

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 12th March 2014 at 7:30pm

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

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

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of a non-pecuniary nature were received from Cllr Laughton & Cllr McFruin for item 13.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 12th February 2014.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

No comments were made.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

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

PC 1639 Andre DeJongh and PCSO 3268 Claire Teakle remain your dedicated officers.

Crime Statistics for the Parish to 12/03/2014

There have been 3 crimes of interest since the last parish meeting.

Criminal Damage- vehicle –under £5000. Thomas Close, Ixworth 12/02/14
Between 1615-2150 unknown offender has bent and twisted windscreen wiper and arm on a parked secure vehicle. No further lines of enquiry.

Commit Wildlife offence – 17/02/14 – dog incident with muntjac deer on private land. Resolved by a community resolution.

Aggravated taking- motor vehicle – Carpenter Close 02/03/14 during the early hours of the morning, vehicle left with keys in it, whilst victim was inside property. Vehicle has been removed by unknown persons and found later the same day in the next village, with driver's window smashed. Enquiries ongoing.

Speeding Data:

Complaints regarding speeding through the villages within the SNT continue to come in a regular basis. The team are carrying out speed enforcement checks as often as possible and using the speed board as a preventative measure to assist the Community Speed watch teams.

Since the last meeting the SNT have conducted 46 speed checks during which 30 verbal warnings issued, 53 warning letters sent, 16 EFPNs issued, 5 reported for summons, 5 x speed awareness course offers, 3 notice of impending prosecution issued.

The speed board was deployed on 33 occasions, (unfortunately deployments have been reduced because of the weather conditions).

Community Speed watch teams have carried out 10 speed checks resulting in 67 warning letters being sent.

The members highlighted the following concerns to the Officers present;

- Parking on yellow lines around the village
- Parking signs required outside Crown Lane School to control parking
- Parking problems on the corner of Thetford Road and Peasecroft Road
- Parking on High Street obstructing residents driveways
- Concerns about non-attendance of Officers at meetings
- Road condition in Peddars Close

It was suggested by the Officers present that Suffolk County Council be contacted to install signs for 'No Parking' outside the school. The highways also needed to be contacted if new yellow lines are to be installed, as these require a 'Road Order'

The Officers present stated they were not always able to attend due to operation commitments and if the Parish Council needed to contact them on an issue it would be best to contact them via email. This form of communication may receive a quicker response.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer

See item 9 below.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr John Griffiths offered his apologies for not being able to attend this evening's meeting.

Meeting reconvened

9. Highway Issues

A list of highway issues concerning the Parish Council was passed to C Cllr Spicer. C Cllr Spicer requested that the Clerk email the list to her and Mr Guy Smith, the highways officer at Suffolk County Council and she would look into the items raised.

The following items were raised;

- Parking problems in the High Street
- Road condition in Ixworth Thorpe
- Drainage in Ixworth Thorpe
- Pot holes and drainage issues in Stow Road
- Overhanging branches in Walsham Road
- Slippery drains in Street Farm Lane
- Parking signs outside school in Crown Lane
- Parking problems in Thetford Road

10. Planning Applications

DC/14/0266 – Erection of single storey rear extension – 21 Street Farm Lane, Ixworth

No objection

DC/14/0196 – Improvements to A143/A1088 roundabout to provide vehicular access to serve potential future residential development

No objection

However, the Parish Council wished to confirm Walsham Road would not be reopened. Parish Council would like access from the new road be opened into Crown Lane on a one way basis to ease traffic congestion in Crown Lane and that a maintenance programme for the new roundabout is put in place.

11. Determined Applications

DC/13/0325 – Envirocar, Stow Road, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/0522 – Commister House, Commister Lane, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/2582 – 7 High Street, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/2567 – Land adjacent to 19 Fordhams Place, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/0712 – 4 Beeches Close, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/0947 – Parklands, High Street, Ixworth

No objection

DC/13/0544 – The Royal Oak, Ixworth Thorpe

Refused

DC/14/0076/TCA – Wooded area to rear of 98 High Street, Ixworth

No objection

12. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment:

Chq No's 795/796	Wages	£988.36
Chq No 797	H M Rev & Customs	£309.43
Chq No 798	A J Wheelie Bins	£25.00
Chq No 799	Anglian Water	£16.11
Chq No 800	M&TJ's Gardening	£648.00
Chq No 801	West Suffolk Hospital Charity	£100.00
Chq No 802	Ixworth Village Hall	£322.50
Chq No 803	S Wilson	£20.00
Chq No 804	D Thrower	£1600.00
Chq No 805	A Adlington	£114.22

The RFO was authorised to transfer £3500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

13. Ixworth Village Hall

Cllr Plummer reported the Parish Council Solicitor had read the new Lease between the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee and Suffolk County Council for the Library. The Solicitor advised that the Parish Council could go ahead and sign the lease. It was agreed by all present the Chairman and Clerk sign the lease and pass back to the Village Hall Committee.

A grant request had been received from the Village Hall Committee. The grant was needed to install a new heating system. It was resolved to grant £2000 to the village Hall Committee for this project.

14. Play Area

Cllr Wilson reported a meeting had been held with Helen Sephton-Pike, the Clerk and the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. It was suggested that the new equipment be placed in front of the wooden climbing frame. Wicksteed would be sending a new plan to display at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was resolved that Cllr Wilson place the order.

The Clerk was instructed to contact the residents that had attended previous meetings highlighting their concerns about phase three of the play area refurbishment.

15. Christmas Tree

The Clerk reported Paul Brown, the electrician who installs the lights on the High Street Christmas tree, had reported some lights needed replacing for 2014. The new lights would cost approximately £80. It was resolved by all present to request Mr Brown purchase the new lights ready for December 2014.

16. Rural Profiling Project

The Clerk was instructed to compile all comments made by Councillors and fill in the response form sent from Kevin Marshall. The Parish Council found all information very helpful.

17. Local History Reporter

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Janette Scarborough the secretary of Suffolk Local History Council requesting if a Village Recorder could be sought. It was suggested the Clerk contact the local history group to see if they could help with this request.

18. Ixworth Cemetery/ St Mary's Churchyard

Cllr Courtnell reported the large Cemetery gates had now reinstalled after the recent refurbishment. Cllr Courtnell stated the gates looked very good now that both sets matched. The large tree branches overhanging the Cemetery previously reported were being trimmed on 28th March 2014. Also, the contractors had nearly completed the work required at St Mary's Churchyard, the work required on the Walnut tree would be completed in the near future. A quote had been received for £250 + VAT for the reminding work suggested, this work was not on the original list of specifications. It was resolved to accept this quote and Cllr Courtnell was instructed to instruct the contractors to complete the work.

The Clerk reported that she had received a phone call from a resident about their concern that some graves at the Cemetery had sunk. It was agreed by all present this situation needed to be addressed due to health and safety concerns. However, it was felt that an article needed to be placed in the village magazine informing residents that this work would be completed over the coming months. A notice was also to be placed on the Cemetery notice board.

19. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- Helen Lindfield (St Eds)** – Request to attend a meeting
- S.C.C.** – Road Closure for Cycle Races
- Suffolk Police** – Latest update
- S.S.C.** – Road closure – Commister Lane
- Joanna Spicer** – Invitation to Broadband event & Local history recorder
- Matthew Hancock MP** – Can Do guide
- Mr Butcher** – Traffic concerns (from Feb meeting)
- Jane McKinney** – Community Involvement
- Suffolk Police** – Crime Commissioner Meeting Dates
- Steve Wilson** – Monthly report
- J Matthews** – Bury Family Centre

20. Chairman’s Report

No report.

21. Clerk’s Report

No report.

22. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson enquired if the cobbled area near the village sign in Ixworth could be cleared of weeds.
 Cllr Shelton requested if refurbishment of the village benches could be placed on the April agenda for discussion. This was agreed by all present.
 Cllr Reeve informed the members that a deeds box belonging to the Parish Council had been found in his store. It was agreed the Clerk would collect it and store it in the Village Hall. Cllr Reeve also reported that the spare floodlight that had been stored in his store was now to be stored in the bell tower of St Mary’s Church.
 Cllr Courtnell enquired if there was any further news on the installation date for the defibrillator at the village hall. The Clerk informed members that the signed lease had been returned and once a date had been agreed she would inform the members.

23. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed the date and time of the next meetings were;

- Ixworth Thorpe Annual Parish Meeting – 9th April at 7pm at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe
- Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council Meeting – 9th April at 7.30pm at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Signed

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Date