

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 12th July 2017 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk) and five members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Rowe– apology was accepted by all members.

2. Declarations of Interest

Non pecuniary interests were declared by Cllrs Laughton and McFruin in item 10 – Ixworth Village Hall.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 14th June 2017.

4. Public Forum

Speedwatch Update

- The Speedwatch group now have 8 active members and 1 trained
- The group try to do one survey a week at different times
- There have been 8 surveys so far and 8 cars reported
- The Speedwatch team feel things are doing ok but not an improvement, cars are still going to fast especially Thetford Road and the High Street

It was discussed that more signage around the village may help, or alterations to the road layout in those areas. It was suggested perhaps humps in the road and look at other areas within the Borough such as Symonds Road in Bury St Edmunds.

It was agreed to contact C Cllr Spicer to discuss the plans for the Stow Road area.

Mr John Sharpe

- Stow Road pavement, in front of the council houses, needs clearing. Soil from the bank has once again drained down onto the pavement obscuring at least a 1/3 of the pavement
- All pavements within the village need sweeping on a regular basis, who is responsible? Gt Barton pavements get swept on a regular basis
- Mulley's roundabout is once again very overgrown and visibility is a safety concern

Mr Stephen Mann (Village Hall Committee Chairman)

- The committee need clarification on ownership of the Village Hall and Playing Fields land
- The committee cannot go ahead with changing the charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) until this is resolved
- The Charity Commission may not let the trustees alter the status unless the land is held by the C.I.O.

Cllr Lord stated this would be discussed further in item 10.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer sent her apologies for not being able to attend tonight's meeting. However she sent the following report;

- Meeting with By Pass Farms, Bidwell's, and SCC and SEBC officers
- Serious accident at junction of A1088 / Bardwell Road
- No dates yet for Stow Road sign
- No action plan yet for Hempyard Bridge

- I have had a helpful meeting re the High Street and the Tour of Britain cycling race on September 8th and I am fairly confident all is in hand to get in best condition
- I have had a complaint about activities (noise / early morning) by VERTAS who have moved on to the Fordham's site. Vertas is in fact wholly owned by the County Council (used to be our "facilities") – I am trying to speak to the managing director.

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths sent his apologies for not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

7. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Lord reported the consultation period was now finished. Anne-Marie Howell stated she would contact the Council once the designated area had been adopted.

Comments had been received from Troston PC to discuss the possibility of extending the area to include Troston. It was agreed to contact Troston PC to inform them that as part of the process of constructing a Neighbourhood Plan they would be consulted along with other neighbouring parishes.

It was agreed that the next meeting for the Neighbourhood Plan Group would be held on Wednesday 19th July at 7pm.

8. Planning

DC/17/1180 – rear and side extension – 15 Fordham Place, Ixworth

No objection

DC/17/1058 – (i) 1no fascia sign (ii) 1no hanging sign (iii) 3 no removable billboards – 32 High Street, Ixworth

No objection

9. Accounts

It was agreed to pay the following accounts;

Chq No 1120/1121	Wages	£1082.71
Chq No 1122	Zurich	£962.99
Chq No 1123	Magpas	£200.00
Chq No 1124	Atkins Thomson	£444.00
Chq No 1125	Anglian Water	31.94
Chq No 1126	TOP Garden Services	£512.50
Chq No 1127	Ixworth Village Hall	£172.00
Chq No 1128	SALC	£224.50
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£6.72

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

10. Ixworth Village Hall

Cllr Lord read the letter from the Solicitor with her recommendations. The Solicitor suggested that the Parish council register the land in their name as the current management committee of the village hall have no legal responsibility to own the land. However, once the Management Committee become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation they will have the legal capacity to hold the land.

A discussion was held and it was agreed for the Council to instruct their Solicitor to start the process to registering the land. Once the land was registered it was agreed that it could be then passed to the new C.I.O. providing the will of the trust permits.

Cllr Lord explained to all that once this process had been completed it would be clear to all who owns and was responsible for the land in question.

11. Robins Copse

The Clerk reported that she had not yet obtained a quote for the cost of transferring the land if the Council were to go ahead with this request. The size of the land that may be sold needed to be measured to ascertain the cost. Cllr Loughton agreed to measure the area and pass measurements to the Clerk. To clarify, the piece of land that is being discussed is a small area of land close to the school, not the whole area.

12. Ixworth Cemetery

A quote had been obtained by Cllr Anderson to extend the current road in the new piece of the Cemetery by approximately another 13 metres. The quote was for £1965 for the road & £250 to remove and dispose of soil from the site. It was agreed by all present to accept this quote and the Clerk was instructed to contact the contractor to arrange a convenience date.

13. Notice Boards

Cllr McFruin gave various information about quotes he had obtained to replace the current notice boards. However, Cllr McFruin had obtained quotes for locked notice board cabinets.

It was agreed by all present that the type of notice board needed to be accessible to members of the public. Also, if possible, the members would like wooden notice boards if possible. Cllr McFruin and Cllr Birrell stated they would work together to obtain quotes for the September meeting.

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **PC DeJongh** –
- **Chris Brown** – Co-op development at Fordham's Garage
- **St Eds** – Town centre Masterplan
- **Network Assurance** – Letter
- **Stephen Mann (VH)** – Request for Meeting/Information
- **St Eds** – Single Council for West Suffolk
- **Network Assurance** – Road Closure C646 Woolpit Road
- **Suffolk Community Foundation** – Birthday & New Year Honours Nominations
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Tim Passmore** – Response to Email from Chairman
- **The Royal British Legion Ixworth x 2-** Request for High Street Closure and Grant request

It was agreed that the Chairman would contact PC DeJongh.

It was agreed the Clerk would apply for the Street closure for Remembrance including a request for the street to be cleared of cars.

Cllr Lord declared a non-pecuniary interest in the grant request from The Royal British Legion Ixworth Branch. It was agreed to grant £100 to The Royal British Legion for the Branch to possibly send a delegate to the Great Pilgrimage 90 parade in Belgium.

15. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported the following;

- **Hempyard Bridge** – this is still ongoing however it had now been suggested that a survey of the bridge would cost at least £25,000
- **Footbridge over the by-pass** – research had begun into the feasibility of the Parish Council delivering the footbridge, with Section 106 money from future developments in the area, rather than Suffolk County Council as their suggested costs seem very excessive. Reports would follow as further information has been obtained
- **Crown Lane Masterplan** – By Pass- Farms and Bidwell's reported that the draft masterplan for that area was ready but they were awaiting Persimmons responses to their recent planning applications
- **Accident on A1088** – Sadly there had been another serious accident at the ghost island junction going to Bardwell on the A1088. Once again this highlights that this road is unsuitable for another ghost island junction to access the new development at Crown Lane. It was agreed the Chairman continues to campaigning rigorously regarding this matter before it deteriorates further.

The Chairman reported he was unavailable to attend the meeting in August which is usually only planning and finance. Three other Councillors also stated they would be unable to attend. After a discussion it was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 13th September. It was agreed that the Clerk could raise the cheques to pay council employees and these payments would then be confirmed at the September meeting.

16. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- The installation of the de-fib for the kiosk in Ixworth Thorpe was still being chased
- The agreement for adopting the telephone kiosk in Stow Road had been received and a cheque needed to be sent for £1 – The agreement was signed by the Chairman and it was agreed the Clerk could send a cheque for £1

Other Outstanding Issues

Gate sign for Commister Lane
 St Mary's Clock Face – information to obtain a faculty
 Information on holding Parish surgeries
 Training (planning & Councillors)
 Play area fence (awaiting quote)
 Quote for sunken graves at Cemetery
 Updating Grant of Burial Forms and processes for burials and memorials at the Cemetery

17. Councillors Reports

- Cllr Wilson reported the footpath sign near the phone box in Stow Road has fallen down
- Cllr Shelton wanted to highlight the sunken graves in the Cemetery
- Cllr Birrell was concerned about the cars parked near the school in Crown Lane
- Cllr Reeve stated that company who were going to refurbish the parish clock needed scaffolding for the work to be carried out. Cllr Reeve stated the company would obtain the quote and pass to the Parish Council
- Cllr Anderson stated the footpath in the Churchyard was overgrown. Cllr Anderson also requested if quotes could be obtained for flashing speed signs, similar to other village, could be obtained for installing in Ixworth
- Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson monthly report
- Cllr Lord read an email from Mr Osman about the maintenance of the circular path around Ixworth. It was agreed to pass to C Cllr Spicer

18. Date of the Next Meeting

As agreed above the date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 13th September 2017 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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Signed

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Date