

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 9th November 2011 at 7:30pm

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), B Cllr John Griffiths and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr N Plummer due to illness. Apologies were also received from C Cllr Spicer.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Reeve for item 9 and Cllr Laughton if Village Hall is to be discussed.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meetings held on 12th October 2011 as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

Meeting Adjourned

5. Public Forum

No comments.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

The following report was received via email:

Since the last meeting there have been 3 crimes of note.

- On the 17th September a purse was stolen by an unknown offender while the bag was left unattended inside a local pub.
- Overnight 17/16th October several pig feed bin lids were stolen by unknown offenders.
- Overnight 6/7th November unknown offenders have gained entry to pub by forcing a downstairs window, once inside monies to the value of £ 713 have been stolen. Enquiries are continuing and this has been linked to two other similar crimes in the local area.

The theft of scrap metal is again on the increase across the county. Please report any suspicious vehicles or persons who may approach you asking for scrap metal. Please report registration plates and descriptions of people and ring us. We would rather check a vehicle out and it come to nothing than not to check anything at all and then a crime is committed.

Feel free to contact the team on 01284 774100 or e mail

stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

**PCSO 3215 Gemma Robinson
St Edmundsbury Rural North SNT
Ixworth Police Station**

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer

The following points were received via email;

- School Organisation review – A response from the Parish Council to the consultation document is needed and reading of the various literature about the option of a free school
- Riverside Walk - Claire Dickson will contact the clerk to arrange a meeting
- Library - Diane has now retired, staffing has been organised by Lisa Elmer.
- Fire Station / Police Station - planning application has been prepared.
- Crown Lane – In reference to the meeting recently held, the developer could build the road, that then could be trialled as in/out only. If this was then to cause more problems for Crown Lane it could then be closed at a later date.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffith confirmed that St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council would be working closely together in the future. The Councils would be combining many services which would save money for both Councils.

B Cllr Griffiths urged the Parish Council and residents to keep sending their views to the Borough or County Councils on any issues that affect this area. B Cllr Griffiths stated that it was good to hear the views of residents at the recent meeting held to discuss the Crown Lane development.

Meeting reconvened

9. Permissive Footpath (Riverside Walk)

The clerk read an email received from Claire Dickson the Rights of Way Officer for Suffolk County Council. The email informed the members that the gentleman that was going to help with the leaflet, showing the walk, was away at present. When he has returned, she would contact the clerk to arrange a meeting with the Councillors currently working on the wording for the new leaflet. The Councillors concerned are Cllrs McFruin, Shelton and N Plummer. Cllr Reeve reported that Suffolk County Council have delivered a new kissing gate which he would install in the next few weeks.

10. Schools Review

The Chairman reported that she had attended a meeting to discuss the future of schools within this area. The Chairman reported that she felt the Beyton Annexe option, with in Suffolk County Councils current consultation document on schools, would not be ideal for Ixworth. The Chairman reported a new group 'The Ixworth & Stanton Free School Group' wished to open a 'free school' in Ixworth and she felt this was a much better option for the children of Ixworth. The group have already got support from C Cllr Joanna Spicer, Matthew Hancock MP for West Suffolk and David Ruffley MP for Bury St Edmunds. After a discussion it was agreed to support the free school option. The clerk was instructed, with the assistance of the Chairman, to reply to the consultation document stating the Parish Council would be supporting 'The Ixworth & Stanton Free School Group'. The clerk reported that a letter had been received from the new group requesting support and funding to pursue this option. It was agreed by all present to grant £500 to the group to assist in start up costs.

11. Local Development Framework

The Chairman reported that the meeting held on 2nd November 2011 had been quite well attended. The clerk reported that many reply slips had been completed and the overall response was that residents did not wish to see through traffic from the new development into Crown Lane which already had traffic problems. Various options were discussed and it was agreed by all present to write to St Edmundsbury Borough Council to suggest an option of traffic exiting only through the new development which may ease traffic on Crown Lane. An option also for St Edmundsbury to consider is to build a road around the outside of the development for such traffic. The clerk was instructed, with the assistance of the Chairman, to write to St Edmundsbury Borough Councils expressing these ideas.

12. Planning Applications

SE/11/1229 – Erection of infill conservatory – 18 Green Lane, Ixworth Thorpe, IP31 1QN

No objection

SE/11/1253 – Conversion of detached coach house to provide residential accommodation and alterations to existing access – Ixworth House, 12 St Edmund Close, Ixworth, IP31 2HP

No objection

13. Determined Applications

SE/11/0992 – The Barn, 57a High St, Ixworth, IP31 2HN -

Granted

SE/11/1082 – Mill Barn, Ixworth, IP31 2JN -

Granted

SE/11/1091 – 11 Thetford Road, Ixworth, IP31 2EU -

Granted

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received this month;

- Havebury Housing – Neighbourhood structure
- S.C.C. – Winter preparations
- St Eds – Free litter picking equipment & Parish Council estimates
- Dent Security – CCTV maintenance appointment
- SALC – S.C.C. review of library services
- Cllr T Plummer – Email on schools review meeting
- Ixworth & Stanton Free School Group – Request for support

It was agreed that Cllr Laughton contact Dent Security to arrange maintenance appointment. It was also agreed to take up the offer of free litter picking equipment from St Eds.

15. Accounts

The following payments were agreed;

Chq No's 588/589	Wages	£958.60
Chq No. 590	Dent Security Ltd	£124.80
Chq No. 591	The Royal British Legion	£75.00
Chq No. 592	The Royal British Legion	£25.00
Chq No. 593	R McFruin (notice boards)	£235.94
Chq No. 594	D Thrower (grass cutting)	£2480.00

16. Budget for 2012/13

The request from St Edmundsbury Borough Council for the Parish Council Estimate had been received. As in previous years St Edmundsbury informed the Parish Council that they would be reducing the grant given to Parish Council by 10%. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to reduce the precept request by £1400 to cover this reduction. The precept request for 2012/13 was agreed at £48600.

17. Village Notice Boards

Cllr McFruin informed the members that he had refurbished and replaced the notice boards. Cllr McFruin completed this work voluntarily and received no payment, he claimed only for materials used. It was agreed by all present to purchase and install the new notice board at Ixworth Thorpe in the bus shelter to protect it from the rain. It was agreed to spend no more than £500. Cllr McFruin is to liaise with Cllr Wilson on the design of the notice board. It was also agreed to replace the notice board in Peacock Rise, Cllr McFruin agreed to complete this notice board.

18. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that she was concerned about the steep steps leading from Crown Lane down to the by-pass. The Chairman felt that a barrier at the bottom of the steps was advisable so that anyone slipping on the steps would have something to stop their fall. It was agreed by all present for the clerk contact S.C.C. for advice on whether this course of action would be possible.

19. Clerks Report

The clerk reported that she had ordered the Christmas tree and hopefully it would be delivered in the week commencing 21st November. Cllr Reeve stated he would erect the tree once it had been delivered. The clerk had contacted Paul Brown to fit the lights once the tree was erected.

The clerk reported the Remembrance Parade would be leaving the fire station at 10.35am and Councillors were invited to march if they so wished. The Chairman had once again been invited to take the salute when the parade returned to the fire station after the service, the Chairman accepted this invitation.

20. Queens Diamond Jubilee

The clerk reported the date for the Queens Diamond Jubilee was Monday 4th June 2012. It was agreed by all present to place an article in the magazine seeking views on how the village could celebrate this event.

21. Play Area

The clerk reported that the seating and bins had been ordered and would be fitted once they arrived.

22. Councillors Reports

Cllr Laughton gave a report from Steve Wilson, Steve was currently clearing leaves as well as all his normal duties. Steve also reported that at present dog fouling was not such a problem as it had been in the past. However, Steve felt the overgrown vegetation on the side of Walsham Road was a problem and he hoped he would be able to trim some of the excess in the future.

Cllr Lord requested if top soil had been delivered to the cemetery and whether weed killer had been administered to the paths. The clerk stated she would speak with David Thrower to ascertain if these items had been dealt with.

Cllr Lord also wished to highlight once again the parking issues outside the school in Walsham Road. The school had had an event on the previous evening and the parking was

once again a problem. Cllr Lord had reported this issue to the police, who had attended, but no action was taken. Cllr Lord stated the school had tried to help the situation by allowing parents to park in the school grounds but requested permission to speak with the Head teacher once again to see if anything further can be done to resolve the parking issues. Permission was granted by all members present.

Cllr Lord also requested that Peacock Rise be added to the agenda in January for discussion, this was agreed by all present.

The Chairman reported an issue she had received from Cllr N Plummer. Cllr N Plummer wished to highlight that the new road surface on the by-pass was quite slippery.

23. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 14th December 2011 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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Signed

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Date