

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 13th March 2013 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr Ben Lord (Vice-Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton, Trevor Anderson and Richard Courtnell.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

B Cllr John Griffiths sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting to give his usual monthly report.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr David Reeve declared a pecuniary interest in item 12. The Clerk informed members that she had received a letter from Cllr Reeve requesting a partial dispensation to take part in the discussion involving item 12. Cllr Reeve left the room whilst members considered this request. It was resolved that Cllr Reeve request be accepted and to allow Cllr Reeve partial dispensation for item 12. Cllr Reeve rejoined the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th February 2013 as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr Shelton informed members that she and Cllr Lord had attended a meeting with Simon Harvey to discuss installing a defibrillator in Ixworth. Cllr Shelton reported that the cost of installation would be met by the organisation that Simon Harvey worked for. However, there would be an annual fee of approximately £10 for electricity. Cllr Wilson requested that it is ascertained if there would be any on-going costs. Simon Harvey had requested that the Parish Council suggest possible sites for a defibrillator. It was agreed by all present to continue with this project. After a discussion the following sites were suggested, the Post Office, the Doctors Surgery, Ixworth Village Hall, The Greyhound and the Police/Fire Station. The Clerk was instructed to pass this information onto Simon Harvey.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

No comments were received.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

The following report had been received via email;

Firstly the SNT would like to thank the Chairman, the Council and the community for their continued support.

Some good news we have now had 3 new PCSOs join the team, which means we have 5 PCSOs!

Crime Statistics for the Parish to 11/03/13:

Two crimes of interest

Criminal damage to car – Reeve Close Ixworth 14-15/02/2013

Theft heating oil over a month's period – Kettleborrow Close Ixworth 02/02/2013 – 02/03/2013

On a positive note a number of suspects have been arrested in connection with the daylight burglaries, which have occurred in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Please do not become complacent crimes are being committed in rural areas throughout the county.

Theft from outbuildings and vehicles is happening all too frequently. Satnavs and other valuables left on display in vehicles; and power tools and garden equipment left in insecure sheds and garages. Do not make it easy for thieves.
Fuel oil thefts, several thefts have been reported across the SNT area.

Please ask your community to secure their property and remove personal items from view when leaving their vehicles. Do not make it easy for thieves!
Be vigilant and report any suspicious activity, for non-urgent matters dial 101 or email: stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk
If you believe a crime is in progress dial 999

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer

C Cllr Spicer presented a cheque for £1000 to the Parish Council as a grant towards the new village sign at Ixworth Thorpe.

C Cllr reported that the decision about the Free School in Ixworth was on going and hoped the decision on which group could run a Free School would be made by May 2013.

Meeting Reconvened

8. Planning Applications

SE/13/0156 – Listed Building Application – Internal Alterations to include (i) provision of a patrician to create office & WC (ii) infill door opening between Chapel & holding area (iii) re-positioning of WC (iv) provision of double doors to store area – A E Thurlow & Son, 1 High St, Ixworth **No objection**
SE/13/0238 – TPO – Reduce height by one third to one Swamp Cypress tree – 20 High St, Ixworth **No objection**

9. Determined Applications

No determined applications were received during the month.

10. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- **Mrs Phillips** – Concerns in Ixworth Cemetery
- **Mr & Mrs Currie** – Informing the Parish Council that they instead to cut their hedge
- **St Edmundsbury Borough Council** – A quote for a new dog mess bin & Date of next Parish Council Conference
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Mike Kind** – Information request of Ixworth Priory
- **B Cllr John Griffiths MBE** – Apologies for absence and Welfare Reform Briefing Sheet
- **Suffolk County Council** – Poster and information about ‘Warm Homes’
- **Suffolk Acre** – Community Funding Roadshow
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It was agreed by all present to accept the quote for £126.37 for the new dog mess bin, Cllr McFruin volunteered to install the bin.

It was agreed by all present to investigate Mrs Phillips concerns at the cemetery. (see item 15)
The Clerk was instructed to send Mr Kind a leaflet of the ‘Ixworth Walks’ leaflet recently printed.

11. Peacock Rise

Cllr Lord confirmed work at Peacock Rise would start in the week beginning 18th March 2013.

The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Mike Nunn about the white lines for car parking spaces in the Village Hall car park. Mr Nunn had stated the he would discuss if the company would have enough time to white line the parking spaces at Peacock Rise and the Village Hall under the same quote. If this was not possible he would get a quote for the Village Hall. This quote would be passed to the Village Hall management committee for consideration.

12. Footbridge Over the By-pass

Cllr Lord reported that he, Cllr Plummer and C Cllr Spicer had taken part in the telephone conference meeting on 22nd March 2013 with Fiona from Natural England to discuss the Paths for Communities Grant. The outcome of this conference was that to qualify for this grant a footpath would need to be upgraded from a Permissive Footpath to Right of Way. Cllr Reeve stated that the partnership that owned the land were not willing to change the status of the current Permissive Footpath. It was discussed that the cost of this project could be up to £500,000.

C Cllr Spicer reported that she had spoken with Andrew Woodin at Suffolk County Council who was very keen on discussing this project further. Mr Woodin was also very keen on looking at other options such as expanding walks around Ixworth, perhaps to the North of the village, rather than just discussing a footbridge over the by-pass. C Cllr Spicer suggested arranging a meeting with Mr Woodin and the Parish Council to discuss the various options that may be available. C Cllr stated that Suffolk County Council could take the lead on this project and liaise with local landowners. It was agreed by all present for C Cllr Spicer to arrange this meeting.

13. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 701/702	Wages	£998.73
Chq No 703	Anglian Water	£33.97
Chq No 704	Ixworth Village Hall	£140.00
Chq No 705	Proscapes	£89.52
Chq No 706	SALC	£90.00
Chq No 707	A Adlington	£159.28
Chq No 708	H M Revenue & Customs	£356.59
Chq No 709	D Thrower	£1400

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

14. Robin's Copse

Cllr Laughton reported that a recent inspection of the trees within Robins Copse had been recently carried out after a complaint from a resident in St Edmunds Close. James Chapman, the tree surgeon, suggested a 30% crown reduction of a Sycamore tree on the boundary of 10 St Edmunds Close at a cost of £200 + VAT. It was agreed by all present to accept this quote and instruct Mr Chapman to carry out the work required.

15. Ixworth Cemetery

An email from Mrs Phillips highlighted her concerns that some graves with the new piece of the cemetery were sinking. After a discussion it was agreed to arrange a visit to the Cemetery to view the mentioned graves and look at any other work required with the Cemetery.

The Clerk also informed members of the recent death of Mr Pat Rogers. Mr Rogers volunteered for many years within Ixworth Cemetery and spent many hours each week ensuring that the Cemetery was neat and tidy. On behalf of the residents of Ixworth, The Parish Council would like to thank Mr Rogers for his dedication and hard work ensuring the Cemetery was a restful place for residents to visit their loved ones.

16. Chairman's Report

Cllr Plummer reported that at the recent training evening she had attended with the Clerk and Cllr Shelton on planning issues, she had asked about highlighting concerns the Parish Council may have with traffic in Crown Lane. The trainer suggested writing to all the relevant Local Authorities that the Parish Council work with, highlighting the Parish Councils concerns. It was suggested to enclose photographs clearly showing the problems with the road.

It was agreed by all present that the Clerk and the Chairman produce a letter, Cllr Lord volunteered to take photographs, once all documents are completed they were to be sent to all Local Authorities. It agreed to change the Parish Council dinner to Friday 3rd May, the chairman stated she would arrange venue and menus.

17. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **BT Phone Boxes** – reported again
- **Play Area** – safety matting, the bark and gate springs need attention
- **Standing Orders & Financial Regulations** would be updated when Nalc had updated them
- **Highways** – Various items still to be sorted

The Clerk confirmed the date for the Annual Parish Meeting, this would now be held on Wednesday 15th May 2013 at 7pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

18. Councillor Reports

Cllr Courtnell enquired if there were any allotments within the village, the Clerk confirmed there were some at the village hall and some on the junction of Commister Lane and Thetford Road. The Parish Council has no responsibility or ownership of either site.

Cllr Shelton wished to highlight the pot holes within the village, especially in Stow Road.

Cllr Wilson reported that she would give an update of the Ixworth Thorpe sign at the next meeting.

Cllr Wilson also requested permission to meet with a play equipment company to discuss the grass area next to the toddler play area. It was agreed by all present the Cllr Wilson could continue with these enquiries, Cllr Laughton also volunteered to attend.

Cllr Anderson stated he had been approached by a resident about the lighting on the steps next to the flats in Thetford Road, at present there did not seem to be working. It was suggested to inform Havebury Housing so that this issue can be raised on Havebury Housing walkabout due on 9th April at 10.30am.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilsons monthly report.

Cllr McFruin also wished to highlight the pot holes in Peddars Close.

Cllr Lord enquired if there was any further information concerning The Bowls Club lease. Cllr Laughton confirmed that the current Bowls Club lease had been signed by the Parish Council.

19. Dates of the Next Meetings

April 10th, Ixworth Thorpe Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe.

April 10th 2013, Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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Signed

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Date