

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 18th June 2013 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 Courtnell.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk) and approximately 100 residents

1. Declarations & Apologies

None.

The Chairman Cllr Plummer read advice obtained from Suffolk Association of Local Councils on what can be considered and what cannot be considered when commenting on a planning application.

Meeting Adjourned

2. Public Forum

Two representatives of Anglia Regional Co-operative Society Ltd gave a small briefing including the following points;

- It would be a convenience store approximately 3 times the size of current Ixworth Store
- Anglia Co-op were a regional society with 26 stores and petrol stations across East Anglia
- It was hoped it would compliment the current facilities with Ixworth
- It would employ 25 – 30 local people
- Support local organisations with fund raising
- 25 parking spaces would be provided within the site
- The number of parking places were set down by Borough Council
- A crossing would be installed across the High Street
- Opening hours would be 7am to 10pm – 7 days a week

Various comments were made by members of the public present including;

- There are already enough shops with Ixworth at present
- Build more houses then more shops
- A new supermarket would destroy current shops and force their closure
- The store is not in the heart of the community
- The heart of the community will be destroyed if current shops were to close
- The current conservation area will be destroyed
- Current shops support and deliver items to older residents if needed
- At present there is no need to shop anywhere else but Ixworth
- The community is adequately served by current businesses
- Traffic flow through the village will increase
- At present Ixworth is served well by the current shops
- Later opening and serving of alcohol may cause anti-social behaviour

Mr David Sim, the owner of Meat at the Village Stores, stated he had been serving residents in Ixworth for 21 years and felt Ixworth was very unique. Ixworth still had 2 shops, 2 pubs, a café and other facilities which needed to be protected. In other villages when a large supermarket opened many other shops closed and once they are gone they cannot be brought back.

Mr Adrian Chapman, owner of Ixworth Stores, stated that if the new store were to open it may force his business to close. Mr Chapman thanked all residents and was humbled by all their support.

Meeting Re-convened

3. Planning Application

SE/13/0604 – Change of use of existing garage to Class (A1) convenience food store (following demolition of canopy forecourt to create parking spaces)

A discussion was held with Councillors making various comments and concerns.

It was proposed to object to this planning application on the grounds of destroying the Conservation area and traffic concerns. This proposal was defeated 3 votes for and 6 against, therefore it was resolved that the Parish Council had no objection to this planning application.

It was agreed to highlight the following as suggestion or amendments to the application;

Deliveries are not to be made between the hours of 6pm & 8am
Previous contamination issues are to be checked before planning is granted or not granted.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

.....
Signed

.....
Date