

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 10th January 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Ben Lord (Chairman) Cllrs Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton, Roy McFruin, Pam Shelton, Ben Birrell and John Rowe

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Anderson and Cllr Reeve – apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were received.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

After a small amendment from the draft minutes previously distributed it was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on 4th and 13th December 2018.

4. Public Forum

The following points were raised by residents present;

- **100 Year of Women's Right to Vote** – Janette Channing-Pearce wished to highlight to members that 2018 would mark the 100th year since Women were given the right to vote. Ixworth's W.I. would like to hold an event to commemorate this important milestone. It had been considered at their last meeting that perhaps an event could be held after the wreath laying on Remembrance Sunday. It was discussed that this year's Remembrance Sunday would also commemorate 100 years since the ending of WW1. Gordon Palastanga, Chairman of Ixworth RBL, stated that Ixworth & District RBL were in the process of arranging Remembrance Sunday and intended to extend the usual morning Remembrance Parade to a whole day of commemorations.. Mr Palastanga invited Janette to the next committee meeting of the RBL to discuss if the organisations could work together on these important commemorations. Mr Palastanga agreed to contact her with the date and time. B Cllr John Griffiths stated that perhaps his Locality Budget could be accessed for funding.
- **Pavements/Drains in Ixworth Thorpe** – Allison Balaam stated she had contacted the Parish Council about the condition of the pavements in Ixworth Thorpe. The condition of the pavement is awful, and it is impossible to walk along the pavement safely as the verge has overgrown the pavement thus causing residents to sometimes have to walk on the road which, as all are aware, is a very busy and fast A road. At the advice of the parish clerk Suffolk County Council had been contacted on 3rd January 2018 to report this issue and a response was received on 5th January stating the case had been closed.
- C Cllr Spicer stated that she was meeting with Francesca Clarke (S.C.C.) and she would highlight residents concerns.
- It was also highlighted that once again the drains in Ixworth Thorpe were blocked and water was settling on the road. At this time of year this is very concerning as the cold weather freezes the surface water making the road very slippery and hazardous.
- **Speeding in Ixworth Thorpe** – As speeding was again mentioned in the above discussion Cllr Wilson requested if it could be looked at again about installing 'Slow Down' '40mph' signs in Ixworth Thorpe. It was agreed by all present to source quotes. C Cllr Spicer agreed to request from S.C.C. Highways Department if these can be installed in a 40mph zone.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **School Transport** – A consultation on the proposed changes to school transport was ongoing. C Cllr Spicer was in the process of trying to arrange a meeting with the two local schools to see if a local solution could be found. C Cllr Spicer stated she would report as and when she had more information.
- **Ixworth Primary School** – The New Headteacher would take up the post in April.
- **Persimmon** – C Cllr Spicer reported that she recently had a lengthy briefing from S.C.C. officers on the progress of this application. C Cllr Spicer also agreed to rearrange the meeting between the Parish Council and S.C.C. Officers to discuss the footbridge over the by-pass.

- **Hempyard Bridge** – C Cllr Spicer reported that Hempyard Bridge was now top of the list to be repaired. All surveying and designs had been completed and confirmed the bridge would be repaired not replaced. C Cllr Spicer wished to instil in the officers looking at this repair the importance of the bridge to Ixworth and the urgency to get it repaired. It was agreed that the Parish Council, C Cllr Spicer and B Cllr Griffiths would write to S.C.C. stating the bridge is a very important part of Ixworth history and it is one of the only footpaths within Ixworth. It was suggested the perhaps an information board could be displayed by the bridge giving information of the history.
- **Mulley's Roundabout** – C Cllr Spicer stated she had contacted the company who arrange sponsorship for roundabouts within Suffolk and they were very interested in the option of the Parish Council sponsoring the roundabout. C Cllr Spicer would arrange a meeting to discuss further. The members stated they would insist the roundabout is tidied before any sponsorship was put in place. Cllr Wilson also highlighted the condition of the other roundabout in the Parish.

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr John Griffiths reported the following;

- **Persimmon Planning Application (Crown Lane)** – discussions between the planning officers at St Eds and the developers were ongoing to clarify many points raised by the planning consultation.
- **Council Tax** – St Edmundsbury were hoping once again to freeze Council Tax for the coming year. This would be ratified by the Council in the coming weeks.
- **Ward Boundaries** - St Edmundsbury Borough Council are looking at altering current ward boundaries. A consultation would be held later in the year.

7. Hempyard Bridge

This item was covered in item 5.

8. Mulley's Roundabout

This item was covered in item 5.

9. Planning

DC/17/0333 – 90no dwellings with associated access road, emergency access, car parking and landscaping – land off Crown Lane, Crown Lane, Ixworth

It was agreed to hold a separate planning meeting to discuss this application. It was agreed to hold the meeting on 22nd January at 7pm in Ixworth Village Hall

DC/17/2235 – Re-consultation – two storey rear extension – 29 Thistledown Drive, Ixworth
Information only as application went before delegation panel held on 27.12.17

10. Committees & Working Parties

After a discussion it was agreed to form the following committees and working parties;

- **Neighbourhood Plan** – Working Party
- **Staffing** – Sub-Committee
- **Cemetery/St Mary's** - Working Group
- **Councils Protocols & Policies** – Sub-Committee
- **Finance** – Sub-Committee

The Clerk was instructed to produce rules and regulations for each group over the coming months as the committee/working groups are required. All groups would be looked at and may be added to or disbanded as the year progresses.

11. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Clerk reported that this item will be ongoing over the next few months until the new legislation comes into effect in May 2018. The Clerk was attending another training day on 31st January 2018 with a different training organisation and would report further at the February meeting.

The Clerk then brought to the attention of members that Councillor McFruin had obtained a copy of the full electoral roll. Whilst an elected member can obtain a copy there are strict conditions that the information it contains can be used. The Clerk requested what Cllr McFruin was using the information for, it became apparent that his use did not fall under any of the regulations for the use of the roll. A heated discussion took place among members and Cllr McFruin agreed to hand back to the Clerk the next morning so she could dispose of it by shredding.

12. Precept 2018/2019

Suggested budgets had previously been distributed to Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was agreed by all present to accept version 1 of the suggested budget. Unfortunately, this would mean a small increase, but it was felt as there are new expenses this year, such as GDPR, it was deemed necessary.

13. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

The Clerk informed members that interviews for the NP clerk were being held on 11th January 2018. The Chairman of the Parish Council, the Chairman of the NP working group and the Parish Clerk would be conducting the interviews. The next meeting of the working party is being held on 23rd January 2018.

14. Accounts

The following were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1166/1167	Wages	£1101.50
Chq No 1168	H M Revenue & Customs	£656.96
Chq No 1169	C.A.S.	£60.00
Chq No 1170	Viking	£423.58
Chq No 1171	L.C.P.A.S	£120.00
Chq No 1172	TOP Garden Services	£512.50
Chq No 1173	The Village Sign People	£1770.70
Chq No 1174	Anglian Water Business	£22.52
Chq No 1175	Ixworth Village Hall	£174.25
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£6.72

The RFO was authorised to transfer £5000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

15. Ixworth Cemetery

It was agreed that the working group would meet on 18th January to discuss various issues that need addressing at the Cemetery.

16. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **St Eds** – PC Forum 22nd January at Kedington
- **Joanna Spicer** – Speeding
- **Steve Wilson** – December Report
- **Ben Lord** – Email from resident
- **Suffolk Legal (SCC)** – Temporary Traffic Order Procedures
- **NALC** – GDPR – Data Protection Officer
- **A Balaam** – Ixworth Thorpe Pavement (also forwarded to C Cllr Spicer)
- **Temporary Traffic Order** – Part of U6428 Bardwell Road
- **Delegation Panel Decision (S Eds)** – 27.12.2017
- **Rachel Waite** – Speedwatch
- **Ken Ruston** – Speedwatch
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **John Sharpe** – Christmas Tree

A letter also had been received from Gordon Palastanga, Ixworth & District RBL Chairman, requesting if the names on the war memorial could be refurbished ready for the commemorations in November marking the 100th year since the end of WW1. The Clerk was instructed to investigate this issue and obtain quotes. It was agreed to write a letter of thanks and support to the Speedwatch team.

17. Chairman's Report

The Chairman informed members that he was attending a meeting at the Doctors Surgery to discuss the Patients Participation Group. The Chairman also informed members that he was still in the process of arranging a meeting with the Headteacher at the Primary School.

18. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that information was still outstanding on the following issues;

- Robins Copse
- Christmas tree
- Village Hall

19. Councillors Reports

Cllr Birrell volunteered to help with a display board at Hempyard Bridge once the bridge was repaired.
Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson monthly report. Cllr Laughton also requested that an item be added to the March agenda to discuss erecting explanation boards for the Ixworth Village Sign.
Cllr Wilson wished to confirm that 'flashing slow down signs' for Ixworth Thorpe is added to the next agenda.
Cllr Wilson also reported that the grit bin in Ixworth Thorpe is empty.
Cllr McFruin reported that the National Express coach to Stansted no longer comes through Ixworth.

20. Date of the Next Meeting

As above in item 9 it was agreed to hold a planning meeting on 22nd January 2018. It was confirmed the February meeting would be held on 14th February 2018 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

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Signed

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Date