

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Manor Farm, Ixworth Thorpe on 8th April 2015 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE, B Cllr John Griffiths MBE & PCSO Rebecca McDaid

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Laughton – apology accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved by all present that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 11th March 2015.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr Lord confirmed he had passed photographs of the grass area in Thistledown Drive that had been highlighted by a resident in last month's correspondence, to C Cllr Spicer. There had been some suggestion that Cllr Lord's family owned the land, this had now been confirmed that they do not. Suffolk County Council was continuing to look into ownership, but this issue had highlighted that they are several small pieces of land within the village that nobody seemed to know who they belonged to. B Cllr Griffiths again suggested a meeting with the Borough Council, the County Council and the Parish Council to view some of these areas and ascertain who owns, and is responsible for the upkeep of these areas.

Cllr Courtnell reported that he had spoken with the resident who wished to plant some trees on Suffolk County Council land and had passed the information to Suffolk County Council. If Suffolk County Council were agreeable to the resident planting trees on their land then they would issue a licence to the resident with conditions on upkeep applied to the licence.

5. Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

PCSO McDaid gave a report at the Annual Parish Meeting of Ixworth Thorpe, however she answered the following questions;

Cllr Plummer highlighted her concerns that people parking on the double yellow lines in Ixworth were not being ticketed so they continued to park especially on the corner of Commister Lane and the High Street. PCSO McDaid stated that she and her colleagues would make this a priority over the next few weeks.

Cllr McFruin wished to ask who to contact when young persons were climbing on the village hall roof. PCSO McDaid stated the police should be called especially if damage had been caused.

The speeding within Ixworth Thorpe was also mentioned and it was agreed to put this issue on the June agenda for discussion.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer wished to thank Cllr Plummer for all her work for the Parish Council over many years that she had been a Parish Councillor.

C Cllr Spicer said she would continue to look into who owns and is responsible for the grass area in Thistledown Drive.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths stated the locality grant scheme introduced this year for ward Councillors had been a success and would carry on through 2015/2016. B Cllr Griffiths had been able to make grants to a few organisations within the village including the Library and the Over 60's club.

B Cllr Griffiths also thought discussing the speeding within Ixworth Thorpe was a good idea and perhaps if flashing speeding signs were an option he may be able to contribute from his locality grant budget in 2015/16.

B Cllr Griffiths also thanked Cllr Plummer for her hard work for the Parish Council over many years.

9. Planning Applications

DC/15/0557 – Lowering of kerb to provide access onto highway, Landridge, High St, Ixworth

DC/15/0593 – Fell four Leylandi trees, Tudor Cottage, Commister Lane, Ixworth

DC/15/0604 – Single and two storey rear extension - 4 Chalk Lane, Ixworth

No objection

No objection

No objection

10. Determined Applications

None.

11. Election 2015

The Clerk reminded all members that if they wish to be considered for election on 7th May 2015 they had to have their papers submitted to St Edmundsbury Borough Council by 4pm on Thursday 9th April.

The Clerk also requested if she could purchase folders, dividers and other material to make Councillor folders to be given to all members of the Parish Council elected on 7th May 2015. The new folders would hold various information such as contact details of Councillors, Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and dates of the meetings. This expenditure was agreed by all present.

12. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

BT – Adopt a Kiosk

Community Action Suffolk – Membership Fee Request

Suffolk Police – Updates x 7

St Eds – Tree Preservation Order

Joanna Spicer – Update on trees in Micklesmere Drive

Steve Wilson – Monthly Report

PCSO Claire Teakle – Speedwatch Info

It was agreed by all present to request further information on the adoption of the red telephone box in Stow Road.

13. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 902/903	Wages	£1066.74
Chq No 904	Community Action Suffolk	£30.00
Chq No 905	D Thrower	£1600.00
Chq No 906	Ixworth Village Hall	£264.00
Chq No 907	Viking Direct	£294.56
Chq No 908	A Adlington	£135.24
Chq No 909	SALC	£676.00
Chq No 910	Haward Horological Ltd	£250.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

14. Review of Councils Code of Conduct

Prior to meeting all members had been given a copy of the new Suffolk Code of Conduct, it was agreed by all present to adopt this Code of Conduct as of 8th April 2015.

15. Review of Parish Council Regulations of Policies

Prior to the meeting all members had been given a copy of the new Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, the Councils Media at Meetings Policy and the Protocol for reporting at meetings. It was agreed by all present to adopt these amended documents as of 8th April 2015.

16. Chairman's Report

Cllr Plummer thanked all members for their help over the years she had been a Councillor. Especially their help to her over the last 8 years when she has been honoured to be the Chairman of the Council.

17. Clerk's Report

The Clerk wished to remind members that the Parish Council as a corporate body were members of SALC and not individual Councillors and any expenditure through Salc has to be agreed by the Council.

18. Councillor Reports

Cllr Reeve wished to add his thanks and best wishes to Cllr Plummer and he was sorry she was leaving, and from experience the role of Chairman was very hard work.

Cllr Lord enquired if there had been any response from St Edmundsbury Borough Council about the felling of Yew trees in St Mary's Churchyard. The Clerk reported no response had been received.

Cllr Lord also wished to enquire if the Walnut tree had been cut too early in the season.

Cllr Anderson enquired if a list of all the trees within the village that were subject to Tree Preservation Orders could be obtained from St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 13th May 2015.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

.....
Signed

.....
Date