

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 21st March 2018 at 7:30pm

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

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

1. Apologies for Absence

All members were 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 14th February 2018.

4. Public Forum

The following comments were made by members of the public present;

- **Speedwatch** – The co-ordinator OF Ixworth Speedwatch gave the members an update of how the group were progressing. The group were holding sessions as much as possible and when they were carrying out a survey they were really making a difference. Data would need to be confirmed with PCSO Ken Ruston, but several letters had been sent to drivers of speeding cars. The Speedwatch group also requested if 'flashing speed signs' could be considered in Ixworth like other villages in this area. It was agreed to add this the agenda for April for further discussion.
- **Flooding** – A resident wanted to highlight flooding at the junction of Bury Road and the A143. C Cllr Spicer made a note of the residents concerns.
- **War Memorial** – A resident enquired if any progress had been made of refurbishing the names ON the war memorial and the memorial trough. The Clerk stated the War Memorial would be discussed in item 15 and the stonemason has ordered the trough but this order has not yet been received
- **Sign** – A resident enquired if there had been any progress on the installation of a sign on the gate leading to Hempyard Bridge. The Clerk reported a quote had been received and the members needed to agree the quote and confirm the wording before the sign was ordered. This would be discussed further in item 21.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Speeding** – C Cllr Spicer reported that she has considered purchasing 30mph stickers for residents to place on their wheelie bins to remind drivers of the speed limit within the village. The signs could be supplied to residents in the two or three roads that suffer from excess speeding, possibly Stow Road, Bury Road and Thetford Road
- **Mulley's Roundabout** – C Cllr Spicer reported that Guy Smith was still trying to arrange a meeting with Marketforce to discuss sponsorship of the round about by the Parish Council.
- **Grass Area near Dover House** – this area has been added to the grass cutting schedule
- **Flooding at the Junction of Peacock Rise and Stow Road** – This item has not yet been scheduled as further work was needed as this project is very complicated
- **Hempyard Bridge** – A quotation for the repair of the bridge was now with a Suffolk County Council Officer
- **Bridge over the By-Pass** – A meeting had been held with Parish Council representatives, Suffolk County Council Officers and St Edmundsbury Borough Council Officers to discuss the Parish Council proposals and quotes for a bridge over the by-pass. It had been a very useful meeting and it had been agreed to investigate the Parish Councils proposal further. C Cllr Spicer confirmed she would fund the initial feasibility study

- **Other Issues** – By-Pass Farms Masterplan and the Persimmon planning application were still being looked at as there were issues with both that need looking into further. The spine road leading to the new development would not be started until the planning application for the houses had been passed

Cllr Lord reported to members that he and Cllr Laughton had attended the meeting to discuss the bridge over the by-pass. Cllr Lord presented a plan to all present at the meeting highlighting a better option than had been previously discussed. Suffolk County Council had previously suggested that it would not be feasible as the cost could be up to £750,000 but Cllr Laughton and he had produced a plan that could possibly only cost £200,000. The lower cost could possibly be obtained from Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy from the new development. Members were happy for this to be continued to be investigated. Cllr Reeve wished to thank Suffolk County Council for gritting the High Street.

The members conveyed their frustrations at the time all items causing concern in the Parish were either not completed or took so long even discuss.

For instance;

- **Mulley's Roundabout** – first discussed over 18 months ago
- **Grit Bin in Ixworth Thorpe** – reported in November, still had not been refilled
- **Flooding in Peacock Rise** – over 18 months
- **Various Pavements needing clearing back for safety** – over a year (Thetford Road)
- **Pavement Repairs** – even and unsafe
- **Flashing Speed Signs in Ixworth Thorpe** – still waiting for a decision

It was suggested by C Cllr Spicer that the Parish Council write to Suffolk County Council to highlight their frustrations. It was agreed by all present that The Chairman would write highlighting their concerns.

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Leader of the Council Report** - was available to read on the West Suffolk website
- **Locality Budget** – he had granted the following, £1000 to Ixworth Thorpe Speeding Group, £200 to Ixworth Free School Science Project, £750 to Ixworth Cricket Group and £500 to WW1 Commemoration Events. B Cllr Griffiths urged local groups to apply as his grant period started again in April
- **Planning Issues** - St Eds planning officers were still assessing the Persimmon application and the Vertas application. Also, Planning Officers were looking into the condition of the pavement in Walsham Road after a recent planning application had been granted

7. Hempyard Bridge

This item was covered in item 6.

8. Mulley's Roundabout

This item was covered in item 6.

9. Planning

DC/18/0195 – Repair and restore plasterwork on external elevations and re-paint – 70-70B High Street, Ixworth	No objection
DC/18/0226 – 1no Yew tree – Pollard up to 3 metres (10 feet) 7 High Street, Ixworth	No objection
DC/18/0361 - Various tree work (see application on West Suffolk website) – Round House, Thetford Road, Ixworth	No objection
DC/18/0416 – TPO140 – 1 no. Plum tree, reduce to 1.5m – 7 St Edmund Close, Ixworth	No objection

10. Ixworth Christmas Market & Christmas Tree

Cllr Lord read a letter received from a resident about the possibility of holding a Christmas Market again in Ixworth. Cllrs Birrell and Rowe volunteered to contact the resident and discuss the feasibility of taking this project forward.

Cllr Anderson volunteered to investigate whether a Christmas tree would still fit at the bottom of the High Street and if not, investigate the possibility of installing lights on the tree currently there.

The Clerk would pass contact details to the members above.

11. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Clerk reported that the new lockable filing cabinet had been installed. The Clerk also reported that she had started sorting all information the Parish Council held and which information needed to be kept and which needed to be destroyed.

The Clerk informed members that the contract for LCPAS to be the Data Protection Officer had been signed and returned and the visit to check the Parish Council's compliance would be arranged for the near future.

The Clerk requested if a new computer and monitor could be purchased at the cost of £400. Also, once all paperwork had been sorted could she arrange secure shredding of unwanted information at a cost of £50. All members agreed to the above.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Laughton and Birrell reported that latest meeting had gone very well and it had been decided the vision would be called 'Something for Everyone'. The next stage is a meeting with the consultant and starting the grant application.

13. Accounts

The following payments were agreed;

Chq No 1184,1185,1186	Wages	£1199.68
Chq No 1187	H M Rev & Customs	£335.88
Chq No 1188	Haward Horological Ltd	£2550.00
Chq No 1189	Multisigns	£54.00
Chq No 1190	Ixworth Village Hall	£153.75
Chq No 1191	Shaw & Sons	£477.60
Chq No 1192	Anglian Water	£15.22
Chq No 1193	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	£361.15
Chq No 1194	Viking (GDPR)	£308.69
Chq No 1195	A Adlington (expenses)	£101.70
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£7.98

The RFO was authorised to transfer £4500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

14. Ixworth Cemetery

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the working group would be held on 11th April 2018. The group would report back at a future meeting.

15. War Memorial Refurbishment

The Clerk reported she had received a quote for £1056 to refurbish the letters and clean the memorial. It was agreed by all present to accept this quote.

16. Play Area

The Clerk reported she had received two quotes of £1100 and £1600 for replacing the fence behind the toddler area of the play area. It was agreed to accept the quote for £1100 and the Clerk was instructed to contact the company concerned to get the fence replaced as soon as possible as it was a health and safety issue.

The Clerk reported there were a couple of other issues raised by the recent play area inspection and she would obtain quotes for the next meeting.

17. Ixworth Village Sign

Cllr Laughton reported he had obtained a quote for installing information boards explaining the pictures on the village sign. The quote was for £1140, however Ixworth Association had agreed to grant the Parish Council this amount to take this project forward. Cllr Laughton informed members he was going to speak with the resident who owned the white wall behind the sign to get their permission to install the boards on the wall. Initial discussions had suggested the Parish Council may have to repair and paint the wall before installation of the boards could be completed. Cllr Laughton stated if this was the case he would obtain a quote and report back to a future meeting.

18. Councillor Vacancy

Cllr Lord reported that so far two residents had expressed their interest in being considered for co-option for the vacancy on the Council. After a discussion it was agreed to possibly extend the closing date to the end of April and place a poster in the shop window.

19. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Persimmon** – Crown Lane Development
- **West Suffolk** – Ward Boundaries
- **John Griffiths** – Vertas Update
- **Katie Driver** – Vertas Update
- **Louise Humphreys** – Ixworth Christmas Market (in item 10)
- **LCPAS** – Planning
- **Highways England** – A11 Barton Mills
- **LCPAS** – Review of Ethics Standards
- **Ixworth Patient Association** – Notes
- **Ixworth RBL** – Previous funding Request
- **NHS Suffolk** – Information Sharing
- **West Suffolk** – Delegation Panel Decision (07.03.18)
- **Steve Wilson** - Monthly Report
- **Nick Laughton** – Street Light Commister Lane
- **Peter Longfield** – Minutes in Library

The Clerk reported she had spoken with the library and they had agreed that if the Clerk supplied them with a folder they would be happy to hold it in the Library with one year's Parish Council minutes.

20. Chairman's Report

As previously discussed it was agreed that the Chairman write to Suffolk County Council highlighting the members concerns with reference to highway issues in the Parish. It was stressed that C Cllr Spicer was always helpful and concerned with her ward, but it was felt she did not always receive support from her Council. The Chairman also reported he had received a letter from a member of Ixworth Army Cadets for a grant towards an expedition he was undertaking. It was agreed by all present to grant £50.

The Chairman reported he would not be able to attend the next delegation committee to assist in planning application **DC/18/0139**. It was agreed that Cllr Laughton would attend instead.

21. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **Stow Road Telephone Kiosk** – A meeting had been arranged with a representative from W.I. to discuss their possible plans for the kiosk on 29th March 2018 at 9.30am. Cllr Wilson volunteered to also attend
- **Village Hall** – The Clerk reported that the Solicitor had confirmed the application to register the land had now been submitted
- **Sign for gate leading to Hemyard Bridge** – A quote had been obtained for £75. It was agreed to accept the quote and it was agreed the wording on the sign would be 'Emergency Access – Please Keep Clear at All Times'
- **Robins Copse** – The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from the resident interested in purchasing a portion of Robins Copse in front of his property. The resident was enquiring if this issue had progressed any further and highlighted his concerns with the woodland near his property

22. Councillor Reports

Cllr Wilson enquired about the following;

- **Tree Stump in Ixworth Thorpe** – had a quote been obtained for removal or cutting into smaller pieces for removal
- **Church Light in Ixworth Thorpe** – it still required replacing
- **Ixworth Thorpe Drains** – blocked again

- **Footpath Sign in Stow Road** – sign was still laying on pavement near steps in Stow Road

Cllr Reeve reported that he had received many compliments on the refurbished clock face. Cllr Reeve also reported that the yellow lines in Saddlers Yard needed repainting.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson’s monthly report. Cllr Laughton also reported that a street light had been removed from Commister Lane.

23. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on 11th April at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

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Signed

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Date