

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7:30pm

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

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Birrell and Rowe – apologies were accepted by all members present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Non pecuniary declarations were received from Cllrs Laughton and McFruin in relation to item 10.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on Monday 6th February 2017.

4. Public Forum

The following points were raised by members of the public present;

- **Ixworth Thorpe Pavement** – The condition of the pavement is in bad repair and very difficult to walk along. The verges are overgrown making it impossible to walk with a child, the pavement is only wide enough for one person
- **Ixworth Thorpe Drains** – One of the drains is blocked again and when it rains water overflows. It was felt that a water main was also broken which was not helping the situation
- **Peacock Rise** – The notice board is in need of repairing – also would the notice board in Scott Road be replaced
- **Mulley's Roundabout** – The roundabout had been cleared a bit but a large black item had been left behind
- **Stow Road** – An enquiry was made as to when the new road markings to slow traffic would be painted
- **War Memorial** – Mr Palastanga, Chairman of Ixworth & District British Legion, requested if he could place an article in the village magazine about removing wreaths from the War Memorial
- **War Memorial** – Mr & Mrs Palastanga requested if they could purchase a planter/trough to place in front of the War Memorial to Remembrance Crosses throughout the year

C Cllr Spicer stated she would report on Mulley's Roundabout and Stow Road in her report.

The Clerk was instructed to report the blocked drains to Suffolk County Council and the water leak to Anglian Water.

C Cllr Spicer also made note of the complaints about the pavement in Ixworth Thorpe.

Mr & Mrs Palastanga were requested to seek a quote for the cost of a planter/trough.

Mr Palastanga was given permission to place an article in the village magazine.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Lorry ban along the B1111 from Garboldisham to Stanton** - A new lorry ban will be in place to stop lorries over 18 tonnes using the B1111. The alternative route will come through Ixworth Thorpe. If traffic is increased C Cllr Spicer requested that she is informed.
- **Fire Rescue Service** – The Fire Rescue Service held an Impact Event on 14th February 2017 in Ixworth. C Cllr Spicer attended the event and there were no major issues raised in Ixworth.
- **Suffolk Fire Service** – Suffolk Fire Service are recruiting Retained Fire Fighters in Ixworth
- **Ixworth Library** – Ixworth Library will be closed for two weeks between the 10th & 24th April 2017
- **Mulley's Roundabout** – Mr Guy Smith, Suffolk Highways Department, has spoken with Marketingforce about sponsorship of the roundabout. Marketingforce will bring the roundabout up to a good standard if a business is willing to sponsor it once tidied. The cost would be approximately £2000 per annum.

- **Stow Road Traffic Calming** – C Cllr Spicer confirmed that the word ‘Slow’ to be painted on the road, would hopefully be completed before June. C Cllr Spicer also reported that she had agreed to fund the design for the entrance to the village along Stow Road
- **Speedwatch** – C Cllr Spicer informed members that she had agreed to grant £1000 to Ixworth Community Speedwatch Group

It was suggested that maybe two or three businesses could share the cost of sponsoring the roundabout. C Cllr Spicer agreed to arrange a meeting with Guy Smith, businesses that had expressed an interest in sponsorship, the Parish Council and Marketingforce to move this project forward. Members expressed their concern at the cost of the design for the entrance to the village along Stow Road. However, it was agreed to wait to see the design.

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Planning Officer** – B Cllr Griffiths reported there was a new planning officer – Ms Penny Mills
- **Crown Lane Development Access** - Persimmon had withdrawn the application to create a five arm roundabout to access the new development
- **Masterplan** – B Cllr Griffiths agreed to arrange a meeting between the Parish Council, Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council to discuss the Masterplan for the Crown Lane area
- **Speedwatch** – B Cllr Griffiths informed members that he had agreed to grant £1000 to Ixworth Community Speedwatch Group
- **Locality Budget** – B Cllr Griffiths reported that he still had approximately £1000 in his locality budget to grant and urged members to encourage any groups within his ward to apply for a grant

B Cllr Griffiths also explained that St Edmundsbury Borough Council was also starting Community Awards to people in the Community. If anyone knew of anyone deserving, an unsung hero, please contact him.

7. Planning

- DC/17/0187** – (i) porch to front elevation (ii) two storey side and (iii) single storey rear extension – 22 Street Farm Lane, Ixworth **No objection**
- DC/17/0353** – Woods to North of Walsham Road – Coppice – 14no Sycamores, 1no Field Maple and 3no Elm **No objection**
- DC/17/0375** – Two storey side and rear extension – 43 Chalk Lane, Ixworth **No objection**
- DC/17/0011** – (Re-consultation of a planning proposal) (i) 1no Hornbeam – fell (ii) reduce lateral spread up to 1.5 metres to North-East (iii) 1 no Silver Birch – fell – Lammas Field, The Paddock, Ixworth **No objection**
- DC/17/0360** – Removal of public payphone – Stow Road, Ixworth **No objection**

8. Crown Lane Development

Cllr Lord reported that he and C Cllr Spicer had met with Marcus Hopkins, the Chairman of Bypass Farms. Since that meeting a letter has been received from Bidwell's requesting a meeting with the Parish Council. It was agreed that Cllr Lord would arrange a meeting and the Clerk, Cllrs Laughton and Wilson would also attend. A discussion took place about the unfortunate news that Persimmon had withdrawn the application for a five arm roundabout as the access to the new development. Access from a roundabout is the preferred option for the Parish Council.

9. St Mary's Church

The Clerk and Chairman had received letters concerning the decision taken at the February meeting to not undertake any more maintenance work at St Mary's Churchyard. Rev Garbett has requested a meeting to discuss further. It was agreed that Cllr Lord contact Rev Garbett to arrange. It was agreed that the Clerk, Cllrs Lord, Laughton and Anderson would attend.

10. Ixworth Village Hall

Cllr Lord reported he had attended the recent consultation evening in the village hall concerning the suggested improvements to the village hall. The evening was very well attended and a good discussion held. Many good points and negative points were raised about the plans.

Cllr Lord stated the Trustees had a thankless task but were doing a very good job.

It was suggested at the meeting that the Village Hall, in its present position and size, was not fit for purpose for an ever growing village. The Trustees stated they would take all comments on board and arrange another consultation evening in the future.

11. Robin's Copse

The Clerk informed members that the deeds for Robins Copse had been returned from the Solicitor. A small discussion took place about the residents request to obtain the small piece of overgrown trees at the edge of the Copse. Cllr Laughton suggested selling the land at a cost of £1000 plus solicitors fees. This was agreed by all present. The Clerk was instructed to contact the resident concerned to open discussions.

12. Accounts

The following were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1082/1083	Wages	£1113.09
Chq No 1084	H M Rev & Customs	£349.60
Chq No 1085	OST Technology (Speedwatch	£954.00
Chq No 1086	Ixworth Village Hall	£153.75
Chq No 1087	R W Engineering	£149.70
Chq No 1088	Playdale Playgrounds	£3490.09
Chq No 1089	A Adlington	£102.88
Chq No 1090 (Cancelled)		
Chq No 1091	T.O.P. Garden Services	£512.50
Chq No 1092	A Adlington (ARCO)	£161.89

Direct Debit Nest Pensions £6.79

The RFO was authorised to transfer £6500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

13. Play Area

The Clerk reported that hopefully the work on the replacement equipment would start on Monday 13th March.

14. Speedwatch

The Clerk confirmed that two grants of £1000 each had been agreed by C Cllr Spicer and B Cllr Griffiths to fund the Community Speedwatch Group. The Clerk confirmed the Radar Gun had arrived and the hi-vis jackets had been purchased. The signs had been ordered but not yet been received. The Clerk confirmed she would deliver the equipment to the co-ordinator on the group.

15. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Residents of Thistledown Drive** – The Pit
- **Ally Balaam** – Ixworth Thorpe Footpath
- **SALC** - War Memorials Grant Scheme
- **Simon Brown/Rebecca Hopfensperger** – A143
- **SALC** – Area Meeting Dates
- **Suffolk Police** – Public Meeting Dates
- **Highway Matters Newsletter**
- **Tom Mann** – Flood & Water Project Officer
- **Avian Flu Update**
- **Boundary Review** – Eastern Region
- **West Suffolk** – Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Masterplan
- **SALC** – Area Meeting Agenda
- **West Suffolk** – Public Space Protection Order – Ixworth Play Area
- **St Mary's Church** – Rev Garbett, Mike Breffit – x 3
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Jack Norman** – Temp Closure of Library
- **Andrew Harvey** – Public space Protection Order/Dog Fouling Awareness Event on playing field

A discussion took place about the Public Space Protection Order and the Dog Fouling Event. The Clerk was instructed to contact Andrew Harvey for further information. The Clerk was also instructed to pass on the details of the Village Hall Management Committee and the Primary School.

16. Chairman's Report

The Chairman made references to comments made during the recent Village Hall consultation evening concerning anti-social behaviour that seemed to be a growing issue within various areas of the village. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Lord contact the Police & Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, to arrange a meeting to discuss the anti-social behaviour within the village along similar lines to what was held in Stanton last year that seemed to be successful.

17. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that the paperwork to adopt the telephone kiosk in Ixworth Thorpe had now been completed. The telephone had already been removed. The Clerk had obtained a quote to install a defibrillator in the kiosk from Community Heartbeat. The quote was for £1750. It was resolved to accept this quote. The Clerk was instructed to contact Community Heartbeat to accept the quote and move this project forward as soon as possible. Cllr Wilson informed members that Mr Alan Smith had volunteered to refurbish the kiosk, Mr Smith was to be given permission to purchase the necessary items needed to complete this task from Tripp Batt. The Clerk reported that the new litter bin had been installed next to the bench by the village sign.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson reported the drain at the edge of the road near Easter Green was once again damaged and in need of repair. Cllr Wilson also stated she would contact Harry Stebbing about the refurbishment of Ixworth village sign.

Cllr McFruin reported that there was once again a lot of anti-social behaviour within the village.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson's monthly report.

It was agreed by all present that Cllr Lord contact Inspector Matt Dee to arrange a meeting to discuss the anti-social behaviour within the village.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed the date of the next meeting would be Wednesday 12th April 2017 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