

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11th August 2010 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk) and two members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr John Sharpe (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr Sophia Wilson.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings (14th July 2010) as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Cllr McFruin requested the Clerk confirm that the request for information had been 10 years of minutes. The Clerk confirmed it was 10 years and the photocopied minutes have been passed on to the resident that had requested them.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

Mr Ben Lord wished to highlight to the Parish Council his concerns with the amount of parking in Peacock Rise explaining that he felt that emergency vehicles would be unable to attend in event of a fire or a serious illness. The Chairman reported that C Cllr Spicer had completed some work on this and the item would be put on September's agenda for further discussion.

Meeting reconvened

6. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 466/467	Wages	£895.23
Chq No 468	Ixworth Village Hall	£39.00
Chq No 469	Dent Security Systems	£70.50
Chq No 470	Anglian Tree Solutions	£105.75
Chq No 471	RBA Solutions	£176.25
Direct Debit	PWLB (01/09/2010)	£3116.90

It was also agreed for the Chairman to sign the end of year accounts to send to the external auditor.

7. Planning Applications

SE/10/0731 – Erection of conservatory to rear elevation – 25 Fordham Place, Ixworth, IP31 2GJ **No objection**

8. Determined Applications

SE/10/0505 – (i) erection of two storey detached dwelling (ii) construction of new driveway and turning area – Sidshell, Crown Lane, Ixworth IP31 2EH **Refused**

9. Cobbled Area in the High Street

Cllr Laughton reported that he was still waiting to complete a final plan of the area. The Clerk informed the members that she had written to C Cllr Spicer to confirm her offer of £1000 from her locality budget towards the project. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

10 St Mary's Church

After a discussion it was agreed to continue paying for the service to the clock and the maintenance of the churchyard. All other large projects would not be considered until the next financial year. The Clerk was instructed to contact Hawards Horological to carry out this year's service of the clock. The Clerk was also instructed to contact John Welton to obtain another quote to repair the floodlights in the Churchyard. The floodlights had been installed by the Parish Council for the Millennium.

11. Parish Restructuring by St Edmundsbury Borough Council

A discussion was held as to whether to respond to St Edmundsbury Community Governance Review Document. Cllr McFruin reported that he had been approached by residents on the other side of the river which were currently in Pakenham Parish. Cllr McFruin felt many wished to be included in Ixworth Parish instead. Cllr McFruin had compiled a report, which he had distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting, showing there would not be much change in revenue for either Parish. The Chairman pointed out that residents currently in Pakenham Parish in a C band property pay less per year than a C band property in Ixworth Parish and she felt this should be explained to these residents. It was decided not to respond and request any changes as the Parish Council have never received in writing any formal requests from residents in that area or from Pakenham Parish Council.

12. Commister Lane Junction

The clerk distributed a report she had compiled on responses received with reference to this junction. The majority felt the junction should remain as it is but there was an overwhelming feeling that the junction would not be a problem if the 'no parking' yellow lines were more stringently enforced. The clerk was instructed to send a copy of the report to C Cllr Spicer. The junction will be closed in September for four days and perhaps further responses will be received with comments about the effect the closure has on the residents of the village.

13. Ixworth Village Hall

The Chairman stated once again that the Village Hall Management Committee had folded due to the fact that a full committee could not be formed from the people who attended the AGM, partly due to the restrictions of the current constitution, and partly the retiring office holders. Cllr Goodson asked whether the roles could be covered by people paid to do the work, the constitution currently does not allow for paid positions, this could be looked at when drawing up a new constitution with the assistance and agreement of the Charity Commissioners.

The Chairman suggested a good way forward was for the Councillors meet and walk the Village Hall and make a list of all maintenance jobs required in and around the hall. It was agreed to meet at 10am on Saturday the 21st August at the Village Hall to complete this task, with as many Councillors as possible attending.

It was also agreed that a list of key holders be made and to collect keys in from anyone who has no need to have a key.

It was also agreed that once the under fives have moved cupboards all the paperwork belonging to the Village Hall be collected, sorted and placed in the empty cupboard ready for when the next committee is formed. It was felt that all documents etc should all be in one place.

It was agreed to place an article in the village magazine to reassure and inform residents and users that things will carry on as normal.

Cllr McFruin wished to thank Jerry Plummer for clearing the gutter on the roof.

14. Play Area

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting there had been some good news on the play area. Funding of £44,000 for the 8-13 yrs area had been awarded. Due to the timescales the Chairman explained that to obtain the funding she had confirmed the order to Playdale and hopefully work would start in early September with that section finished in late October or early November. The plans to the toddler area had also been altered and now the area closest to the car park would not in fact be extended. However, this area would still need to be cleared and landscaped to improve the area. The Clerk was instructed to obtain quotes for this work. A footpath would also be needed to be installed from the car park to the 8-13 yrs play area, the Clerk was instructed to get quotes for this also. A quote had been obtained from Ray Woods of R W Engineering of £1745 to move the existing fence, replace the existing gate and construct a new double gate, it was felt that as Ray had installed the fence it would be suitable for him to be awarded the contract. The Clerk was also instructed to write to Mrs Morrow, the resident that had attended all the consultations and various Parish Council meetings.

15. Chairman's Report

Nothing further to report.

16. Clerks Report

The clerk reported that the Parish Council had received a letter from Suffolk Police detailing the new arrangements Ixworth Police station. Suffolk Police would only be opening the station 3 days a week for 2 hours per day. After a discussion it was decided that a Monday morning, a Wednesday evening and a Friday afternoon would be a suitable compromise.

The clerk was instructed to return the form to Suffolk Police.

The clerk reported that Steve Wilson had collected the leaf blower from John Sharpe and the members instructed Cllr Goodson to inform Steve that he could go to Tripp Batt and purchase the parts and a new broom.

The clerk reported that she had been approached by a retired police officer, Michael Bier, in connection to a memorial for a former police officer in Ixworth by the name of Barry Pearson. Mr Bier wishes to plant a tree somewhere in Ixworth and is requesting permission and possible locations from the Parish Council. Members could only think of two possible locations, the new play area and the entrance to Robin's Copse. The clerk was instructed to pass these ideas to Mr Bier.

The clerk also wished to report on the correspondence envelope. Unfortunately, the envelope is not being passed between Councillors during the month, the July envelope was

only seen by 4 Councillors and 2 of those Councillors had read it at the meeting previous meeting. The clerk demonstrated a new system that may work. The clerk will scan all correspondence received onto a website and all Councillors will have a login and password to access the site. Each piece of correspondence can then be viewed. The clerk gave all Councillors the login details as all members felt this arrangement was worth trying to see if it worked.

17. Councillor’s Reports

Cllr Laughton reported that the seats and sign would hopefully be installed in Robin’s Copse in the near future.

Cllr Fairgrieve reported that the police had contacted her with reference to the flint wall behind the play area was falling down. Cllr Fairgrieve contacted Greene King as the wall is the boundary wall of the Pykkerell. The wall had now been repaired but the members felt it would be worth writing to Greene King to make sure it was safe as it is the wall in the play area.

Cllr Goodson reported that once again the fire station was leaving their outside light on all night. Cllr Goodson also reported that Steve was concerned that the area between the yellow pumps in the High Street was overgrown. Cllr Goodson also wished to ask whether the new yellow lines that had been painted around the village were the right thickness, a resident felt they should be thinner as they are in a conservation area. Cllr Goodson also reported that it been brought to her attention that the Willow tree in Sunnyside in Commister Lane was overhanging the footpath leading to Hempyard Bridge.

Cllr McFruin reported that Mr Morris from Coddington Way wished to know if speed bumps could be installed around the village.

Cllr Reeve wished to report that Mrs Wilson had been knocked over in Saddlers Yard the previous day and was still in hospital.

18. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday the 8th September at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

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Signed

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Date