

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on July 13th 2011 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr David Reeve (Vice-Chairman) Cllrs Nick Loughton, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton, Ben Lord, Nathan Plummer and Trevor Anderson.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer, B Cllr John Griffiths and Mr Gerald Brown.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Sophia Wilson.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr David Reeve declared a personal interest in item 10.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings held on June 8th 2011 as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

None.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

Mr Gerard Brown, the Chair of Governors of Ixworth Middle School, wished to state that many meetings and discussions were being held into the future of schools in the Ixworth area. All options were being looked into and considered but no final decisions had yet been made. Mr Brown offered to attend a further Parish Council meeting when more formal plans were in place. A lengthy discussion was held and C Cllr Spicer also confirmed that no formal decisions had yet been made. The Chairman thanked Mr Brown for attending and said the Parish Council would look forward to him attending again in the future.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer

C Cllr Spicer reported that plans were still being looked into to extend the fire station property so that it would become the fire station and police station. Although plans are progressing slowly it means that there is commitment to keeping these services in Ixworth.

C Cllr Spicer also wished to report the road closure on the A1088 between the Stanton roundabout and Mulleys roundabout. The closure would only be at night between 1900 hrs & 0600hrs between 12th & 22nd September 2011.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths wished to report that he was now the area representative on the Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. B Cllr Griffiths also asked if the Parish Council had received an invitation to the Rural 2031 Vision planning event in August being run by St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It was confirmed by the clerk that the invitation had been received suggesting various dates and times. It was decided that Cllrs T Plummer, R McFruin and N Plummer would attend the meeting on 3rd August between 3 & 4 pm, B Cllr Griffiths and C Cllr Spicer also agreed to attend. Cllrs attending are requested to give a formal report to members at the September meeting.

Meeting Reconvened

9. Ixworth Library

C Cllr Spicer reported that nothing as yet had been decided and hopefully there would be more information in the near future.

10. Permissive Footpath

C Cllr Spicer reported that there had been some legal problems with the current suggested path. Claire Dickson the Rights of Way Officer for Suffolk County Council had visited the site and a different route for the path had been discussed. Once this altered route had been finalised, in time for the September meeting, C Cllr Spicer would be able to report further. It was decided to wait until the new route of the path had been finalised before any further work was completed on the leaflets and signs.

Cllr N Plummer requested if it was possible for the Council to apply, through the clerk, for access to the Ordnance Survey website to use their maps. This was agreed by all present and the clerk was instructed to apply.

11. Peacock Rise

The clerk reported that as yet she had not been able to arrange a suitable time and date for a meeting with concerned parties at Peacock Rise. The clerk reported that once a date had been finalised she would notify all parties concerned.

12. Cobbled Area in High Street

A discussion was held about the condition of the cobbled area in the High Street near the village sign. It was agreed that the recent work to tidy up the area that Suffolk County Council had carried out was unsatisfactory and the clerk was instructed to write a letter to the highways department requesting further work be carried out.

13. Planning Applications

SE/11/0687 – Erection of single storey side extension – 20 Brand Lane (also known as 20 Green Lane), Ixworth Thorpe, IP31 1QN **No objection**

SE/11/0799 – Erection of water treatment kiosk and associated works – Stanton Water Treatment Works, Woolpit Road, Ixworth **No objection**

14. Determined Applications

SE/11/0427 – Erection of two storey side and rear extension – 37 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth **Granted**

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 **Amended removing external staircase - Granted**

SE/11/0571 – TCA11/2111 – Coppice one group of Ash trees (T1) and one double stemmed Ash tree (T2) – The Mill, Ixworth, IP31 2JN **Granted**

SE/11/0604 – Provision of window in north east elevation, 82a High Street, Ixworth, IP31 2HN **Granted**

15. Correspondence

The clerk reported that sixteen items of correspondence had been received during the previous month, four items from St Edmundsbury Borough Council, three items from Suffolk County Council and nine items from other various sources. A list of correspondence received was distributed by the clerk to all Councillors.

16. Accounts

The following items were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 557/558	Staffing	£958.40
Chq No 559	Nick Laughton (Robins Copse)	£24.01
Chq No 560	Ixworth Village Hall	£331.00
Chq No 561	Viking (stationery)	£251.33
Chq No 562	R W Engineering	£48.00
Chq No 563	Village Stores	£30.00
Chq No 564	Haward Horological Ltd	£192.00
Chq No 565	Playdale Playgrounds	£29,328.00

17. Play Area

It was agreed by all present to hold the opening party for the toddler area take place on Saturday 27th August, Cllr Laughton agreed to liaise with Cllr Wilson to organise the day. There was a lengthy discussion on the new arrangement for leasing the play area from The Village Hall Management Committee. It was proposed by Cllr Lord and seconded by Cllr Anderson and agreed by all present to pay the new suggested lease payment of £100 on the condition that a new lease is signed for at least 50 yrs using the same conditions as the current lease that is in place. The clerk was instructed to write to the Committee to seek the committee's agreement. Completion of the project was also discussed and it was agreed that the area needed more litter bins, seating and perhaps a picnic bench. It was proposed by Cllr Shelton and seconded by Cllr McFruin and agreed by all present that the clerk order and install these items up to a cost of £1500.

18. Village Notice Boards

The current condition and positioning of the village notice boards were discussed. Unfortunately, most of the notice boards are not in good condition so it was agreed for the clerk and Cllr McFruin to seek a quote for replacing them and a quote for the refurbishment of the current notice boards. It was also suggested seeking a quote for a larger Parish Council notice board to be placed near the Village Hall. This item would be added to the September agenda.

19. Robins Copse

Cllr Laughton reported the opening had gone well on the 25th June 2011.

20. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that she was still concerned about the number of pot holes in Ixworth.

21. Clerks Report

The clerk reported that the disabled bay in the High Street had been approved. The clerk also requested permission to attend a planning training event and the clerks networking day at Salc at a cost of £25 pp for the planning and £15 for the networking day. Cllrs McFruin and Shelton expressed their interest in attending the planning training and the clerk was given permission to attend the clerk networking day. The clerk reported that Steve Wilson had requested permission to purchase weed killer and a high visibility vest, this was agreed by all present. The clerk reported that Cllr Reeve had obtained a quote for the work that needed to be completed on the outside lights at Ixworth Thorpe Church, the quote was for £218 + VAT, it was agreed by all present that this work be completed and the clerk was instructed to contact the contactor to carry out the work required.

The clerk also reported back on the following problems previously reported to S.C.C;

- Bridle way sign in Commister Lane – sign will be re-installed
- Overgrown vegetation on junction of Thetford Rd and A1088 – visibility not unsafe, situation will be monitored.
- Heath Road Sign missing – sign faded and will be replaced
- Overgrown vegetation on junction of Stow Rd and A143 - visibility not unsafe, situation will be monitored.
- Overgrown vegetation in Walsham Road – no major problems, situation will be monitored
- Footpath through St Marys Churchyard - Path was inspected 23 June 2011 - surface is satisfactory, no trip hazards.

The clerk also wished to remind members that the agenda for the August meeting will be shorter as the August meeting is only usually planning and finance plus any other issues which will not wait until September.

22. Councillors Reports

Cllr Lord reported the meeting at the fire station about the redevelopment of the area had gone well and it was good to know that the essential services of the police and fire service were to be kept in Ixworth. Cllr Lord also reported that he had visited the cemetery and felt there was work needed to improve the area such as the path, unsafe trees and perhaps a new entrance, it was agreed to put this issue on Septembers agenda. Cllr Lord also wished to highlight his concerns about parking in Walsham Road when the school held events, it was proposed by Cllr Lord and seconded by Cllr Anderson that someone visits the school to request that the school provide more parking on schools grounds on these occasions. This was agreed by all present with the exception of Cllr T Plummer & Cllr N Plummer, Cllr Lord volunteered to make this visit and report back to members in September. Cllr Lord also requested that S.C.C repaint the zigzag lines near the school and sort out the drainage problems in the same area. Cllr McFruin reported that the Ingham recycling centre had closed and the bottle banks at the village hall were sometimes overflowing.

Cllr Anderson requested that S.C.C be asked to repair the road in the traffic calming area of the High Street.

Cllr Laughton reported the village hall was applying for grants to complete the major projects, such as new windows, that are needed in the village hall. Cllr Laughton also reported that the area near the yellow petrol pumps in the High Street still needed repairing.

23. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 10th August at 7.30pm in the village hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 10.35pm

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Signed

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Date