

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 8th June 2016 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE, B Cllr John Griffiths MBE and 4 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Laughton due to holiday – apology accepted by all members present.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on 11th May 2016.

4. Public Forum

The following points were highlighted by 2 residents attending;

- Overgrown verges and hedges making it difficult to walk on and at times having to walk in road. Areas especially affected are Thistledown Drive, High Street near the Fire Station, Thetford Road and entrance to Walsham Road
- Excessive growth on Mulleys roundabout
- Wild Flower garden at Ixworth Cemetery
- Road signs around village and in Suffolk generally are in need of cleaning or replacing
- Pot holes within the village, especially Stow Road
- Speedwatch Scheme

The Chairman reported that road resurfacing within the village was on Suffolk County Councils list and is included in their 5 year plan.

C Cllr Spicer stated the Thistledown Drive overgrown hedge was being dealt with by Suffolk County Council and encouraged members and residents to report other footpath that were overgrown.

C Cllr Spicer reported that hopefully the road resurfacing in Stow Road would be carried out soon once she had arranged a meeting with highways officers. At this meeting she also hoped to discuss and decide on a plan for Mulleys roundabout which was further discussed in item 6.

The Clerk informed the meeting that a meeting was being arranged with PCSO Ken Ruston on 16th July to discuss further with all volunteers who had expressed an interest the previous month.

B Cllr Simon Brown, ward member for Pakenham Parish was also in attendance to discuss the kebab van. This issue was discussed further in item 6.

5. Crown Lane Development

B Cllr Griffiths reported to the meeting that Persimmons appeal over the refusal of the application of a ghost island entrance to the new development had been completed by the Planning Inspector. The Planning Inspector had overturned St Edmundsbury Borough Delegation Committee decision to refuse the application so essentially permission for the ghost island entrance had now been granted. B Cllr Griffiths expected the application for a five spur roundabout giving access to the development proposed development would now be withdrawn by Persimmon.

6. Vehicular Entrances to Ixworth

Entrance from By Pass to Bury Road

B Cllr Simon Brown (Pakenham Ward) made the following points with reference to the kebab van operating just off Bury Road at this entrance to the village;

- Pakenham Parish concerned about kebab van being parked and operated there which is in Pakenham Parish

- Complaints had been received from Pakenham residents and a business within Ixworth
- Removal of the van is Suffolk County Councils responsibility, however, monitoring would be needed and support from Ixworth Parish Council
- Essentially van is parked in Ixworth village even though it is outside Ixworth Parish boundary
- A letter from Pakenham Parish Council to St Edmundsbury Borough Council expressing their concerns had been copied to Ixworth Parish Council and a reply informing them of Ixworth Parish Councils opinion would be appreciated

C Cllr Joanna Spicer stated she had looked into this issue and at present the van is not obstructing the highway but agreed removal was under the jurisdiction of Suffolk County Council. C Cllr Spicer explained that if the vehicle was a permanent fixture rather than a mobile food van then it may be possible to have the van removed. It was agreed to check the legality of the vehicle to check if it is actually able to be driven away legally. It was agreed to discuss Ixworth Parish Councils response to Pakenham Parish Council in item 15.

Mulleys Roundabout

The Chairman firstly explained that the Parish Council had resolved not to take ownership and responsibility of the grass area on the roundabout.

C Cllr Spicer made the following comments;

- Parked cars were being reported by the Clerk and removed or sold quickly. A strongly worded letter is sent to the owner once a report is made.
- A visit had been made to the area to discuss options for the grass area such as a low fence or bollards to stop vehicles for sale being parked on the area
- A second visit would hopefully be held next week so a suggested plan for the area could be completed and passed to the Parish Council to consider
- If bollards or fence was agreed it would need to be paid for by C Cllrs Spicer's highway budget with a contribution for the Parish Council

It was resolved to place this item on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting if the Parish Council has received C Cllr Spicer's options and costs for improving this area.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

Hempyard Bridge – Vandals had thrown the temporary red and white barriers into the river. The barriers were wedged in the river and would be removed when the inspection of the bridge takes place. The inspection is now scheduled to take place at the end of July when the water recedes further. However, the County Council had now officially closed the bridge until new barriers could be erected. The timber had now been delivered so construction of barriers more in keeping to the area is scheduled for next week. A conversation had been held with Mr Rowe who has agreed to repair the gate at Commister Lane. The overhanging tree was inspected and deemed not a danger, however, if the tree needed to be removed it would be the decision and responsibility of the landowner.

Bus Stop in High Street – The owners of a house near the bus stop just past the entrance to the village hall had approached C Cllr Spicer with a complaint stating residents waiting for the bus often sat on their window sill smoking and looking into their property. It was felt that even though there was sympathy for the situation there was no other place for the stop to be moved to.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths gave the Council information on who to contact within St Edmundsbury Borough Council who may be able to give assistance in compiling a neighbourhood plan. B Cllr Griffiths stressed how important a plan could be as they can be adopted by the local planning authority and be used for future developments within the village. All concerns residents have over the future of the village over the next 5, 10 or 15years could be included and protect what is important to the residents. B Cllr Griffiths explained that grants were available to help with the cost of compiling a plan. The information would be passed to all members by the Clerk.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

It was resolved that all members would visit the websites suggested by B Cllr Griffiths and research neighbourhood plans ready for the meeting in July. The issue of a neighbourhood plan had also been added to the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 13th June 2016.

10. Planning

DC/16/0995 – (i) 4no dwelling houses (Plots 11,12,14 & 15) and associated garaging – substituting plots 11,12,14,15 & 16 previously approved under planning application SE/11/1071 (ii) Change of use of paddocks to residential gardens – Dover Farm, Stow Road, Ixworth **No objection**

11. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1016/1017	Wages	£1163.67
Chq No 1018	H M Rev & Customs	£461.97
Chq No 1019	Anglian Water	£17.07
Chq No 1020	TOP Garden Services	£1025.00
Chq No 1021	A Adlington	£101.67
Chq No 1022	SALC	£705.68

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

12. Ixworth Cemetery

It was resolved to obtain quotes for pollarding of the Lime trees in the Cemetery and look to see if any other work is required. It was agreed to discuss a wild flower garden in the July meeting. Cllrs Birrell and McFruin agreed to put out the cemetery bins on a rota basis to be agreed with each other. Complaints had been received about the length of the grass within the Cemetery, the Clerk had spoken with the contractor and hopefully this would be resolved quickly.

13. Parish Council Meeting Venue

After a discussion it was resolved to continue to support the village hall by continuing to hold the Parish Council meetings in the bar area. However, it was agreed to apply for access to the fire station conference room for any extra meetings required.

14. Ixworth Annual Parish Meeting

The date and time were confirmed as Monday 13th June at 7pm in Ixworth Village Hall and agenda's had been displayed on notice boards. All members were urged to attend as many groups had agreed to attend to give small reports. It was agreed to bring along refreshments to serve on the evening.

15. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Joanna Spicer/Simon Brown/Pakenham PC** – Kebab Van
- **SNT BSE** – Security Advice
- **Suffolk Year of Walking**
- **Stanton PC** – Public Crime Meeting
- **Rickinghall PC** – Grant Request
- **Joanna Spicer/Claire Dickson** – Church Path
- **Stephen Manning** – VH Report
- **Jess Brockhurst** – Further Complaint
- **Katie Garnham** – Complaint –Overgrown Shrubs
- **Glyn French** – Hempyard Bridge
- **SNT** – June 2016 Update
- **SCC** – Temporary Road closure – Stow Road
- **Michael Marsh** – Complaint – BT Cabinets
- **Andy Osman** – Complaint – Overgrown Footpath
- **Adam Ford (St Eds)** - Reply to Jess Brockhurst Complaint
- **Magpas** – Thank You for Grant
- **St Eds** - SEBC Parish Forum
- **Rachel Waite** – Speeding Ixworth – Report from May Meeting
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Ken Ruston** – Speedwatch
- **Pakenham Parish Council** – Concerns over kebab van

It was agreed for the Clerk to report all the overgrown hedges/shrubs etc to the relevant Councils and inform residents of this action. The Clerk was also instructed to write to Mr Marsh in response to his complaint. It was resolved to grant £100 to Rickinghall PC to help fund the volunteer transport bus.

Steve Wilson's monthly report was read to members by the Chairman.

After a discussion it was agreed by all present to instruct the Clerk to write to Pakenham Parish Council to report that at this time the Parish Council did not want to take the matter of removing the kebab van any further.

16. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave the following report;

Cllr Shelton and the Chairman attended a meeting with Pigeon Investment Management who have been tasked by Cross & Son to develop land that runs parallel to the A1088. We gave a good overview of our current infrastructure issues such as lack of recreational facilities, a village hall needing to expand, lack of capacity at the Doctors Surgery and a full primary school.

The Chairman stated he had also attended the Ixworth Association AGM along with a handful of residents. The magazine continues to be strongly received as ever with a good waiting list for advertising. Grants are available for village facilities and amenities.

17. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- Tree problems within Ixworth had been added to the Annual Parish meeting agenda at a request from a resident in Thistledown Drive
- No notification had yet been received from the Electoral Officer at St Edmundsbury Borough Council about the vacancy on the Parish Council
- A request had been made to the Council on the person to contact about leasing a allotment on the junction of Commister Lane and Thetford Road

Cllr Shelton stated she would enquire about whom to contact about the allotment and pass this information to the Clerk to pass to the requesting resident.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson wished to highlight that she had received complaints about the amount of dog mess in Green Lane in Ixworth Thorpe.

Cllr Birrell reported that the Village Fete had gone well and a lot of residents had attended.

Cllr Reeve requested a meeting with the Clerk to discuss specifications to refurbish St Mary's Clock.

Cllr McFruin wished to inform members that the village hall had suffered a lot of vandalism recently. Cllr McFruin also requested if the litter bin in Abbey Close could be cemented to the ground as youths kept knocking it over and kicking it into the road. The Clerk was instructed to look into this.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

It was agreed by all present the next meeting would be held on 13th July at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Signed

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Date