

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 13th December 2017 at 7:30pm

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

It was agreed that Cllr Nick Laughton would take the minutes for the meeting in the absence of Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk) who is off sick.

Also Present: B Cllr John Griffiths MBE and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

All members were present

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Laughton declared an interest in item 7 - planning application DC/17/2473

3. 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 4th. Public and Confidential meetings held on 8th November 2017.

4. Public Forum

No contributions received

5. Report from C Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer sent her apologies for not being able to attend tonight's meeting and emailed the report below; I am sorry that I am sending apologies tonight – our great niece is singing a solo in a concert in the cathedral !

- **School Transport Changes** – consultation begun this week eventually. I have had meetings with heads at both Ixworth Free School and Thurston Community College in the last 2 weeks and I am cautiously hopeful we may be able to work together on a “local solution” that saves money and still gives a choice to families
- **Hempyard Bridge** – a meeting was again being held yesterday and I have heard nothing. I can advise that SCC lawyers are now involved checking ownership and responsibilities
- **Highways** – I now have a named community liaison engineer (Francesca Clarke) and hope she will be able to help getting answers out of Marketforce in Felixstowe about the roundabout sponsorship
- **Pedestrian Bridge** – SCC bridge people (different from rights of way and highways) are asking for more details of what the Parish Council has established in terms of design and cost and then are keen to meet to discuss
- **Speeding** – I have had a complaint from a resident of Bury Road (just past the bridge) – do you know if Speedwatch have any recorded data?

Much was discussed about Speedwatch & it was agreed that the PC would make further enquiries would be made to see if the group is still active.

Cllr Lord also to speak with Andre de Jong concerning anti-social behaviour in general.

6. Report from B Cllr John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- The Secretary of State has approved the full merger of St. Edmundsbury DC with FHDC.
- John has a Locality Budget which has to be spent by April 2018, therefore he would welcome any community scheme applications in the region of £1,000.
- Cllr. Wilson would like to apply for an electronic speed restricting sign for Ixworth Thorpe, which currently has a big speeding problem.
- The latest Persimmon Homes planning application has been deferred until our January 10th meeting.

- Cllr. Lord reported that that the St. Edmundsbury Senior Enforcement Officer will be asking the Vertas applicant for further information, which will involve a noise assessment.

It was confirmed that the Co-op have withdrawn their application for converting a retail outlet at Fordham's Garage, and that they will be moving to Tripp Batt's site in Stanton.

7. Planning

Cllr Laughton left the room to allow free discussion.

DC/17/2473 – TPO (i) 2 No. sycamore reduce crown by 4/5 meters (ii) 2 No. Beech reduce crown by 2 metres -Shalom, The Paddock, Ixworth **No objection**

Cllr Laughton returned to the room.

8. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Mandy reported that there have been 3 applicants for the position of NP clerk. Interviews by the 'staffing committee' will take place in January on a date to be agreed.

Cllr Rowe reported that Tessa (Chair) is doing very well & is ably supported by Debra. Penrose is compiling the NP information leaflet which Matt Hancock has offered to help us to distribute throughout the parish.

Next meeting to be held on January 23rd 2018

9 Accounts

The following payments were agreed;

Chq No 1157	Ixworth VH (Oct/Nov)	£167.50
Chq No 1158/1159	Wages	£1337.45
Chq No 1160	SALC	£26.40
Chq No 1161	MJ Nunn	£2358.48
Chq No 1162	Clarks of Walsham	£11.42
Chq No 1163	A Adlington	£131.51
Chq No 1164	Poppy Appeal	£25.00
Chq No 1165	TRBL Ixworth and District	£75.00
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£8.98

The RFO was authorised to transfer £4000 by on-line transfer from the reserve account to the community account.

10. Play Area

A £488.95 quotation had been received for the replacement supporting poles, which was accepted by the members. To check with the original suppliers, Playdale, that the specification included pressure treated poles. If so, we would then pursue a claim against them.

11. Hempyard Bridge

Cllr. Rowe reported that Highways have since erected further 'safety guards. Also that Highways have confirmed that they don't own the bridge, even though it's part of the bridleway! it is believed that ownership belongs to one of the local landowners!??

12. St Mary's Church

Cllr Lord reported that Mike Breffit has since resigned his church post with Cllr. Reeve now being the official representative.

It was agreed that the necessary maintenance to the church clock be left until Spring '18

13) Ixworth Cemetery

it was agreed that the meeting of the 'working party' and contractor be deferred until January, when the clerk will have further information.

14) General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

It was agreed that this be discussed at the next meeting

15) Precept 2018/2019

It was agreed that this be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Rowe queried the reserve funds built up each year for the future purchase of phase 3 of the cemetery, which will allow a new access off Scott Road. The current landowners have yet to provide any indication of the purchase price. However, it was noted that the phases 1 & 2 had been gifted to the parish.

16. Chairman’s Report

Cllr Lord extended his thanks to Cllr Anderson for erecting the Christmas trees in the High Street this year. Cllr. Wilson queried when the large Christmas Tree at the bottom of the High Street would be erected.

Cllr Lord to investigate

17. Clerk’s Report

Nothing to report.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson enquired, again, if there was any further information as to when the footpath sign at the steps in Stow Road would be re-installed. The Clerk was instructed to contact S.C.C. to ascertain if this issue would be completed soon.

Cllr. Wilson, for Ixworth Thorpe, emphasised the extreme urgency for an electronic speed restricting sign. See item 6. Also, the rubbish bin outside the church had been rammed & needs replacing. In addition, Cllr Wilson reported that the public footpath on the East side of the Highway is in an extremely dangerous condition & needs resurfacing. Plus, the grit bin needs more salt. Finally, the defibrillator has now been placed in the telephone box.

Cllr. Rowe queried when the new rubbish/dog bin would be erected at the junction with the Paddock & Commister Lane.

Cllr. Reeve confirmed that the church clock is not working & fears that it has been ‘turned off.

Cllr Laughton to investigate a defibrillator direction sign to be erected on the pole opposite the Village Hall entrance.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be January 10th, 2018. It would be a full meeting, not just Planning and Finance as previously suggested.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

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Signed

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Date