

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 9th January 2013 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Teresa Plummer (Chairman) Cllrs David Reeve, Nick Laughton, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton and Trevor Anderson.

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), C Cllr Joanna Spicer and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Wilson and Cllr Lord.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th December 2012 as a true record of that meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

None.

Meeting adjourned

5. Public Forum

No Comments were made.

The following reports were also received;

Ixworth Police

Firstly the SNT would like to thank the Chairman, the Council and the community for their continued support.

We are due to have two new PCSOs join the team from 1st Feb 2013. PCSO 3268 Claire Teakle will be your dedicated PCSO.

Crime Statistics for the Parish to 09/01/13:

There have been no crimes of interest since the last meeting.

New Priorities

The SNT has adopted two new priorities:

Priority 1

Prevention, Reduction and Education in respect of burglary offences, both of dwellings and non-dwellings, throughout the St Edmundsbury Rural North area.

Priority 2

To increase the number of Neighbourhood Watch Teams throughout the St Edmundsbury Rural North SNT area

Theft from outbuildings and vehicles continues in rural areas. Many of these have been insecure with valuable equipment or tools left inside.

Fuel oil thefts, several thefts have been reported across the SNT area.

Please ask your community to secure their property and remove personal items from view when leaving their vehicles. Do not make it easy for thieves!

Be vigilant and report any suspicious activity, for non-urgent matters dial 101 or email: stedsruralnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

If you believe a crime is in progress dial 999

C Cllr Joanna Spicer

- **Fire Station** - C Cllr Spicer thanked the members that had attended the Fire Station opening on 7th January 2013.
- Free School -C Cllr Spicer informed members that the two bids for a Free School in Ixworth had been submitted. C Cllr Spicer had written to the Secretary Of State for Education stating that she and the Parish Council fully supported a Free School within Ixworth but did not favour any particular bid.
- **Ixworth Primary School** – C Cllr Spicer informed members that the planning application for Ixworth Primary School would be discussed at Suffolk County Council Planning Committee on 24th January 2013. The Parish Council could send a representative to speak and voice the Parish Councils objections to the expansion of the Primary School. It was agreed that the Chairman Cllr Plummer would attend.

Meeting reconvened

6. Planning Applications

SE/12/1636 – Reduce height of one Conifer tree to approx 3 metres, Little Barn, High St	No objection
SE/12/1667 – Change of use – Conversion of public house (class A4, drinking establishments) to 4no. 2 bedroom dwellings (class C3, dwelling houses) with garages and associated parking, Royal Oak, Thetford Road, Ixworth Thorpe.	No objection
(However, it was mentioned that historically there had been problems with sewage in the area of the public house)	
SE/13/0012 – Re-pollard one Lime tree – 11 High St, Ixworth	No objection
SE/13/0013 – Re-pollard two Lime trees – 11 High St, Ixworth	No objection

7. Determined Applications

SE/12/1539 – 10 High Street, Ixworth	Withdrawn
SE/12/1495 – 21 Fordham Place, Ixworth	Granted
SE/12/1452 – Ixworth Surgery, Peddars Close, Ixworth	Granted
SE/12/1270 – White House, Thetford Road, Ixworth	Granted

8. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received:

- Havebury Housing – Village Walkabouts
- SALC – Local Council precepts
- St Eds – Play area inspection (new bark needed)
- Suffolk Police – Fire Station Opening & Tasking Meeting Minutes
- Paul Brown – Inspection of Christmas tree lights

It was agreed by all present to renew the bark under the jungle climber and the Clerk was instructed to get a quote for the next meeting.

9. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No's 690/691	Wages	£998.93
Chq No 692	P A Brown Electrical	£324.00
Chq No 693	Key (grit bin)	£106.80
Chq No 694	Rougham Estate (Christmas tree)	£264.00

The RFO was authorised to transfer £1500 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

10. Co-option of New Councillor

It was agreed by all present to co-opt Mr Richard Courtnell to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council.

11. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave the following report;

Fire Station - I attended with Councillor McFruin the Fire Station Opening, this was a well attended event and it looks as though everyone has settled in now.

Councillors Roles – there was a brief discussion about the roles, especially those of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, these will be clarified at the first meeting that the new councillor attends.

Website – there was a need to clarify this again. The Parish Council do not wish to own or run a village website. At the November 2012 meeting, it had been resolved to work with Ixworthvillage.co.uk, run by Mr Rob Laughton. It was agreed that information such as the ratified minutes, Councillors contact details, the complaints procedure and dates of forthcoming meetings are to be published on-line. The clerk has been instructed to liaise with Rob Laughton to accomplish this.

Christmas Lights – the lights looked delightful again this year, our thanks to all those concerned with erecting and taking down the trees and the lights.

12. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that there were items still outstanding such as highways issues, BT phone boxes, and hand rails on the steps in Stow Road.

The Clerk also requested permission to attend a training evening. The evening would cover planning issues at a cost of £20 + VAT. Permission was granted and Cllrs Shelton, McFruin and Plummer also wished to attend.

13. Councillors Reports

Cllr Laughton read out the following report from Steve Wilson;

Apart from the litter I have had to do some sweeping around the Village Hall and removed a dumped Christmas tree.

A vehicle has shattered the drainpipe on the corner of Commister Lane and the High Street. I removed the large pieces (with the agreement of the ladies in the shop) and swept up the bits; I also took the opportunity to sweep the gravel from the gutters near the Cafe. I have swept most of the thick, slippery, leaf mulch from the pavement beside Robin's Copse before the school goes back.

There are no issues to report at the moment, any seasonal increase in dog mess has been slight. I only have seven hours holiday in hand now, to be used before the end of April.

Cllr Reeve reported that Pat Rogers was home from hospital and he would visit him over the next week to see how he is and report back to the members at the next meeting.

Cllr McFruin reported that the sign near the permissive footpath had been removed. Cllr Reeve stated that he was aware of the missing sign.

Cllr Plummer stated she was concerned about the condition of the water mains within the village as one had burst at the bottom of the High Street. Cllr Plummer reported that she has spoken with Dr Cannon concerning the residents' problems with the pharmacy in the surgery. Dr Cannon had explained that a new system had been installed which was not as efficient as they had hoped and had had some teething problems, also, two members of staff were currently off long-term sick. Dr Cannon assured Cllr Plummer that the situation was being looked into and should improve soon.

It has been suggested by Councillor Lord that we have a social evening to include councillors and partners, perhaps to have a meal in the village. The suggestion was for a Friday or Saturday evening at The Pykerrel, date to be arranged at the next meeting. All agreed.

14. Date of the Next Meeting

13th February 2013 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

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Signed

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Date