

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 14th January 2015 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE and two members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Courtnell – absence accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Laughton declared an interest in item 13 as The Village Hall may be discussed.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

After an alteration to the draft minutes, It was resolved by all present that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 10th December 2014.

4. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Cllr Lord informed members that he had requested, under the Freedom of Information Act, speeding data specific to Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe.

Cllr McFruin reported the rowing machine in the play area was still loose.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

Mr John Sharpe wished to discuss the following;

- Speedwatch
- Damage to a flint wall in Stow Road
- Suggestions of 20mph speed limits in rural villages
- Parish Councils Clerks change of contact details

Mr Sharpe was informed that after a discussion at the previous meeting an article seeking volunteers to assist in setting up a 'Speedwatch' team in Ixworth would be placed in the next magazine. C Cllr Spicer stated she would assist in paying for the equipment and suggested that B Cllr Griffiths is also approached for a grant from his locality budget.

C Cllr Spicer informed Mr Sharpe that at present there was no discussions about Ixworth being one of the villages that may have their speed limit reduced to 20mph.

It was suggested that if the damage to the wall was causing an obstruction to the pavement in Stow Road then the local Police be informed so that they could then contact the owner.

The Clerk reported that she had altered her contact details in the Parish Council notice board at the village hall, the Clerk had also informed the magazine so that next time details were published they would be correct. The Clerk stated that only the address had altered, the phone number and email remained the same.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

The following report was received via email;

Firstly the SNT would like to thank the Chairman, the Council and the community for their continued support and wish you a happy and prosperous new year.

Your dedicated PCSO and PC are 3268 Teakle and 1639 DeJongh.

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

Burglary other building – Ixworth – 15/12/14-20/12/14

Two drills were removed from a newly occupied and secure bungalow. Each drill was last seen at different times so believed to have been removed on separate occasions. Enquiries are ongoing.

Burglary dwelling – Ixworth – 24/12/14-29/12/14

Whilst occupiers were away, a residential property was entered by forcing the wooden garden gate before smashing a large double glazed patio door. Jewellery was stolen from within the property. Enquiries are ongoing.

Criminal damage – Thetford Road, Ixworth – 04/01/15-05/01/15

Whilst parked in the street overnight, a vehicle was scratched on the bonnet, offside front and rear doors and offside rear panel. The offside front wing plastic trim was also pulled from the roof and markings left to the offside rear window. Enquiries are ongoing.

News

Four men entered guilty pleas to hare coursing offences following an incident in Ixworth in early October 2014. They were each fined £175 and all four were banned from attending Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire for the purposes of hare coursing. A fifth man failed to attend court as required to answer a similar charge and the bench have issued a warrant for his arrest.

Burglaries of both dwellings and outbuilding/garages continue across the county. Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity/persons.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer stated that at present there was nothing new to report. However, she would help in any way to set up the 'Speedwatch' team in Ixworth.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths had sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

Meeting Reconvened

9. Planning Applications

DC/14/2400 –(i) Multi-use space located near existing gym & dining room (ii) relocation of pupil toilets (iii) new entrance canopy (iv) new pupil access arrangements and entrances (v) new planted roundabout and coach turning area – Ixworth Free School, Ixworth **No objection**

10. Determined Applications

No determined applications had been received.

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

Suffolk Police – Updates x 3
Home-Start – Funding Request
Steve Wilson – Monthly Report

It was agreed by all present to grant a donation of £50 to Home Start.

12. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 881/882	Wages	£1041.90
Chq No 883	Designs on Metal	£214.08
Chq No 884	Ixworth Village Hall	£168.75
Chq No 885	Dent Security	£148.55
Chq No 886	A J Wheelie Bin	£10.00
Chq No 887	St Eds	£36.40

The RFO was authorised to transfer £1250 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

13. Budget for 2015/2016

A lengthy discussion took place whether to reduce the budget as St Edmundsbury Borough Council was reducing their grant to the Parish by £4328, or to keep it the same as 2014/15. Members felt that to keep services in the Parish they would not be able to cut the budget by this amount, however the budget was reduced by £1100 on the previous year.

14. Section 106

The list of suggested projects was discussed. It was resolved by all present to contact St Edmundsbury Borough planning department to try to arrange a meeting with the Council to discuss further.

15. Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk informed members that the final draft of the new contract had been completed, including all altered specifications. The completed specifications would now be sent to three companies requesting quotes for the contract.

16. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that she has not yet reported the two vans parked in Peasecroft Road. The Chairman also stated that she was in the process of selling her house, and if it sold she would most properly be leaving the area. If that was the case then she would not be standing at the next election on 7th May 2015. The Chairman suggested that an article be placed in the February magazine urging volunteers to come forward to be Parish Councillors.

17. Clerk's Report

The Clerk requested if she could attend an 'Election Briefing' at SALC on 31st January at a cost of £25 plus mileage and overtime. This was agreed by all present. A request had been received for a dog waste bin in Street Farm Lane, the Clerk reported that this could be installed at a cost of £226.70 + VAT and would cost £2.80 per week to be emptied. It was agreed by all present to go ahead with this purchase including the increase in emptying costs this would incur. The article for 'Speedwatch' that had been received from PCSO Claire Teakle was read to all members. It was agreed by all members that this article be sent to the magazine for inclusion in the next magazine. The dates for the meeting to be held in 2015 were confirmed by all members present.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Laughton enquired if the Headteacher at the Free School had been approached with reference to residents using the recreational facilities at the Free School. It was agreed by all present that Cllrs Lord and Laughton approach the Headteacher at the Free School to discuss further. Cllr Anderson once again wished to highlight the condition of the pavements in Ixworth High Street. Cllr Reeve enquired if a meeting with Rev Garbett had been arranged to discuss the recent clear up in St Mary's Churchyard. The Clerk stated she would arrange. Cllr McFruin reported the 'Give Way' sign had been removed from the junction of Commister Lane and the High Street. Cllr Lord reminded members that the evening meal was booked for 30th January 2015 at 7.30pm in The Pykkerell.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 11th February 2015 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

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Signed

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Date