

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 10th November 2010 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer, B Cllr John Griffiths, PCSO J Burke and seven members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Nick Laughton.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings (October 13th 2010) as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

Mr Davison wished to comment on the planning application SE/10/1286 (retention of 5 feed silos in Bailey pool). Mr Davison wished to highlight his concerns over the amount of mud and smell in the winter months and the dust and flies in the summer months. Mr Davison was also concerned about the vehicles delivering feed etc to the silos block the junction onto A1088. Mr Davison urged the Parish Council members to think about the residents of that area when making a decision about this application. PCSO Burke urged the residents to contact the police if the mud on the road was excessive. Mr Davison was also concerned about bikes using the pit in that area. It was felt by all present that the pit was actually in the Stowlangtoft Parish, B Cllr Griffiths offered to contact them to highlight the problem.

Mr Lord wished to enquire if the letter to residents of Peacock Rise concerning parking had been sent. B Cllr Griffiths reported that at a recent meeting with Havebury the question of the parking in that area had been brought up.

Mrs L Brackley enquired if the village hall draw had taken place. Cllr Sharpe stated that it had, and the winner's cheques were waiting signing. It was also stated that the village fete organising committee were concerned that they were going to be charged rent when holding meetings to arrange the village fete, which seemed unfair considering the fete was raising money for the village hall. Cllr Sharpe stated he would look into this matter.

Mr Mackintosh wished to state he was still unhappy with the new play area, he felt the equipment compromised his privacy and felt he should have been personally informed as he had not seen the adverts for the consultation events. Mr Mackintosh stated that he may take this matter further.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

13TH OCTOBER – 10TH NOVEMBER 2010

POLICE STATION OPENING TIMES;

Taking into consideration Public consultation Suffolk Police Authority have decided that Ixworth is a Tier 3 Station and therefore the opening hours are as follows;

Monday - 9 am to 11 am

Wednesday - 9 am to 11 am

Friday - 9 am to 11 am

This does not affect the SNT and officers based there. The station is still fully operational and this just affects the front public enquiry desk.

2 Crimes reported between 13/10/10 and 10/11/10.

26/10/10 – Message/Letter/E-mail sent which was threatening/abusive/false – Thetford Road

- During evening hours suspect sent four abusive texts to the victim.

06/11/10 – Assault occasioning ABH – Commister Lane

- No Publicity, offender arrested and cautioned for offence.

7. Report from C Cllr Joanna Spicer

C Cllr Spicer wished to further comment on the Police report and wished to state that the reported incidents of domestic violence had increased by five times. This increase could be attributed to varying reasons and research was being carried out to ascertain the reasons behind the increase. At present there is also an awareness campaign being conducted.

8. Report by B Cllr John Griffiths

B Cllr Griffiths reported that now the spending review had been announced St Edmundsbury Borough Council was looking at ways to save money. B Cllr Griffiths also reported that the latest Crown Lane draft masterplan would soon be available and the Parish Council would soon receive a copy and be requested to comment once again in the consultation period. B Cllr Griffiths wished to state how pleased he was with the work being carried out on the listed property in the High St.

Meeting Reconvened

9. Ixworth Village Hall

The Clerk explained that she had been in touch with the Charities Commission to ascertain the position of the Parish Council as Custodian Trustees. The Commission stated that the current trustees still listed on their records still control the village hall charity not the Parish Council. The Clerk stated the current trustees need to hold a meeting to alter the constitution and pass over the running of the village hall to new trustees. Cllr Plummer as one of the current trustees suggested holding a meeting on 24th November 2010. A letter had been received from one of the trustees to request a grant of £3500 to repair the electrics in the village hall. It was decided to not grant this request until such time as the new trustees/committee was in place. Cllr Plummer suggested the new committee bring a formal business plan as to what the grant would be spent on so that the Parish Council could then make a more informed decision. Cllr McFruin also wished to highlight that the latest accounts to be submitted to the Charity Commission were overdue. Cllr Plummer, as the past treasurer stated that the accounts were currently with the internal auditor.

C Cllr Sharpe reported that the working party would be meeting on the 16th November 2010 and he would explain to the working party the current situation and request if any members would be willing to become trustees until such time a new committee was formed.

10. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 490/491	Wages	£895.37
Chq No 492	Trip Batt	£12.50
Chq No 493	Playdale (play Area Phase 1)	£1899.98
Chq No 494	Playdale (play Area Phase 1)	£20601.28
Chq No 495	Ixworth Village Hall (outside toilet/meeting room)	£967.00
Chq No 496	Meat at the Village Stores LTD	£51.86
Chq No 497	D Thrower (play area)	£760.00
Chq No 498	D Thrower (grass cutting)	£2300.00
Chq No 499	S Wilson (play area)	£113.52

The clerk also handed out the first draft for 2011/12 budget, to be finalised at the December meeting.

11. Planning Applications

TPO45(1964)12 – Crown reduce Sycamore on south side of house by approx 30% - within A1 of the Order – Shalom, The Paddock, Ixworth IP21 2HG **No Objection**

SE/10/1286 – Retention of 5 feed silos – Ixworth Unit, Sandy Lane, Pakenham, IP31 2LY
No Objection – however the PC wish to highlight the blocking of the road and the water running from the concrete base causing mud pools in the road.

12. Determined Applications

SE/10/1168(TCA10/1978) – Fell one Cypress tree and one Sycamore tree – Lammas Field, The Paddock, Ixworth, IP31 2HG **Granted**

SE/10/1187(TCA10/1985) – Reduce in height by 4 metres to one Sycamore tree, The Langridge, High St, Ixworth, IP31 2HN **Granted**

TPO2010(511) – Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order in respect of a Juglans (Walnut) and an area of whatever species to the north (rear) of Sidshell, Crown Lane, Ixworth.

13. Cobbled Area in the High Street

C Cllr Spicer stated that she had once again requested that highways tidy the area as previously agreed. Cllrs Wilson and Laughton would report back once the area had been tidied to discuss any ways forward with this project.

14. Ixworth Library

C Cllr Spicer reported that she had recently met with Diane the head of Ixworth library. C Cllr Spicer also had met with the Director of Suffolk libraries and there are no immediate plans to close Ixworth Library. However, Suffolk County Council has libraries as one of the earliest items to be divested to new management organisations. C Cllr Spicer urged all to continue to use the library as much as possible.

15. Care Homes in Suffolk

C Cllr Spicer reported that SCC was currently holding a consultation on care homes in Suffolk running from 12th October 2010 until 24th January 2011. C Cllr Spicer stated that out of 160 care homes in Suffolk only 16 were run by SCC. The possible options for Ixworth Court could possibly be;

a) Sell as a going concern to new management

- b) Close and sell premises, however care would be taken with current residents and this measure could take up to 2/3 yrs to complete
- c) Incorporate with Blackburn View

C Cllr assured the Parish Council that she would keep them informed of any future decisions.

16. Permissive Footpath

C Cllr Spicer informed the Parish Council that hopefully the youth offending team would be on site in November to clear the path and that Mulleys garage had agreed to let them use the garage premises for storage of their equipment.

17. High Street Christmas Tree

It was agreed to order the tree as usual and to have it delivered to David Reeves yard ready for erecting. The Clerk was instructed to contact P Brown to install the lights the first week in December and if possible to carry out the work suggested by him on the new transformer box.

18. Robin's Copse

The clerk reported that Cllr Laughton had informed her that the wildlife group felt an official opening should be in the spring time, this was agreed by all.

19 St Mary's Church

Cllr Reeve reported the floodlights had now been repaired.

20. Ixworth Play Area

Cllr Plummer thanked all for their help with the opening of phase 1 of the refurbishment of the play area especially the scouts who cooked and served the hot dogs. Cllr Plummer felt that there had been a very good turnout and how great it was to see so many children of the village excited and pleased with the new equipment. The Clerk reported that Denise Causier (Playbuilder coordinator) had agreed to help with the next application for lottery funding for phase 2 (toddlers area) of the refurbishment. The Clerk also reported that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had confirmed that no planning application was required for the extension of the play area. The concerns voiced from residents were also discussed but it was felt that the benefits to the community of such a new area had to be paramount to the Parish Council.

21. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received this month; **Unison** – Letter about SCC 'New Strategic Direction', **SALC** – Agenda and previous minutes for AGM on 8th November 2010, **WLSLP** – Application for capital funding for village projects, **Havebury** – Introduction from Ellie Darling the Resident Involvement Advisor, **St Eds** – Highlighting the cost of a contested election, **Victim Support** – Requesting a donation, **Mike Whybro** – Overgrown hedges, **Unison** – Comments sheet, **Village Hall** (P Shelton) – Grant request and **Denise Causier** – Play Area Opening.

22. Chairman's Report

The Chairman was concerned about the number of cars being parked with for sale signs in their windows next to the roundabout near Mulleys. Also, the Chairman was concerned about the general untidy condition of the roundabout at Mulley's.

23. Clerk’s Report

The clerk reported that she would be writing to Zurich to inform them of the new play equipment and the items value but this may lead to an interim payment to cover the rest of the year. Also a request for a reservation of a grave plot had been received and the clerk wished to confirm that the full burial rate be charged rather than a reservation fee, the members confirmed the full cost is to be paid at reservation. The clerk requested if it would be ok to seek the price of a post box to be installed in the village hall for residents to contact the Parish Council, this was agreed by all.

24. Councillors Reports

Cllr McFruin reported that he had attended the SALC AGM which he had found very interesting and wished to let the members know that SALC offer an internal audit service. Cllr McFruin also wished to thank Steve for his work around the village. Cllr Goodson requested if it was possible to have a no parking notice erected on the grass area at the entrance to the Paddock in Commister Lane. Cllr Reeve reported that the path outside Mulleys old garage is still in a poor state of repair and he was concerned about the number of cars parking in the High Street. Cllr Wilson reported that the drain between Ixworth Thorpe and Ixworth had still not been repaired. Cllr Fairgrieve reported that she had concerns about the amount of time that the post office vans were parked outside the post office. Cllr Sharpe reported that the grit bins had been filled. Cllr Sharpe also reported that he would be meeting with Dent Security for the annual inspection of the CCTV camera. Cllr Sharpe was requested by the other members to request a quote from Dent for an extra camera and the cost of a collar at the top of the post so that vandals could not keep moving the cameras.

25. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 8th December at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 10.20pm.

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Signed

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Date