

## **IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7:30pm*

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

**Also Present:** Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), B Cllr John Griffiths MBE 3 members of the public and Sgt Anna Whybro.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

C Cllr Spicer apologised for not being able to attend the meeting.

### **2. Declarations of Interests**

No declarations were made.

### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was agreed by all present that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### **4. Public Forum**

Mr Sharpe made the following comments;

- **Speeding in Ixworth** – Mr Sharpe enquired if a flashing slow down sign, as in Gt Barton could be purchased for use in Ixworth
- **Footpaths** – Mr Sharpe enquired if the footpaths could be sweep of leaves because if left they could become slippery and dangerous – could the hedge along Stow Road be cut back as he felt it was very difficult to walk along with getting caught by the hedge
- **Development 2031 Bury St Edmunds** – Mr Sharpe stated he was disappointed that he had not been able to comment on the recent consultation about the development of Bury St Edmunds. Even though the development was in town it would impact greatly on the rural areas such as Ixworth
- **Speedwatch** – Mr Sharpe stated he was disappointed that not enough volunteers had come forward to get this worthwhile scheme of the ground

Sgt Whybro stated, with the permission of the Parish Council, she would seek further information about Speedwatch and speak with a neighbouring village to see if the two villages could join forces at create a shared scheme. All agreed this was a good idea.

Cllr Courtneil stated that the footpath had been cleared back to the hedge line in Stow Road and he had walked along the path that afternoon and had had no problems.

Mr Mann wished to make some comments about planning application DC/15/2054. Mr Mann lives in the neighbouring property would like the following concerns noted before the Council consider the application;

- The application is for 4 properties yet only 6 car parking spaces are shown on the application and Mr Mann was concerned that cars would then be parked in the High Street.
- The plans show cycle racks and other things attached to the adjoining wall to his property
- Mr Mann would like the windows overlooking his property to remain frosted glass

Mr Mann had sent a copy of his letter to St Edmundsbury Borough Planning Department to the Parish Council. The letter had been entered into the Parish Councils correspondence.

### **5. Planning Applications**

**DC/15/2054** – 4no Maisonette flats including associated internal alterations – The Robert Peel House, High Street, Ixworth **No objection with comments re parking**

**DC/15/1831** – Single storey detached double garage, conversion of existing attached garage to living accommodation – Riverview, Stow Road, Ixworth **No objection**

**DC15/2021** – Fell one Apple tree – 7 Abbey Close, Ixworth

**DC15/2031** – Reduce canopy by approx 5m to previous pruning points and crown lift to approx 6m – 98 High street, Ixworth **No objection**

**DC/15/2182** – (i) reduce crown of 1no Cherry by 25% and prune by 1 metre to clear wall (ii) thin crown 1no Apple by 15% (iii) prune 1no Ficus and remove dead wood – 51 High Street, Ixworth **No objection**  
**DC/15/2132** – Fell 1no Cotoneaster tree – 8 Reeve Close, Ixworth **No objection**  
**DC/15/2137** – Two storey side and single storey front extension – 8 Plummer Close, Ixworth **No objection**

#### **6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE**

B Cllr Griffiths stated he would answer any questions the members had at this time but would give a fuller report in item 8. Members had no questions at this point.

#### **7. Report from Local Police Officer**

Sgt Anna Whybro introduced yourself as the new team member for Rural North stationed at Ixworth. Sgt Whybro stated she was pleased to be serving this area as she was a local girl and went to school in Ixworth. Sgt Whybro explained that hare coursing and cyclist with no lights had been the priority this month. Sgt Whybro told members that if they required anything to contact the Rural North team with their concerns and she would try to attend meeting where possible.

The following report was also received via email;

#### **Crime Statistics for the Parish:**

There have been 3 crimes of interest since the last meeting:

28/10/15 Hare coursing - on farmland off Heath Road

07/11/15 Hare coursing - on farmland off Heath Road

29/10/15 Burglary other building – An outbuilding on a farm was entered and a horsebox trailer stolen.

#### **News**

SNT Team changes. Sergeant Kevin Jay has sadly retired after many years directing the team. His replacement is Sergeant Anna Whybro.

Positive police action resulted in three males with their dogs being detained near Rushbroke following a hare coursing incident.

Cycling in Ixworth High Street. It has come to our attention that a number of children are riding cycles in an unsuitable manner which has resulted in a number of near misses with cars. If you should witness such an incident please pass the details to the SNT via our email address below including your details the time/date and any description of the child or cycle.

#### **Information & Advice**

If you have to travel in foggy conditions, it is imperative to use your lights appropriately to increase your visibility on the roads.

Unfortunately, during foggy conditions, there are a number of motorists who do not heed this advice and drive without any lights, causing a hazard to themselves and other road users in the process.

According to law outlined in the Highway Code you must use headlights when visibility is seriously reduced, which generally means when you cannot see for more than 100 metres (328 feet). You may also use front or rear fog lights but you must switch them off when visibility improves.

Police are also asking motorists driving in vehicles fitted with automatic headlights to double check their headlights are switched on or turn the headlights on manually.

Suffolk Police advice for motorists driving in fog is;

- Keep a safe distance behind the vehicle in front. Rear lights can give a false sense of security
- Be able to pull up well within the distance you can see clearly. This is particularly important on motorways and dual carriageways, as vehicles are travelling faster
- Use your windscreen wipers and demister's

- Beware of other drivers not using headlights
- Do not accelerate to get away from a vehicle, which is too close behind you
- Check your mirrors before you slow down. Then use your brakes so that your brake lights warn drivers behind you that you are slowing down
- Stop in the correct position at a junction with limited visibility and listen for traffic. When you are sure it is safe to emerge, do so positively and do not hesitate in a position that puts you directly in the path of approaching vehicles.

You can now follow us on twitter **@StEdsPolice**

For non-urgent matters dial 101  
or email: [stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

If you believe a crime is in progress dial 999

### **8. Crown Lane Development**

B Cllr Griffiths informed members that the planning application for a ghost island junction of the A1088 to access the new Crown Lane development had been refused by the Development Control Committee, this however could be appealed.

B Cllr Griffiths, with the agreement of the Parish Council, felt it was both important and an ideal time to relook at what was actually wanted for the Parish in the future.

One way would be to work on a Neighbourhood Plan though this could be costly, possibly over £50,000, and would take some time to complete. Another option would be to refresh the master plan and or Crown Lane Concept Statement.

B Cllr Griffiths suggested that too many individual meetings could confuse matters, and said he had requested an initial meeting with St Edmundsbury planners, Persimmon, the current developers, and possibly the relevant landowners to come up with suggestions for the best way forward. He encouraged the Parish Councillors to agree how, and to what extent, they would wish to be involved going forward and to look into, and hopefully agree, the various needs and aspirations of the Parish as a whole.

### **9. Parish Plan/Neighbourhood Plan**

This item would be discussed again in the December meeting.

### **10. Planning Committee**

After a discussion it was decided by all members present that the Parish Council would not have a planning Committee. It was agreed that extra meetings would be convened by the Clerk if any application needed to be discussed between the usual monthly meetings.

### **11. Accounts**

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 956/957	Wages	£1097.97
Chq No 958	Stanton Parish Council	£61.00
Chq No 959	Key Online	£571.20
Chq No 960	Ixworth Village Hall	£168.75
Chq No 961	AJ Wheelie Bin Cleaning	£20.00
Chq No 962	Ixworth RBL	£75.00
Chq No 963	The Poppy Appeal	£25.00
Chq No 964	Dent Security Systems	£152.99

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

### **12. Speeding in Ixworth Thorpe**

Cllr Wilson informed members that she and the Clerk were still compiling information on such things as highways permission for installing the signs and requested this item be placed on the December agenda.

### **13. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received;

**Joanna Spice** – October Report - Response to Kebab Van  
**Suffolk Police** – October Report  
**John Griffiths** – Neighbourhood Development Plan  
**C.A.S.** – Annual Review Report  
**Suffolk Highways** – Installation of Road Signs  
**SALC** – Right of Appeal for Councils  
**Suffolk Highways** – Road Resurfacing - Temporary Road Closure  
**Suffolk Police Updates** – (18.10.2015, 28.10.2015, 01.11.2015, 08.11.2015)  
**Kirsty Downes** – Suffolk's Clean Sweep  
**St Eds** – Delegation Panel (04.11.2015) Decision List  
**Cllr Ben Lord** – Cemetery Concerns  
**Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report  
**John Sharpe** – Tree Issue

### **14. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Courtnell informed the members that he had been in touch with Cheryl Froud at St Edmundsbury Borough Council about the condition of the road names signs within the village. Ms Froud would be visiting the village early December to view them and stated she would replace or mend any that were in a bad condition. Cllr Courtnell also informed members that the Clerk had been notified that some sections of the play equipment had been found to be faulty on the recent inspection. A log of the Jungle Walk had rotten through and had broken off and links to one set of swings had become worn. The Clerk had contacted Playdale, who had installed the equipment, to request a visit from their engineer and to find out if equipment was still under guarantee. Cllr Courtnell felt the swings should be taken out of action until the links had been repaired.

### **15. Clerk's Report**

The Clerk informed members that Steve Wilson's annual pay review was due. It was resolved to award Mr Wilson with a 2% pay rise.

### **16. Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Lord stated how pleased and proud he had been to take part in the Remembrance Parade and hoped more Councillors would be able to attend next year's parade. Cllr Lord wished to raise his concerns about the amount of fallen leaves covering Walsham Road and Thistledown Drive.

Cllr Shelton was also concerned about the fallen leaves in the area of Fordham's Place and Garrard Place. Cllr Shelton also wished to highlight that a large bush was overgrown and covering the path in Saddlers Yard.

Cllr Wilson reported that the 40mph sign on the green in Ixworth Thorpe had been knocked down. Cllr Wilson also wished to highlight that garden waste was being dumped near the fence at Easter Green.

Cllr Laughton reported that he had obtained a quote for repairing the cobbled area in the High Street. It was agreed by all present to add this item to the December agenda.

### **17. Date of the Next Meetings**

It was confirmed the next two meetings of the Parish Council would be held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7pm and 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Both meetings would be held in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Signed

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Date