

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11th May 2011 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr David Reeve (Vice-Chairman), Cllrs Sophia Wilson, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton, Nathan Plummer and Ben Lord.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), Mr John Shepherd, Mr Jones, Mr Anderson and Mr Simpson.

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr T Plummer was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Reeve for the position of Chairman, as there were no other nominations Cllr T Plummer was duly elected as Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Reeve was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr McFruin for the position of Vice-Chairman, as there were no other nominations Cllr Reeve was elected as Vice-Chairman. Cllr T Plummer signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received by Cllr Laughton, C Cllr Spicer and B Cllr Griffiths MBE.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Reeve declared an interest of a personal nature in item 9.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings held on April 13th 2011 as a true record of that meeting.

5. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Cllr Lord asked whether any further information had been received from Havebury Housing in reference to Peacock Rise. The clerk stated that she was still waiting for a response.

Meeting Adjourned

6. Public Forum

Mr Shepherd and Mr Jones wished to highlight their concerns over the development at 12a & 12b Stow Road. Mr Shepherd and Mr Jones wished to state that they felt the site was over developed and the new application would affect privacy within their properties.

Mr Anderson stated he was attending to view proceedings and would like to be considered for the vacant seat on the Parish Council.

7. Report from Local Police Officer

Reported crime for the past month as follows, in relation to Ixworth.

We have had two burglary dwellings. In one case, a premises off Stow Road was entered and property stolen- CID are currently investigating this offence.

A burglary dwelling offence has been detected and a man has been charged, with another on police bail pending enquiries. The same man has also been charged with an assault offence. This matter is now within the court system.

There have been two burglaries other buildings. One victim has asked for no publicity, but in the other offence, a large amount of fishing tackle was stolen from a shed. These cases are still being investigated.

We have had three damage offences recorded. One of these was to a vehicle, and sadly we have no suspects for this. The other two offences relate to fence damage near the bridge on the by way off Commister Lane that leads to the River Blackbourn. These fences separate the public access along the byway from the privately owned river banks, which have been leased to the Ixworth Angling Club. On several occasions these fences have been cut, and posts uprooted. Private Property signs have simply been thrown into the river. This matter is being investigated, and if anyone has any information please contact the safer neighbourhood team at Ixworth Police Station.

Finally two crimes that seem part of current trends throughout Suffolk. Firstly, theft of copper cable on Heath Road, Ixworth- this is part of a national trend, given the high value of copper. If anyone sees anything suspicious-day or night- please contact the police. If you believe that a crime is in action, please call 999. For any other incident, call Suffolk Police on 01284 774100 or email us on stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk.

Such thefts cause great disruption to local communities. If you notice anything odd, a vehicle, a person or simply that manhole covers have been lifted, then please call us.

The other crime is a theft of items from a front garden in Ixworth. This seems to be part of a trend in our area and in Mid Suffolk. A number of thefts of concrete bird tables, sundials and other items have been reported. These matters are still under investigation.

There are no crimes reported for Ixworth Thorpe.

We have still had reports of anti social behaviour in respect of the playing field and the play area. Regular attention is being given in line with our priority tasking.

Pc 1251 Simon Collins has asked me to raise the "Street Ranger" initiative with you. This is a voluntary scheme that is being looked into, in relation to members of the community carrying out patrols within their community as eyes and ears for their community and the police. Should anyone be interested please contact Simon, and he will pass your details to an officer who will more fully explain what this initiative is.

Many thanks

Kev Jay

Ps 696

Meeting Reconvened

8. Ixworth Library

The Chairman informed the members that an 'Expression of Interest' document to run the library, had been submitted to Suffolk County Council. It was resolved to wait until SCC contact the Parish Council before discussing this item any further.

9. Permissive Footpath

Cllr Reeve reported that the footpath through the trees had been completed by SCC. It was resolved to send a letter of thanks to SCC for completing the path. It was also decided to write to Mulleys garage for all their assistance over the past year. It was agreed to place this item on the June agenda as leaflets, signs and notice boards still needed to be completed.

10. Play Area

The clerk confirmed work had been started on clearing the hedgerow at the back of the toddler area and that Playdale hoped to be on site week beginning 23rd or 30th May 2011.

11. Planning Applications

SE/11/0394 – Reduce height to 5 Sycamore trees - The Langridge, High Street, Ixworth **No Objection**

SE/11/0413 – Erection of single storey rear extension and pergola – Gibbons, Stow Road, Ixworth
No Objection

SE/11/0427 – Erection of two storey side and rear extension – 37 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth
No Objection

SE/11/0428 – (i) provision of external staircase to access room above car port (ii) replacement brick and flint wall to front boundary – 12A & 12B Stow Road, Ixworth **Objection**

SE/11/0436 – Erection of extension to clubhouse – Bowls Pavilion, Ixworth **No Objection**

12. Determined Applications

SE/11/0265 – Erection single storey link extension between dwelling and outbuilding – Gifford's, 51 High Street, Ixworth, IP31 2HN **Granted**

SE/11/0298 – Fell one Holly tree & two Sycamore trees and reduce height by 30% to group of Sycamore trees on bank – The Nook, High Street, Ixworth, IP31 2HN **Granted**

SE/11/0229 - Ixworth, IP31 2HJ – 20% crown reduction to one Ash tree – 35 High Street, Ixworth, IP31 2HJ - **Granted**

SE/11/0201 – Erection of single storey rear conservatory – 12 Garrard Place, Ixworth, IP31 2EP - **Granted**

SE/11/0224 – Erection of single storey side and rear extension incorporating garage–Fern Cross, Stow Road, Ixworth, IP31 2JB **Granted**

SE/11/0114 –Provision of hard standing areas and associated soil storage bund – Ixworth Unit, Sandy Lane, Pakenham IP31 2LY **Granted**

13. Correspondence

The Parish Council had received 11 items of correspondence during the last month. Four items were from Suffolk County Council relating to recycling centres, a road closure, rights of way annual clearance programme and changes to street lighting. Also received were letters from Mr Whybro concerning a broken road sign, Mr Matthew Hancock MP concerning the play area, the NHS concerning pharmaceutical services, the Village Hall Management Committee concerning the post box and one from Mr John Sharpe with suggestions for changes at the village hall. Two emails had also been received from Mr Mackintosh concerning the play area and Mrs Flowitt concerning the cycle races. The Clerk was instructed to reply to Mr Mackintosh and Mrs Flowitt.

14. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 541/542	Wages	£958.40
Chq No 543	J D Signs (Robins Copse)	£293.63
Chq No 544	IRS Ltd (VH Toilet)	£35.93

Chq No 545	Anglian Tree Solutions (Robins Copse)	£24.00
Chq No 546	Playdale (Phase two)	£15,000.00
Chq No 547	Ixworth Village Hall	£223.00

The members resolved that the current limit of £100,000 fidelity guarantee was an adequate amount and did not need to be increased.

The members resolved that the three Councillors authorised to sign the cheques on behalf of the Council would be Cllr T Plummer, Cllr D Reeve and Cllr R McFruin. The clerk was instructed to obtain the relevant forms.

15. Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that as she would be attending the VH Management AGM on Thursday 18th May 2011 she had researched the implications to the Parish Council if they became the sole trustees of the village hall. The Chairman had obtained various reports and requested the clerk upload the documents onto the website for all members to view, as she felt that the village hall may need much more discussion over the coming months she suggested this item be included on the June agenda.

The clerk handed out folders containing various information sheets and the Chairman stressed it was very important for all Councillors old and new to read such things as the code of conduct and standing orders.

The Chairman also explained that as the Parish had had an uncontested election there was a vacant seat on the Parish Council and members could co-op someone to fill the vacancy. The Chairman stated that she had received a letter from Mr Trevor Anderson giving a brief description of himself with a request to be considered for the vacant seat on the Parish Council. After a brief discussion it was resolved to invite Mr Anderson onto the Council.

16. Clerk's Report

The Clerk passed around a list of roles and responsibilities requesting members put their names against an item that may interest them. The clerk stated that the PC printer was beginning to be unreliable and requested permission to purchase a new one up to the value of £200, this was agreed by all. The clerk reported that as yet she had been unable to get the notice boards replaced and requested if it was possible to cut the amount of notice boards around the village. It was decided the clerk bring along to the next meetings cost of replacing the current notice boards and the cost of a new larger notice board. The clerk reported that a request had been received to place cremated ashes in the grave of the deceased parents, the members agreed to this request.

The clerk reported that SALC were holding new Councillor briefing sessions on the following dates 16th & 22nd June 2011. The three new would contact the clerk to confirm which date they wish to attend.

17. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson wanted to know if the lights at Ixworth Thorpe Church had been repaired yet, the clerk reported that she was waiting for a response from the electrician.

Cllr McFruin was concerned that the disabled bay was quite a distance away from the Commister Lane junction. Cllr McFruin also wished to ask Chris Rand to come along to the Parish Council to discuss the Crown Lane development. Cllr Reeve agreed with Cllr McFruin as he felt it may not be too late to have an opening from the new development onto Crown Lane. The clerk was instructed to arrange this meeting for the near future.

Cllr Reeve reported the Heath Road sign needed repairing and they rubbish dumped in Wood Street was still there along with two freezers.

Cllr Shelton requested if once the play area was completed whether it was possible to have more seating.

Cllr Lord wished to state that he was still not satisfied that the parking problems in Peacock Rise had not been sorted. Cllr Lord also wished to highlight that Walsham road at school times was dangerous as buses, when passing each other, sometimes mounted the kerb as vegetation was overgrowing the path.

18. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be on 8th June 2011 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

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Signed

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Date