

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 10th October 2012 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllr Ben Lord (Vice-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, B Cllr John Griffiths MBE & one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Cllr Lord wished to add to the draft minutes that Cllr Plummer declared a prejudicial interest in planning application SE/12/1142 and that Cllr Plummer left the room whilst this item was under discussion. Once this amended had been made it was agreed by all present that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 12th September 2012.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

Meeting adjourned

5. Public Forum

No comments were made.

6. Report from Local Police Officer

No report.

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

Ixworth Court – Ixworth Court would unfortunately be closing in 2016 at the earliest. All residents would be treated as individuals and with the greatest respect. Residents would be moved to a new upgraded residence and if they wish will be moved with friends from Ixworth Court. All staff would be offered jobs within Staff Care UK.

Fire Station – The fire station alterations were nearly complete and the building would hopefully be handed over by 1st November 2012. The Police would hopefully be moved in before December once various electrical systems were in place. Hopefully there would be an official opening which the Parish Council should be invited to. Suffolk Fire service was still in discussions with the family of the fire fighter whose memorial tree had been cut down in error.

Ixworth Library – C Cllr Spicer asked if the Village Hall Management Committee were in discussions to renegotiate the lease with the Independent Provident Society Management Board. Cllr Laughton, as Chairman of the committee, confirmed that they were. C Cllr Spicer requested that the committee keep her informed of the progress of the negotiations.

C Cllr Spicer reported that she had attended the library to award the holiday reading prizes.

Ixworth Schools – C Cllr Spicer reported that The Setford Foundation were nearly ready to place a bid to run a free school at the Middle School site. It has not been established what will happen to the Play & Learn after the changes – C Cllr Spicer will investigate this.

Cllr Anderson asked if C Cllr Spicer had any further information about the election for Suffolk's Police & Crime Commissioner. C Cllr Spicer stated that the Government were about to run a series of adverts to bring the public's attention to the elections and that Suffolk had three candidates, one from Labour, one from the Conservatives and an Independent candidate.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths informed the members that St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath were continuing with more restructuring of their departments. Once completed the various departments would look after issues for both St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath. Working in partnership with each other would save money for the residents of both areas.

B Cllr Griffiths reported that St Edmundsbury would once again be proposing to freeze Council Tax for another year.

Meeting reconvened

9. Planning Applications

SE/12/1201 – Creation of 9no car parking spaces and relocation of footpath – Peacock Rise, Ixworth
No comment was made on this application as Parish Council were the applicants

SE/12/1216 – All trees overhanging rear garden from neighbouring property -prune overhanging branches back to boundary, to suitable pruning points with leaving stubs – 3 Abbey Close, Ixworth
No objection

SE/12/1237 – T1 Box Elder – pollard at approx 2.44 metres at the first main fork, to promote new balanced canopy – 59 High Street, Ixworth
No objection

SE/12/1270 – Listed Building Application – Proposed (i) two storey and single storey extension rear extension (ii) insertion of new windows (iii) and internal alterations- White House, Thetford Road, Ixworth
No objection

10. Determined Applications

SE/12/1066 - 9 Abbey Close **Granted**
SE/12/0919 - Vinery House **Granted**

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- St Eds – acceptance of planning application for Peacock Rise
- SALC – invitation to SALC AGM
- M Hancock MP – request to display contact details
- St Eds/Forest Heath – Information about shared planning services
- St Eds – planning consultation
- St Eds – Police & Crime Commissioner Election

The clerk requested that if any members wished to attend the SALC AGM could they let her know so she could pass the details onto SALC.

12. Accounts

The following payments were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 663/664	Wages	£993.00
Chq No 665	Suffolk County Council	£397.50
Chq No 666	Ixworth Village Hall	£163.00
Chq No 667	Haward Horological Ltd	£192.00
Chq No 668	Dent Security Systems (CCTV)	£621.60
Chq no 669	Harry Stebbings	£120.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2250 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

The clerk distributed the quarterly budget ending 30th September 2012.
The clerk also distributed the suggested budget for 2013/14. This item will be discussed and finalised at the November meeting.

13. Riverside Footpath Leaflet

The clerk confirmed the leaflets had finally been printed and each member was given a copy. It was suggested that the Ixworth magazine be approached to help distribute them and also place copies in various places such as the Post Office, pubs, shops and the café. The clerk was instructed to arrange the distribution of the leaflets.

14. Ixworth Thorpe Sign

Cllr Wilson presented the members with the final design. It was agreed by all present that the sign be ordered for installation as soon as possible. The Clerk was instructed to confirm the order with Harry Stebbing Workshop. Cllr Wilson was to continue to liaise with the workshop on installation and any issues that may arise.

15. Highway Issues

It was agreed to once again try to contact Guy Smith at S.C.C. to arrange a meeting to discuss the various issues highlighted in Cllrs Lord & McFruin's report. Other issues outstanding were railings at the bottom of the steps on the by-pass, a hand rail on the steps leading from New Road to Stow Road and the pedestrian crossing signs to go on the by-pass. The clerk was instructed to contact Guy Smith once again and C Cllr Spicer requested that she be copied into any correspondence with S.C.C.

C Cllr Spicer reported that the A1088 near Honington would be closed overnight between 5th & 13th November.

16. Peacock Rise

Cllr Lord reported that a planning application for the extra parking spaces had been submitted to St Eds and the Parish Council was awaiting the decision.

17. Ixworth Cemetery

The clerk submitted a quote for the 'No Parking' sign for the cemetery. It was resolved to accept the quote of £89 and the clerk was instructed to order the sign and get it fitted.

18. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the footpath off Commister Lane had been trimmed but the large gate at the end had been left open and it is obvious some heavy traffic has used this entrance so it is very muddy. The Chairman reported that once again the Parish Council had received an invitation for the Chairman to take the salute of the parade on Remembrance Sunday. Also, all members had been invited to parade on the day, anyone wishing to parade needed to be at the Fire Station at 10.25am on Sunday 11th November 2012.

19. Clerks Report

The clerk reported the following;

Play Area – A new table top had been offered to the Council at a reduced cost of £50, as proposed by Cllr Wilson it was agreed to order this table top and Cllr McFruin offered to install once received. David Thrower had reported to the clerk that the fence installed at the back of the toddler area was becoming very unsafe, it was agreed by all present to request that David Thrower fix the fence to make it safe. The Beech hedging had suffered through the summer and Cllr Laughton agreed to purchase some new hedging up to a maximum of £150.

Remembrance Parade – The clerk requested if the members wished a poppy wreath be ordered on behalf of the village and if the Council were going to make a donation of £75 to the band for the parade. It was agreed by all present to order the wreath and make the £75 donation to the parade costs. These payments would be confirmed at the November meeting.

Ixworth Cemetery – The clerk confirmed she had spoken with David Thrower with reference to the overgrown weeds and brambles at the cemetery.

Councillor Training – The clerk reported that the Councillor training session that she and Cllrs Laughton, McFruin and Shelton had attended had been very interesting and informative. The ways to assist the Village Halls within Parishes had been discussed. It was suggested that it would be possible to arrange a loan from the Parish Council to a village hall to help with larger projects, rather than just donating money, especially if a Parish concerned had already allocated a large portion of the yearly budget to the village hall.

20. Councillors Reports

Cllr Lord offered his apologies for the November meeting. Cllr Lord also asked if anyone had come forward for the vacancy on the Parish Council. The clerk confirmed that no-one had come forward. Cllr Reeve reported that someone had removed the sign under the bridge near Mulleys advertising the permissive footpath. Also, within this area some whips that had been planted some time ago were covered in brambles, it was agreed by all present to speak with David Thrower to have a look and remove them. Cllr Reeve also reported that the new jubilee bench was not securely fastened to the paving slabs, it was agreed by all present that Cllr Reeve could get this problem fixed up to a cost of £100 as this was a health and safety issue.

Cllr Anderson reported that the kerbs along Thetford Road were overgrown. It was agreed to add this to the highways issues to be reported to S.C.C.

Cllr Mc Fruin reported that the new bridle way sign had been installed in Commister Lane. On behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee Cllr McFruin informed members that a planning application had been submitted to enlarge the recycling area.

21. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on 14th November 2012 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

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Signed

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Date