

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

*Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton and Trevor Anderson.

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

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

Cllr Ben Lord.

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

No declarations were received at this point of the meeting.

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

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012 as a true record of that meeting.

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

Cllr McFruin enquired if the new Ixworth Walks leaflets were going to be placed in establishments such as the pubs and Post Office. The Clerk confirmed that she would be approaching these and other places such as the shop requesting that they display the leaflets.

*Meeting Adjourned*

### **5. Public Forum**

No comments were received.

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

The Chairman read the following report received via email from PCSO 3232 Ken Ruston

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

#### **Crime Statistics for the Parish 10/10/12 to 13/11/12:**

There was one crime of interest during this period.

Burglary other building – During daylight hours on Thu 25/10, an amount of cash was taken from the purse belonging to a member of staff at a residential care home. It is believed that the offender entered the building through an insecure rear door.

#### **Other areas:**

Theft from outbuildings and vehicles continues in rural areas.

Ongoing issues with Anti Social Behaviour in village centres.

Speeding in rural villages through the SNT area is an ongoing issue with enforcement taking place as resources permit.

The election for the new Police and Crime Commissioners is due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> November, please encourage your residents to vote.

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.

**6. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer**

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

**Fire Station** – The refurbishment of the fire station had now been completed and would be handed over this week. Unfortunately, the Police would not be able to move in until the New Year as BT had not yet completed the work on the phone lines. Suffolk County Council had been in contact with the fireman’s family concerning replacing the memorial tree and it had been agreed to perhaps replace the tree with a bench or bush rather than a new tree.

**Schools** – C Cllr Spicer enquired if the planning application for the Middle School was to be discussed this evening. The Clerk stated that the application had not been received in time to be placed on the November agenda. It was agreed by all that this application would be discussed at the December meeting.

C Cllr Spicer requested that Ixworth Free School be added to the December agenda, this was agreed by all present.

**Cllr Lords enquiry** – Cllr Lord had at a previous meeting mentioned to C Cllr Spicer that a Suffolk County Council bus had been parking in Peacock Rise causing traffic problems, C Cllr Spicer reported that she had spoken with the relevant department and had their assurance that the bus would not be parked in Peacock Rise again.

**7. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE**

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

**ST Edmundsbury/Forest Heath** – All heads of departments had now been appointed  
**Parish Council Conference** – the next conference was to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012, B Cllr Griffiths urged members to attend this informative and enjoyable evening.  
**Christmas Lights** – Bury St Edmunds Christmas Lights switch on would be happening on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012.  
**Vision 2031** – The consultation on this document has been delayed.

**9. Planning Applications**

Cllr McFruin declared a pecuniary interest in application SE/12/1283 and left the meeting  
Cllr Laughton declared a non-pecuniary interest.  
**SE/12/1283** – Extension to existing waste recycling area – Ixworth Village Hall **No objection**  
Cllr McFruin rejoined the meeting  
**SE/12/1291** – TCA12/2335 – Re-pollard one Goat tree – Nurses House, Thetford Road, Ixworth **No objection**

**10. Determined Applications**

**SE/12/1033** – Phoenix House, Thetford Road **Granted**  
**SE/12/1142** – 1Peasecroft Road, Ixworth **Granted**  
**SE/12/1201** – Peacock Rise, Ixworth **Granted**  
**SE/12/1216** – 3 Abbey Close, Ixworth **Granted**  
**SE/12/1237** – 59 High Street, Ixworth **Granted**

**11. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received;

- **St Eds** – Parish Council Conference (22<sup>nd</sup> November) & Play Area Inspection
- **SCC** – A1088 Road Closure
- **St Eds/Forest Heath** – Joint Development Management Policies

- **Suffolk Acre** – Volunteers Needed & Extraordinary General Meeting
- **John Sharpe** – Conservation Area
- **Suffolk Passenger Transport** – Revised Timetables
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Resident of Ixworth** – Parking Concerns

Mr John Sharpe had concerns that residents living within the conservation area may not be aware that a planning application may be needed to cut down or trim trees and hedges within the conservation area. Mr Sharpe as the Parish Council tree warden suggested that an article be written for the magazine highlighting that permission may be needed. The members all agreed that the Clerk was to approach Mr Sharpe to request if he would be willing to write a small article to be included in a future magazine on their behalf.

## **12. Accounts**

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 670/671	Wages	£993.40
Chq No 672	Ixworth Village Hall	£168.00
Chq No 673	Playdale Playgrounds	£60.00
Chq No 674	Dent Security Systems Ltd	£131.04
Chq No 675	Pakenham Parish Council	£96.00
Chq No 676	RBL Ixworth	£75.00
Chq No 677	RBL Poppy Appeal	£25.00
Chq No 678	G Palastanga	£29.00
Chq No 679	A Crane	£60.00
Chq No 680	A Adlington (Cemetery sign)	£89.00
Chq No 681	N Laughton (Play area hedge)	£142.84
Chq No 682	D Thrower (Play area fence/grass cutting)	£3255.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £5000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

## **13. Precept 2013-2014**

A discussion was held on the suggested budget that the RFO had presented to the members at the previous meeting. It was agreed by all present not to increase the precept requested. The precept requested would remain at £48,600, the same as year 2012/13. However, if St Edmundsbury Borough Council were to decrease the grant given to Parish Councils there may be a small increase to residents unfortunately.

## **14. Ixworth Thorpe Village Sign**

Cllr Wilson confirmed the sign had now been ordered but it may be Spring before sign is ready for installation.

## **15. Website**

Cllr Laughton declared a non pecuniary interest in this item.

The Chairman presented a report to all members informing them that there had been an issue with a new website launched on behalf of Ixworth. Unfortunately, it had copied all the material from the One Suffolk website designed and owned by the Parish Council. The Chairman reported that she had contacted Mr Rob Laughton the person developing the new website and. after a few emails Mr Laughton had altered the content so that it no longer breached copyright laws.

The Chairman explained that there were now three websites representing Ixworth, the One Suffolk website (ixworthandixworththorpe.onesuffolk.net) run by the Parish Council, the new website run by Rob Laughton (www.ixworthvillage.co.uk) and the third site, which had received a grant from the

Parish Council of £750 in 2010, run by Mr Ben Lord ([www.ixworth-village.co.uk](http://www.ixworth-village.co.uk)). The Chairman suggested to members that a discussion take place to decide on what involvement the members wished to have in a website and which site the Clerk needed to use to display Parish Council information and minutes. The Clerk explained that she did not have the experience and hours to run a technically demanding site on behalf of the Parish Council. It had been previously agreed that the Clerk would work with Mr Lord to upload the Parish Councils minutes onto his site but due to various reasons a meeting had not taken place.

After a lengthy discussion the following was agreed;

- The Parish Council have no involvement or ownership of Mr Ben Lord's website (a grant only was given)
- The Parish Council have no involvement or ownership in Rob Laughton's website
- The Parish did not wish to run a technically demanding website
- The Parish Council do wish their minutes and information to be displayed on a website

It was agreed to overturn the decision made in the May meeting that the Clerk work with Mr Ben Lord on his website.

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Mr Rob Laughton about displaying minutes and information on his website.

#### **16. Maintenance Issues in Ixworth**

The Clerk reported that there were some maintenance issues within Ixworth that required attention such as the gate at Wood Street and the hand rails on the steps joining New Road with Stow Road. A quote of £75 had been obtained to fix the Wood Street Gate, all members present agreed to this work being carried out and the Clerk was instructed to contact the company concerned to get this repair completed as soon as possible. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quote for the hand rails. Cllr Shelton volunteered to look at the seating that the Parish Council was responsible for to see if any repairs were needed. Cllr Shelton would report back her findings at a future meeting.

#### **17. Peacock Rise**

The Clerk reported that planning permission had been granted for the parking improvements in Peacock Rise. Cllr Lord would arrange a meeting with the chosen contractor on his return to arrange a start date for this project.

#### **18. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that she had received an email from a representative of the Village Hall Management Committee with reference to the Library Lease. The Chairman requested permission from the members to approach a Solicitor specialising in Trust documents and leases to clarify once and for all the Parish Council's responsibilities as Custodian Trustees of the Village Hall.

It was agreed by all present that the Chairman and Clerk approach a Solicitor.

The Village Hall is to be added to the December agenda.

#### **19. Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported the following;

- BT Phone boxes – waiting a response to get them refurbished
- Play Area – a spring on the gate is broken
- David Thrower – toddler play area fence repaired
- Christmas tree in High Street – will be delivered at the end of November

The Clerk reported that she had been asked to thank members for attending the Remembrance Parade on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November and for their continued support of this Village event.

The Clerk reported that she had been approached by Mr David Froud. Mr Froud is requesting permission to refurbish the seat at the bottom of the High Street and requesting permission to place a plaque in remembrance of a previous resident. It was agreed by all present to give permission to Mr Froud to carry out the refurbishment and install a small plaque.

**20. Village Cleaning Operative**

A discussion was held on Steve Wilson’s annual pay review. It was agreed by all present to give Mr Wilson a 2% pay rise. The Clerk was instructed to contact Mr Wilson to inform him of the members’ decision.

**21. Councillors Report**

Cllr Wilson reported that the white lines recently repainted on the A1088 were poorly completed. Cllr Wilson also reported that Suffolk County Council had visited Ixworth Thorpe once again to unblock the drains.

Cllr Laughton reported that he had ordered the new hedging for the play area and once it was delivered he and a volunteer would plant them.

Cllr McFruin reported that some straw bales had been placed across a section of the footpath near Hemyard Bridge which was restricting access to the footpath. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Rights of Way team at Suffolk County Council.

Cllr Reeve reported that the new Jubilee Memorial bench may need varnishing.

**22. Date of the Next Meeting**

12<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm

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Signed

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Date