

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

*Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr Ben Lord (Vice-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 & three members of the public.

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

None.

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

Cllrs Laughton and McFruin declared a personal interest in Item 16.

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

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012 as a true record of that meeting.

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

None.

*Meeting adjourned*

### **5. Public Forum**

Claire Royal from Ixworth Village Hall Management Committee presented a small report on issues relating to the Village Hall;

#### **Questionnaire:**

The Committee had recently handed out a questionnaire to residents in the village and the feedback received was very good and highlighted the following points. The hall needs better heating, sound proofing of the main hall, kitchen update, decoration, improvements to the toilets and an improved stage area. Residents wanted to stage community events such as cinema evenings which would create a community feeling within the village once again.

#### **Funding:**

To complete all these improvements funding would be needed. The committee were working hard to achieve this with increased booking such as the scouts, Zumba classes, history group, keep fit and various other groups and events. Grants had been received from the Ixworth Association and Suffolk Foundation to replace half of the windows within the hall. However, a new business plan had been completed and funding for windows and sound proofing would need in excess of £50,000.

#### **Funding Advice:**

The Chairman stated the Parish Council would help with any advice they could offer but as the Council already pay £6234 per year for the loan for the extension of the hall, the Parish Council were limited to what other financial commitment they could make.

B Cllr John Griffiths suggested the committee speak with Kirsty Pitwood at St Edmundsbury Borough Council who may be able to help with funding. C Cllr Spicer also stated that they could contact her and she would look into any funding available with Suffolk County Council.

All agreed that the improvements were needed to make the hall a venue that offer good facilities and be a credit to Ixworth.

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

#### **IXWORTH THORPE:**

No crimes reported between 13/06/12 and 11/07/12

## **IXWORTH:**

2 crimes reported between 13/06/12 and 11/07/12...

22/06/12 – Assault Occasioning ABH – High Street

- Victim requests no publicity

27/06/12 – Message/Letter/E-mail sent which was Indecent/Threatening/False – High Street

- No publicity

SNT Priority Tasking Meeting;

At the recent tasking meeting held at Ixworth on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June the panel and members of the public decided on the following as new priorities...

1. ASB in Barrow, areas of the Church cemetery and the Skate park
2. Attention to the various village halls in the St Eds Rural North area, in relation to ASB and damage offences throughout the summer holidays. (Including Stanton, Gt Barton, Barrow).

We have discharged ASB issues in Stanton (given the low number of calls, and patrol attention not resulting in any major issues), further to this, patrols will still continue and any issue we are made aware of will be dealt with. In ASB issues at Seven Hills, Ingham (patrol attention given, meetings well on the way to address signage etc, and speeding (many months attributed to it and good results.)

## **SNT Speeding Priority**

172 Endorsable Fixed Penalty Notices

11 Drivers reported for Summons for speeds over 50mph

5 Fixed Penalty Notices issued for failing to wear a Seat Belt

2 Vehicles seized for No insurance

256 Verbal warnings for speeds between 35-39 mph

## **County Crime Levels;**

- The overall crime level in Suffolk has reduced again by 1%. This is the sixth consecutive year that crime has fallen in Suffolk making Suffolk one of the most crime free areas of the UK.
- Overall there were 716 fewer crimes recorded.
- From our latest survey 93% of people feel safe in the Neighbourhood they live in, in Suffolk.

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

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Ixworth Library Lease** – C Cllr Spicer would like to attend any meetings discussing this issue.
- **Ixworth High Street** - Suffolk County Council will be resurfacing the High Street between 23<sup>rd</sup> July and 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
- **Ixworth Fire/Police Station** – work has started on the refurbishment of the building and hopefully the work would be completed by November 2012.
- **Street Lights** – At present Suffolk County Council are turning some street lights off at midnight to save money. C Cllr Spicer suggested residents wait until winter time to assess the impact of this situation.
- **School transport** – Suffolk County Council will continue to supply transport to schools for those children who require it. Once and if the Free School is open then Suffolk County Council will assess the need for transport. The Council are unable to confirm transport for the Free School until it is established.

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

B Cllr Griffiths firstly wished to congratulate the committee who organised the Jubilee Street Party for such a wonderful event which was the largest street party in Suffolk.

B Cllr Griffiths then reported the following;

- **Olympic Torch** - Over 70,000 people attended the torch relay in this area
- **Olympic Team** – The Rwanda Olympic team have arrived in Bury St Edmunds and are very happy with the facilities
- **Chief Executive** - Ian Gallin was settling down very well as Joint Chief Executive and is hoping to visit the Parish Council over the next few months
- **Vision 2031** – The Vision 2031 was progressing well and to remember to always reply to any consultations
- **Rural Profiling Project** – Ixworth has been chosen as the pilot scheme and various things are being discussed such as affordable housing

*Meeting reconvened*

## **9. Planning Applications**

**SE/12/0663/HHCA** – Creation of 2 no. bedrooms and 1 no. bathroom with 4 no. dormer windows in roof space – Mont Apica, Thetford Road, Ixworth, IP31 2HB **No Objection**

## **10. Determined Applications**

**SE/12/0421** – Erection of open sided porch to front door – Meadow View, Thetford Rd - **Granted**

**SE/12/0413/LBCA** – Replacement and enlargement of windows – The Round House, Thetford Road, Ixworth, IP31 2HB **Granted**

**SE/12/0544/TPO** – (i) fell four Silver Birch trees and one Conifer tree (ii) reduce height of two Conifer trees to 2 metres – Lammas Fields, The Paddock, Ixworth IP31 2HG **Granted**

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

**SE/12/0598** – Provision of replacement bunded slurry pit and separator – Dairy Farm, Thetford Road, Ixworth **Granted**

## **11. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received:

- 3 items from St Edmundsbury Borough Council
- 3 items from Suffolk County Council
- 1 item from Suffolk Acre
- 1 item from Suffolk Police
- An email from Mr Osman a resident of Ixworth with concerns over the permissive footpath
- An email from L Smith with concerns over the footpath from Commister Lane
- A letter from Mr & Mrs Theobald with concerns over parking in the High Street

The clerk was instructed to write to Mr & Mrs Theobald stating that the Parish Council would contact Suffolk County Council to highlight their concerns. The clerk was also instructed to contact Mr Osman and L Smith to inform them that the condition of the footpaths would be reported to Suffolk Rights of Way department.

## **12. Accounts**

The following accounts were agreed for payment:

Chq No 642	Zurich Municipal	£966.19
Chq No's 643/644	Wages	£993.20
Chq No 645	Anglian Water	£25.92

Chq No 646	Ixworth Village Hall	£163.00
Chq No 647	Dent Security Systems	£66.00
Chq No 648	M TJ's Gardening Services	£1104.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £3250 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

### **13. Riverside Footpath Leaflet**

Cllr Shelton reported that a meeting with David Falk from Suffolk County Council has taken place that morning and all the changes suggested at the last meeting had been implemented and at the meeting the photo's to be included had been decided upon. David stated he would get a final draft to the members concerned for their go ahead to print by 20<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

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

Cllr Wilson reported she was still waiting for the final design from Harry Stebbings. The clerk reported that a grant of £1500 had been granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The total amount of grants received at present stood at £1700.

### **15. Neighbourhood Planning/Rural Profiling**

Cllr Plummer reported that the questionnaire that would be given to all residents was currently being compiled.

### **16. Ixworth Village Hall**

The clerk reported that she was still seeking clarification on the Parish Councils responsibly as Custodian Trustees of Jiggins Memorial Village Hall & Playing Fields.

### **17. Ixworth Cemetery**

Cllr Lord reported that the work to remove the fencing had been completed satisfactorily. Refurbishment of the three benches in the cemetery was discussed. Cllr McFruin stated that 9 planks of wood were needed at a cost of £12 a plank and nuts and bolts would also be needed. It was resolved that Cllr McFruin would complete the work on the benches and was given permission to order the supplies from Clarkes of Walsham on the Parish Council account. It was agreed the cost of materials needed would be no more than £250 Inc VAT.

### **18. Resignation of Councillor**

The clerk reported that Nathan Plummer had resigned on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012. St Edmundsbury Borough Council had posted notices requesting whether the Parish wished to hold an election. St Edmundsbury Borough Council confirmed that there would not be an election and have given the Parish Council permission to co-op a new member.

Cllr Lord wished to thank Nathan for all his work over the last year.

It was agreed by all present to place an article in the village magazine requesting if anyone was interested in becoming a Councillor. The clerk was instructed to place the article in the next magazine.

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

The Chairman wished to highlight her concern over the condition of the two roundabouts on the by-pass. Cllr Plummer stated that many other roundabouts in this area were in much better condition than Ixworth's especially Fordham St Martin's. The clerk was instructed to contact the clerk for Fordham St Martin's for information on who looks after their roundabout.

Cllr Plummer reported that a resident from Micklesmere Drive had contacted her concerning noise made by chickens of a resident in New Road.

**20. Clerk's Report**

The clerk reported the following:

- The 'H' box outside Meadow View had been painted
- BT were looking into the condition of the phone boxes in Ixworth Thorpe & Ixworth
- The blocked drains in Ixworth Thorpe had been reported once again

Cllr McFruin requested whether pedestrian crossing signs could be installed on the by-pass.

**21. Councillors Reports**

Cllr Lord reported he was waiting to hear whether planning permission was needed for the parking improvements in Peacock Rise. Cllr Lord also suggested inviting Guy Smith from Suffolk County Council highways department to discuss highways issues with the Parish.

Cllr Shelton reported that many residents were concerned with the street lights being switched off overnight.

Cllr Wilson requested that BT repair the phone box in Ixworth Thorpe.

Cllr Laughton gave Steve Wilson latest report as follows:

There are no issues at the moment. I am still finding very little dog mess.

- The Village Hall has been mown and strimmed four times since my last report, the Carpenter Close cut has been done twice.
- There was a little more litter following the village fete and the visit of the fun fair, but not much.
- I used the hedge-trimmer to cut back the vegetation overhanging the 'dog walkers' pavement in Thetford Road beyond the surgery. I also trimmed the honeysuckle which overhangs from Peasecroft Road into Thetford Road and restricts the pavement near the old school.
- Aubrey had heaped some dismembered branches from the cherry tree and other green waste next to the glass bins and the kids were spreading it about. I bagged it up and took it to the tip. I also took the opportunity to lop some of the low-hanging cherry branches which get in the way when I am mowing. Aubrey tells me that the Bowls Club hedge will be done again soon and they will take some more off the cherry then. I have reminded him that the Bowls Club still need to remove their rubble from the Village Hall grass.

**22. Date of the Next Meeting**

8<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

This meeting will be shortened to Planning, Finance and any other items that cannot wait until September.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

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Signed

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Date