

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on Wednesday 11th July 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Ben Lord (Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton and Pam Shelton.

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs John Rowe, Terry Lilley, Ben Birrell and Trevor Anderson – all apologies were accepted by members present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Sophia Wilson declared a pecuniary interest in planning application DC/18/0544.

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 13th June 2018.

4. Public Forum

A resident informed members that the emergency access sign had still not yet been installed on the gate in Commister Lane. The Clerk was instructed to chase this issue.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer offered her apologies for not being able to attend this evenings meeting and sent the following report via email;

- **Mulley's Roundabout** – The Chairman would update members in his report
- **Footpath over the by-pass** – discussions on this project are ongoing and a meeting has been arranged with Parish Council and Suffolk County Council Officers to discuss further
- **Ixworth Thorpe Pavements** – the pavements will be swept by St Edmundsbury Borough Council
- **School Transport** – proposals for changes to school transport have been agreed and more information will be available in September
- **Hempyard Bridge** – the harris fencing that had been installed to protect the vulnerable section of the bridge and residents from the damaged area, will be tidied up as soon as possible. S.C.C. have been trying to contact the owner of the tree overhanging the bridge to request the tree be cut back
- **Ixworth Thorpe VAS signs** – I am still awaiting permission from the Highways Department that the two VAS signs suggested can be installed

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

The following report was given by B Cllr Griffiths;

- **Ixworth Thorpe Pavements** – B Cllr Griffiths had received assurances that the pavements would be swept as soon as possible
- **Saddlers Yard** – B Cllr Griffiths suggested contacting the highways department, so they could contact the owner of the tree and request the tree is cut
- **Kebab Van** – (for info as in Pakenham Parish) An enforcement notice has been served on the owner of the kebab van
- **Vertas Planning Application** – this application is still ongoing

Cllrs Wilson and Lord had visited the pavement problems and blocked drains in Ixworth Thorpe and were very concerned about situation. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Lord, the Chairman, construct a report and send to C Cllr Spicer highlighting the concerns.

7. Ixworth Flashing Speed Signs

As previously discussed the Clerk had obtained a quote for a flashing speed sign that can be moved to different locations. It was agreed that a sign and brackets could be ordered up to a cost of £2000. The Clerk was instructed to inform the Speedwatch Group and ascertain if they were willing to operate and look after the sign.

8. Ixworth Thorpe Speed Signs

The Parish Council are still waiting for permission to install the signs from Suffolk County Council Highways Departed before purchasing and installing.

9. Planning

Cllr Wilson left the room as she had declared a pecuniary interest in application DC/18/0544

DC/18/0544 – Outline Planning Application (means of access to be considered) – 5no dwellings (following demolition of 3no existing dwellings) – Land North of Green Acre, Thetford Road, Ixworth Thorpe **No Objection**

Cllr Wilson returned to the room.

DC/18/1114/HH – Householder Planning Application – rear garden room extension – 26 Street Farm Lane, Ixworth **No Objection**
DC/18/1174 – 1no garden shed (retrospective) – 47 Chalk Lane, Ixworth **No Comment**

10. Ixworth Thorpe Bollards

It was agreed Cllr Wilson could obtain a quote for replacing the damaged bollards on the grass area in Ixworth Thorpe. It was agreed to discuss further at the September meeting.

11. Ixworth Christmas Market

The Chairman had contacted Cllr Rowe who had been investigating this idea. Cllr Rowe reported that he felt it is too late to arrange this year and suggested this project is discussed early next year for Christmas 2019.

12. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Clerk reported policies and notices were all in place. The Clerk had started to investigate the possibility of a .gov.uk email address and website for the Parish Council. The Clerk stated that as the website was getting more complicated could she have permission to approach a company that specialises in website design to discuss the Councils options. It was agreed by all present for the Clerk to investigate website providers further.

13. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1229, 1230, 1231	Wages	£1273.49
Chq No 1232	Anglian Water	£17.51
Chq No 1233	Haward Horological Ltd	£250.00
Chq No 1234	St Eds BC	£37.70
Chq No 1235	Ixworth VH	£163.75
Chq No 1236	Playdale Playgrounds	£1076.24
Chq No 1237	Saxon Monumental	£714.00
Chq No 1238	A Adlington (GDPR)	£36.00
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£21.10

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

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Joanna Spicer** – Footpath A143
- **Ben Lord** – Hempyard Bridge
- **Suffolk Police** – PCSO Funding/ SNT Newsletter
- **Resident** – Permissive Footpath Clearance
- **Ixworth Village Hall** – Fees Increase
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Anglian Ruskin Student** – Meeting Request

Cllr Laughton agreed to contact the Anglian Ruskin Student to discuss further and the possibility of arranging a meeting.

15. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave the following report;

Persimmon Meeting

Not unsurprisingly but for the last month, I have had various promises from Persimmon to offer dates to meet and so far, nothing has been forthcoming! For sure, they will not get let off lightly and I will continue to pursue this.

Visit of Matt Hancock

I hosted a last-minute visit of Matt Hancock on Friday 29 June to fully debrief on our post office issue which was followed by a walk through the village where Matt met with constituents and businesses. There is a common theme within the feedback from businesses in the first instance citing how unviable the proposal to host post office services is with constituents complaining over the lethargic response to re-establish services within the village. The latest feedback from the Post Office to Matt is frankly pathetic and even though Matt's plate has now become a little fuller with his recent cabinet promotion, I will be requesting he turns the heat up a little more.

Kebab Van

I have been accosted over the past week by at least three or four residents requesting rather aggressively that I support a petition against the enforcement action instigated by St Edmundsbury against the proprietor and owner of the kebab van operating in Bury Road. I have flatly refused to on the basis that this is outside our Parish Council constituency and also because a formal legal process is underway which frankly, given our wider experiences of appeals and enforcements by the Borough, will not have been taken lightly. There also appears to be a fundamental lack of accuracy being reported in this campaign and petition instigated. The planning application which we abstained from commenting on for aforementioned reasons was refused and the applicant did not appeal the refusal yet continued trading without the appropriate consents. Consequently, this enforcement action has now occurred and appears to be wholly reasonable. Why should this business be allowed to trade with an unfair advantage over two other takeaway businesses in this village who operate with the appropriate consents and paying business rates etc.

Primary School Visit

I will be meeting the new headteacher of Ixworth Primary on Monday 16 July to see how progress is developing and what community links can be forged.

16. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following were outstanding;

- **Play Area** – various issues including hedge trimming
- **Stow Road Telephone Kiosk** – letters to RBL & WI
- **Village Hall** – Land Registry
- **Cemetery** – Fees/terms of use/working group meeting
- **Neighbourhood Plan** – website
- **General Data Protection Regulations** – Ixworth PC.gov.uk email and website – various policies to submit to Data Protection Officer
- **Other Issues** – Stow Road footpath sign/Sign on gate in Commister Lane/paperless working/Parish Surgeries

17. Councillors Reports

Cllr Laughton reported he had received the proofs from the printers for the information boards to go near the village sign. Cllr Laughton also read Steve Wilsons monthly report.

Cllr Reeve wanted to highlight that the Holly tree in St Mary's needed attention. Cllr Reeve also reported that the kissing gates giving access to the permissive footpath needed attention as some of the posts were rotten.

Cllr Wilson reported that the litter bin in the lay-by by the Church had been damaged again.

Cllr Wilson also had received a quote for removing the large tree stump in Ixworth Thorpe. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Wilson could accept the quote up to £200 to get the stump removed.

18. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed the next meeting would be held on 8th August at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

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Signed

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Date