

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council Meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 11th May 2016 at 7:15pm

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

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

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr Richard Courtnell unfortunately had to resign as a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Ben Lord was unanimously elected to be Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Lord signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. Apologies for Absence

No members were absent.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Laughton and McFruin declared an interest in item 5, Ixworth Village Hall.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on 13th April 2016.

5. Ixworth Village Hall Presentation

Mr Mann gave a small presentation of behalf of Ixworth Village Hall Committee. Mr Mann spoke about future plans the Committee want to complete. Plans are at the early discussion stage at present but could include an extension, refurbishment of the kitchen and toilets, new furniture and decorating. The aim of the Committee is to make the Village Hall a venue that would become more popular and a hub for village activity. The cost involved is expensive but once plans were drawn up and consultations have taken place then grants and funding could be looked into.

The Village Hall would be added to the July meeting's agenda for further discussion.

6. Public Forum

A group of residents attended the meeting to highlight to members their concerns about speeding and traffic in and around the village, especially Stow Road. The following points were raised by the group:

- Traffic often sped around areas in Village
- Stow Road is a particular problem
- Speeding traffic is dangerous to residents especially pedestrians and children
- 4 entrances and exits to village all in need of controlling speeding drivers
- There are not enough visible road signs
- Solutions could include on road markings showing speed limit
- Traffic calming humps or
- Ixworth centre becoming a 20mph zone

The Chairman informed the residents present that speeding was often discussed at meetings and a Speedwatch Scheme had been suggested, although articles in the magazine requesting volunteers had not received any response. The scheme needed at least 6 volunteers before the Police would look into areas in the village where a scheme would work which met the criteria. A list of volunteers on the night was compiled to pass onto the Police. Unfortunately, the Police no longer attend Parish Council meetings. It was agreed to invite them to the Annual Parish Meeting.

C Cllr Spicer informed residents that there were many things that could be discussed such as more speed signs, shark's teeth markings, speed signs on the road and possibly looking into if Ixworth meets the criteria to have 20mph zones.

C Cllr Spicer suggested that this item be added to the Annual Parish Meeting which is to be held in June. The date would be confirmed later in the evening.

It was highlighted by a resident that the footpath between Stow Road and New Road was overgrown and the path was in need of repair before somebody tripped and fell.

Mr Sharpe highlighted the following;

- Mulleys roundabout was overgrown and the chevrons needed replacing
- The Lime trees in the Cemetery may need pollarding again
- Planning applications – trees should only be cut in the dormant season

7. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported that talks about the future Crown Lane development were being arranged. C Cllr Spicer hoped all resident present would be able to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss speeding and traffic issued further.

8. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported that a review of Parish Councils were about to be started. The review would look at various issues including Parish boundaries.

9. Planning

DC/16/0754 – Fell one Conifer tree – Hope House, Estate Yard, 3 Commister Lane, Ixworth **No Objection**

DC/16/0839 – Carry out crown reduction removing 2 metres from outer edge of crown, prune in all branches to leave a balanced and natural shape to 1no Maple tree, Meadow View, Thetford Road, Ixworth **No Objection**

10. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment

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Chq No 1007/1008	Wages	£1099.77
Chq No 1009	Zurich Municipal	£1012.44
Chq No 1010	Viking	£204.21
Chq No 1011	A J Wheelie Bin Cleaning	£10.00
Chq No 1012	Ixworth village Hall	£163.75
Chq No 1013	RBA Solutions	£264.00
Chq No 1014	Smith Gardening Services	£50.00
Chq No 1015	Magpas Air Ambulance	£100.00

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

The internal auditor reported verbally to the RFO that there were no issues to report in the accounts dated 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016.

After reviewing the figures in Section 2, the Accounting Statement of the Annual Return, for year ending 31st March 2016 it was resolved that these figures were correct. It was resolved that the Chairman and Clerk could sign this section of the form.

After reviewing Section 1, the Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Return, for year ending 31st March 2016 it was resolved that the Council had ensured there is a sound system of internal control. It was resolved that the Chairman and Clerk could sign this section of the form.

It was agreed to add Cllr Wilson as a signature on the account and Cllr Courtnell was to be removed.

It was resolved the fidelity guarantee was sufficient at £150.000

11. Ixworth Cemetery

The Chairman wished to thank Cllr Courtnell for all his hard work over the past years.

A quote had not yet been received for turf for the top corner of the Cemetery, the Clerk was instructed to speak with the grass cutting contractor to get the quote.

The Clerk informed members that the bins would need putting out each week, it was agreed for Cllr Laughton to speak with Steve Wilson to request he carries out this duty.

It was resolved to delegate to the Clerk the day to day running of the Cemetery.

12. Grass Area on Mulley’s Roundabout

The Clerk informed members that she had sent an email to Joanna Spicer requesting details on what responsibilities would fall to the Parish Council if the land was adopted after all. The Clerk had also requested information about erecting bollards on the land to stop cars parking on the grass. No response had been received at this time.

13. Standing Orders/Financial Orders

It was resolved to postpone this item until after the Summer.

14. Ixworth Annual Parish Meeting

It was resolved to call this meeting for Monday 13th June at 7pm in Ixworth village Hall. The Clerk was instructed to place an article in the magazine.

15. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Pigeon** – Invitation to Chairman
- **Y Wilson** – Yellow lines in Saddlers Yard
- **Matt Dee Suffolk Police** – SNT News
- **SALC** – House Recycling Centres
- **SCC** – Fire & Rescue Management Plan

It was resolved that the Chairman contact Pigeon to arrange a meeting, Cllr Shelton agreed to attend along with the Chairman.

The Clerk was instructed to inform C Cllr Spicer about the yellow lines and write to Mrs Wilson to inform her that the yellow lines had been reported.

16. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman thanked Cllr Courtnell for all his hard work and dedication to the Parish Council over the last few years.

The Chairman reported he had been approached by Mr Rowe about replacing the bridleway gate at Commister Lane. Mr Rowe had informed the Chairman that he would be willing to pay for a replacement but would he need permission from Suffolk County Council. The Clerk was instructed to pass this information to C Cllr Spicer for clarification.

17. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported that she had received an application form to complete for possible use of the Fire Station for Parish Council meetings. The Clerk reported she needed to seek further clarification re costs etc.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson reported that she had looked at the bench in Ixworth Thorpe and it did not need replacing. However, it did need cleaning, Cllr Wilson stated she would get this completed.

Cllr Reeve requested if he could approach an electrician to get the Standard Lamp in the Churchyard repaired. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Reeve seek a quote for this repair.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson’s monthly report.

Cllr McFruin requested if discussions could be held about moving the Parish Boundary, this would be discussed as and when St Edmundsbury Borough Council carry out their review.

19. Dates of the Next Meetings

It was resolved that the next meeting would be held on 8th June 2016. As agreed above the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Monday 13th June 2016 at 7pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

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Signed

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Date