

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (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 MBE, B Cllr John Griffiths MBE, PCSO Rebecca McDaid and three members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Lord due to a holiday – apology accepted by all present.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

After a correction for a spelling mistake was made it was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 8th October 2014.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr Courtnell reported that he looked into the cost of building enclosures for the bins in the Cemetery. The cost for building the enclosure out of wood would be expensive, however, Cllr Courtnell had sourced other options and it was agreed by all present to purchase a willow screen to go around the bins at a cost of approximately £60.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

Mr Sharpe wished to highlight the following;

- The hedge in front of the Council Houses in Stow Road had been cut but a Plum tree had been left in the hedge
- The hedge along the footpath between Stow Road and New Road was very overgrown
- The condition of the pavement at the bus stop in the High Street was in urgent need of repair
- The grit bin in Peacock Rise was in need of replacing

The two other members of the public present made no comment.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

The following report was given;

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

Your dedicated PCSO and PC are 3268 TEAKLE and 1639 DE JONGH respectively.

Crime Statistics for the Parish to 12/11/2014:

There have been 2 crimes of interest in the Parish since the last meeting.

Criminal Damage – vehicle – 08-09/10/2014 – Reeve Close, Ixworth

During hours of darkness in the car park of a small rural close, a vehicle has been damaged by offender keying the back panel on the passenger side of the vehicle. No further lines of enquiry – crime finalised.

Burglary – other building – 01/11/2014 – 14/10/2014 – New Road, Ixworth

Entry has been gained to the rear garden of a property by breaking the padlock off the garden gate; the two garden sheds have been searched removing various items, including tools and garden equipment. No further lines of enquiry – crime finalised.

Dates for your diary

The next tasking meeting to discuss and decide priorities, which is open to the public, will be held at 7.00 pm Tuesday 16th December 2014, at Bury St Edmunds Police Station. The meeting will be open to the public for the priorities to be set.

Speeding Data

Since 1ST October there have been 39 speed checks resulting in; 74 letters, 22 verbal warnings, 2 notices of impending prosecution, 1 course offer, 6 endorsable fixed penalty notices and 1 report for summons.

News

Please be aware that a member of another parish has recently received phone calls from someone impersonating a Police Officer asking for money, the victim did the right thing by staying calm and calling Police. Please make the Parish aware and remind them to be as vigilant as possible and to not hesitate to call Police for any similar matters.

There has been a series of burglaries in other villages over the last few days where offenders have taken lawn mowers, strimmer's and hedge cutters from sheds and garages. Please ensure you secure your outbuildings, have external lighting and call in any suspicious vehicles or people.

REMEMBER: Call 999 if a crime is occurring at present or you suspect one will **or** 101 for non-emergency or crime has already happened.

Lastly, as the cold weather is finally starting to make an appearance please remember to check your tyre pressure and wear, windscreens for chips/cracks and cleanliness and that your lights clean and working.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported that she was arranging a meeting with local Parish Councils, the Head Teacher of The Free School and herself for an informal meet and greet evening. The date suggested was 27th November 2014, times to be confirmed.

C Cllr Spicer also reported that there had not been another highway planning application for any alterations of the Diss roundabout of adjoining roads for access to the suggested development at Crown Lane.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported that there were no planning applications forth coming at present for development of the land next to the Cemetery in Crown Lane.

B Cllr highlighted again that he had a locality budget of £2500 for grants to community groups with his ward. B Cllr encouraged members to pass this information unto any groups who were in need of a grant to apply as soon as possible. Contact Helen Lindfield at St Edmundsbury Borough Council for further information and application forms.

Meeting Reconvened

9. Planning Applications

DC/14/1952&53 – (i) conversion of function rooms to letting rooms (ii) form a new window and doors to north elevation (iii) conversion of door opening to window on north elevation (iv) provision of secondary glazing to existing sash window (resubmission of DC/14/1072&73) The Pykkerell Inn, Ixworth **No objection**

DC/14/2005 – Fell self-seeded Sycamore tree – 108 High Street, Ixworth **No objection**

DC/14/2078 – Proposed first floor extension and internal alterations - Fern Cross, Stow Road, Ixworth **No objection**

DC/14/2101 – Fell 10 Sycamore trees – The Pit, Thistledown Drive, Ixworth **No objection**

10. Determined Applications

DC/14/1796 – Householder Planning Application – Single storey rear extension – 19 Green Lane, Ixworth Thorpe **Granted**

DC/14/1546/47 – Pollard 2no. Lime trees as shading garden and house – 98 High Street, Ixworth **Refused**

DC/14/1571 –Fell one Laburnum – 7 Abbey Close, Ixworth **Granted**

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

S.C.C. – Response to Roundabout Alterations

St Eds – Rural News

Mr Lord – Ixworth Disturbances

Police Updates x 3

L Anderson – Thistledown Drive Wooded Area

PCSO Claire Teakle – Speedwatch

Steve Wilson – Monthly Report

M Kelly – The Pykkerell – Dog Bin Request

The Clerk was instructed to inform Mr Kelly to contact St Edmundsbury Borough Council reference the dog mess bin on the playing field. Also, to contact Mrs Anderson with the information about the planning application for felling of Sycamore trees in the wooded area near Thistledown Drive.

12. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment

Chq No's 857/858	Wages	£1114.37
Chq No 859	A J Wheelie Bin	£10.00
Chq No 860	St Edmundsbury B C	£36.40
Chq No 861	Low Carbon Products Ltd	£497.57
Chq No 862	Clarks of Walsham	£7.55
Chq No 863	G Palastanga	£32.20
Chq No 864	Ixworth Village Hall	£168.75
Chq No 865	the Poppy Appeal	£25.00
Chq No 866	the Royal British Legion Ixworth	£75.00
Chq No 867	Wicksteed Playgrounds	£18,792.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £21,000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

13. Budget 2015/16

The Clerk reported the first draft of next years budget would be circulated before the next meeting for discussion.

14. Speedwatch

It was agreed by all present to arrange a meeting with PCSO Teakle on 19th November to discuss this item further.

15. Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk reported that Cllrs Lord, Courtnell and herself had met and revised the grass cutting contract specifications. It was agreed by all present if Cllrs Lord and Courtnell were happy with the final draft it could be sent to contractors for quotes.

16. Play Area

The clerk reported that she had sent the cheque to Playdale for payment of the installation of the cushionfall and safety mat repairs. However, she had made a formal complaint to the company with regard to their conduct during the process of completing these repairs.

The exercise equipment was now fully installed and the damage to the rowing machine had been repaired free of charge.

Cllr Wilson suggested that now all equipment was installed could the fence line behind the toddler area and entrance from the car park be looked at. A quote had been obtained to install a low hedge of Escallonia along the fence line at a cost of £600, it was agreed by all present to go ahead with this project.

17. Refurbishment of Benches/Seats in Ixworth

Cllr Anderson reported all benches had now been finished. Cllr McFruin suggested that the areas beneath the seats be filled and or slabs be placed there as at present there were large muddy puddles. It was agreed by all present that the Clerk obtain a quote to have these areas filled in.

18. Chairman's Report

The chairman reported that there was a damaged or dumped bench in Peddars Close.

19. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported the following;

Christmas tree – Cllr Anderson reported he had spoken with Rougham Estates and they would trim the tree to fit in the hole and would also if possible erect the tree on the day of delivery. The Clerk was to contact Paul Brown to install the lights.

CCTV – The annual inspection of the CCTV cameras in the Village Hall were due to be inspected on 18th November 2014, Cllr Laughton agreed to be present for the inspection.

Memorial Bench – The specifications had been received from Mike Nunn for the installation of a memorial bench in the Cemetery. It was agreed by all present to inform the resident applying that permission was granted for the installation of the bench.

Moving House – The Clerk reported that she would be moving house at the beginning of December. It was agreed by all present to pay for a redirection of the Parish Councils mail for 1 year at a cost of £350. It was agreed by all present that the Clerk could obtain a signed cheque between meetings once the date had been finalised.

20. Councillors Reports

Cllrs McFruin and Anderson reported that street lights in Commister Lane were not working. Cllr McFruin stated he would report them once again.

Cllr McFruin thanked Cllr Anderson for stepping in when it became impossible for him to finish refurbishing the benches.

Cllr Courtnell reported the Lime tree in the Cemetery, as discussed at previous meetings, had now been cut down.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilsons monthly report.

21. Date of the Next Meeting

It was agreed by all present the date of the next meeting would be 10th December 2014 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

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Signed

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Date