

## **IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr David Reeve (Vice-Chairman) Cllrs Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton, 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 MBE

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

None.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 as a true record of that meeting.

### **4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

Cllr Reeve informed the members that lighting St Mary's for the Queens Jubilee and the Olympics would involve a planning application and could cost up to £700 for all 7 lamps. Cllr Reeve explained that currently due to the planning agreement when they were installed the lights cannot be switched on between May and September. After a full discussion it was decided not to go ahead with this project.

*Meeting Adjourned*

### **5. Public Forum**

No members of the public were present.

### **6. Report from Local Police Officer**

The following report was received via email;

BR/12/163 – Ixworth, Overnight Tuesday 13/03/12 - tools stolen from van.

BR/12/167 – Ixworth, 11am 16/03/12 – (near to the play area) minor injury resulting from dog bite.

BR/12/171 – Ixworth, Over weekend 17/03/12 – tools stolen from van.

BR/12/173 – Ixworth, Overnight 18/03/12 – tools stolen from van.

BR/12/174 – Ixworth, Overnight 18/03/12 - garden ornaments stolen.

BR/12/210 – Ixworth, Early morning 03/04/12 – Window broken in domestic dwelling.

We have had a report of antisocial behaviour in the area of Ixworth village hall involving cars/motor cycles.

Officers have paid a number of visits to the car park and given strong words of advice to a number youths found in the area about the impact of their actions on local residents.

Please pass on to the local community, the need for vigilance. Report any suspicious behaviour; do not make it easy for thieves.

Cllr Anderson wished to highlight his concerns that tradesmen with vans were being targeted by thieves.

The Clerk reported the new bin in the play area had been removed or stolen. Cllr Reeve stated that David Thrower had removed the bin as it had been damaged and was currently being stored in his yard.

### **7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer**

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

**Ixworth fire/police station** – There were no objections to the planning application to make alterations to the fire/police station so planning had been granted.

C Cllr once again apologised for the premature removal of the memorial tree and a suitable memorial to replace the tree was being discussed. After investigating C Cllr Spicer reported that the tree officer at St Edmundsbury Borough Council had stated to Suffolk County Council that the tree could be removed. The Chairman thanked C Cllr Spicer for investigating and finding out how this unfortunate incident had happened.

**Street Lights** – Suffolk County Council as a cost saving measure would be turning off some of the street lights in Ixworth between 12pm & 5am each day.

**Schools Review** – Suffolk County Council Cabinet had made the final decision for Suffolk to become a two tier school system. C Cllr Spicer confirmed that she would still be supporting the option of a Free School in Ixworth and hopefully over the coming month's further plans on this issue would be announced.

**Care Homes** – A company had come forward wishing to run all Suffolk County Council Care homes including Ixworth Court.

### **8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE**

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

**Joint Chief Executive** – Mr Ian Gallin had been confirmed as Joint Chief Executive of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council.

**Parish Council Conference** – The Parish Council Conference was being held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Great Barton and B Cllr Griffiths urged all members to attend.

**Rural 2031** – The Rural 2031 consultation was currently being held and B Cllr Griffiths urged the Council, to respond with their views. At each consulting stage it is important the Council state what they wish to see happen within the Parish, their views help form future plans for the Rural area. B Cllr Also stated that a new Rural Profiling project was starting and Ixworth was being used as the pilot, Chairman Teresa Plummer stated she was intending to attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

*Meeting reconvened*

### **9. Planning Applications**

**SE/12/0374** – Re-pollard one Willow tree to previous pollard points – Commister House, Commister Lane, Ixworth, IP31 2HE **No objection**

**SE/12/0298** – Change of use and conversion of redundant pumping stations to form 2 no. dwellings and garaging – Former pumping station, Stow Rod, Ixworth

**No objection**, however the Council would like to see the permissive path re-instated as a condition of the planning application being granted.

## **10. Determined Applications**

**SE/12/0254** – Torrella, 1 Beeches Close, IP31 2EW

**Granted**

## **11. Correspondence**

Fifteen items of correspondence had been received this month;

3 from St Edmundsbury Borough Council  
4 from Suffolk Acre  
3 from Salc  
1 from Anglian Water  
1 from Ixworth association  
1 from Eco Services  
1 from an Ixworth resident  
1 from Suffolk Better Broadband

## **12. Accounts**

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 624/625	Wages	£993.40
Chq No 626	SALC	£629.00
Chq No 627	Ixworth VH	£170.60
Chq No 628	Whitton & Frost	£216.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

The Annual Review of the Financial Internal Controls was carried out. It was agreed that the current fidelity guarantee was sufficient at £100,000.

## **13. Rural Vision 2031**

The Rural 2031 was discussed and it was agreed that the following points be included in the Parish Council response;

- A major recreation area were a priority in the suggested developments RV8b & RV8c off Crown Lane
- A footbridge be installed over the A143
- An access road be built to the east side of the cemetery to accommodate future expansion of the cemetery (suggest using Sect 106 funding)
- St Edmundsbury Borough Council consider making Crown Lane an exit only into the new development thus freeing traffic at the Crown Lane High Street junction
- Development suggestion RV3g was acceptable as employment opportunities within the village are vital
- The Council agree to the proposed change to the housing settlement boundary

The clerk was instructed to send this response by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

## **14. Play Area**

It was agreed that the area as you enter from the car park was in needed improving. Suggestions included a small tree, a bench and various shrubs. Cllr Wilson agreed to arrange a meeting with the Clerk and Cllr Laughton at the play area and bring suggestions to a future meeting.

### **15. Peacock Rise**

Cllr Lord reported that the application would be discussed at the application panel on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 6.15pm. Cllrs Lord, McFruin and N Plummer would attend.

### **16. Ixworth Thorpe Village Sign**

Cllr Wilson informed the members that the sign had been ordered but the process would take approximately 6 months. The clerk stated that the Ixworth Association had kindly granted £200 towards the project and an application had been submitted to St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

### **17. Ixworth Cemetery**

It was agreed for Councillors to meet at the Cemetery on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April to view and discuss any work that may be required and discuss further at the next meeting.

### **18. Neighbourhood Planning**

Cllr T Plummer reported she had attended a training brief on neighbourhood planning. Cllr T Plummer stated this was an important issue for Parishes the size of Ixworth. Developing a Neighbourhood Plan could be a time consuming and expensive project, however, there are many grants available to cover the costs of this project. Cllr T Plummer stated she felt to have a Neighbourhood Plan would be a very good thing for Ixworth. The project would be a lengthy process as lots of consultations were required which would result in a referendum of the whole village. As this could be a long and involved project Cllr T Plummer suggested all members read all the literature that the Council had received on this issue and discuss further at the next meeting.

### **19. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman wished to highlight her concerns that the High Street seemed to have had some pot holes repaired rather than the whole street being resurfaced. The clerk stated she would seek further information from Guy Smith at Suffolk County Council highways department.

### **20. Clerks Report**

The clerk reported the following items;

- Mr Whybro a local resident would like to help with a litter pick within the village – Cllr T Plummer volunteered to arrange one, the 26<sup>th</sup> May was suggested as a date.
- The Welcome to the Brecks had been installed on the by-pass
- Mr Guy Smith had informed the Council that he would arrange for an 'H Box' is installed where the hand painted yellow lines were in Thetford Road.
- As stamps were being increased significantly at the end of April the clerk requested permission to purchase enough stamps for a year to save money, this was agreed by all present.
- The clerk reminded members that the first item on the agenda for the Annual Parish Council meeting in May was the election of Chairman.

### **21. Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Lord asked if any further progress had been made on installing barriers at the bottom of the steps leading down to the by-pass. Cllr Lord also reported that there was offensive graffiti on the Thistledown Drive road sign. Cllr Lord reported that he had spoken with PCSO Burke about a grey people carrier that seemed to have been abandoned.

Cllr Shelton requested if anything further had been received with reference to the Riverside Walk leaflet. Cllr Shelton wished to highlight her concerns over the fence behind the toddler as it seems very wobbly and unsafe.

Cllr Wilson stated she would speak with Cllr Laughton about installing edging around the bottom of the tree in the cobbled area.

Cllr Laughton gave the following report from Steve Wilson – the previous concerns over dog mess in the High Street had ceased, Steve was currently concentrating on litter picking and general grass cutting using the mower brought by the village hall. The grit bin at Street Farm Lane has been badly damaged. Cllr Laughton also wished to highlight his concerns about vehicles being advertised for sale on verges near the Mulley’s roundabout.

Cllr McFruin wished to highlight his concerns that the dog mess bin in Commister Lane was not large enough. Cllr McFruin confirmed that he had received further correspondence fro David Falk with reference to the Riverside Walk leaflet and would be arranging a meeting in the near future.

With no further business the meeting closed at 10.05pm

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Signed

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Date