO also reported the following;

Suffolk Safe Key

Nominated key holders for your properties were you pay annual fee of around £12, you pick a neighbour or someone you trust to keep hold of your key which we have details for, for peace of mind for when away or for the elderly.

Rogue Traders

Please pass on to us any details of possible Rouge Traders in the area, they could be people cold calling, driving past slowly and looking into gardens, offering to do jobs and asking for cash up front, they don't have to be scruffy looking vans, we have seen lovely new vans all sign written up. It is so important that we get as much info as possible and try and catch these people.

SNT Priorities

Stanton – Anti Social Behaviour

Ixworth – Anti Social Behaviour

Speeding – Nethergate St, Hopton and New Rd, Honington

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) is as follows

Inspector 62 Jane Hertzog, Sergeant 696 Kevin Jay, PC 161 Sheena Tate, PC 255 Tina Fairness, PCSO 3199 Krista Wilding, PCSO 3123 Jonathan Burke, PCSO 3093 Bob Bailey, PCSO 3200 Amy Ling and PCSO 3215 Gemma Robinson.

5. Report of County Councillor Joanna Spicer

C Cllr Spicer reported that the new waiting restrictions would be going to committee as there had been some objections. Also, the work on the rumble strips on the by pass had been completed.

C Cllr Spicer reported the progression of the permissive footpath. C Cllr Spicer had met earlier in the day with Robin Richardson and three Parish Councillors to discuss what work if left to be completed. The outcome of this meeting was that the path still needs to be cleared and levelled, some legal matters and designing and printing of new leaflets advertising the new path. Robin Richardson suggested using the Youth Offenders Scheme to clear the footpath and C Cllr Spicer requested the Parish Councils agreement to go ahead with this plan. The work on the leaflets can not go ahead until the path has been cleared. C Cllr Spicer also requested that the Parish Council register with Access Suffolk which may be able to secure some funding towards the cost of leaflets and also to register with Ordnance Survey so that the Parish Council can use their maps on the leaflet. The Chairman said this would be discussed once the meeting was reconvened.

6. Report of Borough Councillor John Griffith

B Cllr Griffith thanked the Councillors that attended the previous days Parish Council Conference and hoped they had found the workshops useful.

B Cllr reported there is a new Rural Initiative plan about to be discussed including an Ixworth Draft Plan. Once again B Cllr Griffith highlighted that this was only the early stages and that there would be time in the future for the Parish Council to offer their views.

Cllr Sharpe reported to B Cllr Griffith that he was concerned with a report in a newspaper recently about the number of houses that would be built in this area. Cllr Sharpe wanted to highlight that the infrastructure still needed to be addressed before this number of houses were built.

7. Public Forum

The one member of public present wished to make no comment.

Meeting reconvened

8. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Permissive Footpath – It was resolved to agree to C Cllr Spicer suggestion to look into using the Youth Offending Scheme to help clear the footpath. It was also resolved to register with Access Suffolk and Ordnance Survey.

9. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Wages	£857.22
Ixworth Village Hall	£120.00
Chiltern Office Supplies	£120.37
RBL (wreath)	£25.00
RBL (refreshments)	£75.00

G Palastanga (flower pots)	£26.60
R Estlea (outside toilet)	£80.72

10. Planning Applications

None

11. Determined Applications

None

12. Cobbled Area in High Street

Cllr Wilson reported that she and Cllr Laughton were awaiting an answer from Suffolk County Council as to who owns the land.

13. Christmas Tree

It was resolved to order the usual size Christmas tree for the High Street and be delivered to Cllr Reeve's yard so that it can be erected the weekend of the 4th December. The Clerk was also instructed to get in touch with the electrician to install the lights the week beginning 7th December.

14. Robins Copse

The Clerk reported that she had received a quote from Anglian Tree Solutions for the work needed on the trees overlooking Hill Top House. The quote for £180 + VAT was accepted by the members. The Clerk was instructed to confirm this with Anglian Tree Solutions and also to write to Mr Roberts confirming the necessary work would be carried out as soon as possible.

Cllr Sharpe reported the Bob Bishop had contacted her regarding the new gate, unfortunately the gate delivered was too large. Cllr Sharpe suggested that Mr Bishop move one of the posts so that it would fit rather than go through the lengthy process of rearranging the right size gate. It was resolved that Mr Bishop be instructed to move the post so the gate would fit and to go ahead with the work so long as the cost incurred was no more than £150.

A discussion took place as to whether a yearly survey, which could be quite costly, be completed on the trees each year. It was felt that a catalogue of photos of all the trees be taken each year to compare any differences would be useful to have. Also, if all Councillors could also look and report any problems they may have with reference to a particular tree to the Council this would also be helpful.

15. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

St Eds – Play Equipment Inspection, **St Eds** – LDF, **Suffolk Acre** – latest magazine.

BT has also written with notification that the telephone box in Stow Rd and Ixworth Thorpe may be removed. The members instructed the Clerk to object to removal of both boxes.

16. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the Ixworth Relief in Need Charity have asked for a specific name rather than suggestions. Cllr Laughton agreed to approach the individual the members felt would be suitable so the Clerk could write to the Charity submitting the Council's nomination.

17. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that she had reported all the faulty bins, the dumped tyres, the telephone box and all the damaged or missing signs reported at the last meeting. The Clerk reported that she would distribute before the next meeting a suggested budget for next year, and would bring along her computer so that the members could alter any suggested amounts.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Fairgrieve reported that she attended the workshop on saving energy at the PC Conference. Cllr Fairgrieve reported that she was going to apply for some energy saving monitors which she would distribute to residents.

Cllr Shelton reported that she had had several complaints about cars parking next to the bollards in Garrod Place.

Cllr Wilson reported that the residents of Ixworth Thorpe had requested a new bus shelter as soon as possible.

Cllr Reeve reported that there had been more fly tipping in the area. Cllr Reeve also reported that he had found several items in the street cart that might be useful to Steve Wilson in his work. Also, the floodlights at the Church were now working ok but unfortunately a bulb had blown and would need replacing.

Cllr McFruin asked whether correspondence should always go through the Clerk, this was agreed by all. Cllr McFruin reported that residents had approached him in regard to properties in the High Street. It was suggested by members that if these concerns relate to planning then residents need to get in touch with St Edmundsbury as they are the planning authority.

Cllr Sharpe reported that he has attended the PC Conference also and had attended a workshop on the Power of Well Being and explained to members that he had information that they may like to read. Cllr Sharpe asked the Clerk if there had been any information received about the 'free trees scheme', the Clerk confirmed that the Council had not received anything as yet. Cllr Sharpe also highlighted that he had not attended any recent training for Councillors and that it may be a good idea if this was looked into at a future date. Also, it was mentioned at the PC Conference that the grant for the precept may be capped, the Clerk responded by informing the members that as yet they had received no confirmation that this would be going ahead.

Cllr Goodson reported that residents had approached her with regard to the Christmas Street Fair that used to be held, The Chairman responded by informing the members that it had been run by the Business Association and had been stopped due to insurance problems.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 9th December 2009.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

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Chairman

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Date