

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 12th December 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Ben Lord (Chairman) Cllrs Sophia Wilson, Nick Laughton, Pam Shelton, Ben Birrell and Terry Lilley

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anderson, Rowe and Reeve – apologies were accepted by all present.

2. Declarations of Interest

A pecuniary interest was declared by Cllr Wilson in planning application DC/18/0544.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was agreed by all present the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 14th November 2018.

4. Public forum

No comments were received.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer gave the following report;

- **Neighbourhood Plan** – C Cllr Spicer reported she had attended the recent Neighbourhood Plan Working Group meeting to explain what Suffolk County Council are responsible for
- **Hempyard Bridge** – C Cllr Spicer stated that she hoped to have further information on this in the New Year
- **Youth Services** – C Cllr Spicer reported that she had been approached by a new resident who wished to meet with her to discuss the poor youth services in Ixworth. The members agreed that this was something they were keen for C Cllr Spicer to pursue
- **Various** – C Cllr Spicer stated she had passed on various issues that had been highlighted to her, such as blocked drains in Ixworth Thorpe and Ixworth, and uneven pavements within the Parish

Cllr Wilson requested if the pavement in Ixworth Thorpe, between Manor Farm and the Bardwell Road junction, could be resurfaced and it is very uneven.

Cllr Lord enquired if C Cllr Spicer had any further information on the health initiative previously mentioned. C Cllr Spicer stated this was a project for the New Year and would bring further information to the members once she had got things in place.

C Cllr Spicer wished all members a Happy Christmas.

6. Report from Borough Councillor John Griffiths MBE

B Cllr Griffiths gave the following report;

- **Locality Budget** – B Cllr Griffiths informed members that he had granted £500 to Ixworth Patients Association to help with transport costs
- **Planning** – the following applications are still ongoing – Vertas, Persimmon (Crown Lane Development) 7 High Street and the access road for the Crown Lane Development
- **Pot Hole** – the pot hole at the junction of the A1088 and Bardwell Road has returned and has caused vehicles to have punctures

B Cllr Griffiths wished all members a Happy Christmas.

7. Planning

DC/18/2198 – (i) upgrading of party walls and ceilings (ii) removal of modern partitions and installation of conservation roof light (iii) altering existing openings and installation of French doors to rear elevation (iv) replacement roof lights within flat roof and (v) new garden wall and gate – 70A High Street, Ixworth

No objection

Cllr Wilson left the room whilst this application was considered

DC/18/0544 – Re-consultation – (i) Demolition of 3no existing dwellings (ii) (means of access to be considered) for up to 5no dwellings – Land north of Green Acre, Thetford Road, Ixworth Thorpe

No objection

Cllr Wilson returned to the room

DC/18/2361 – (i) 1 metre high perimeter fencing and (ii) 1 metre high gates (retrospective) – 49 Chalk Lane, Ixworth

No comment (as a retrospective application)

8. Ixworth Cemetery

The Clerk informed members that the tree surgeon had felled the diseased tree overhanging the road and work on the hedge and the Lime trees would be completed in late Spring.

The extension to the road would be completed between 4th & 7th February 2019.

9. St Mary's & Ixworth Thorpe Church

Quotes had been received for some work required on pathways at both Churches. The members agreed to arrange a meeting with the Blackbourne Ministry Team in the New Year to discuss who was responsible for undertaking this work.

10. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs Birrell and Laughton reported that things were moving along with the plan. At present the group were still waiting to receive questionnaires back. A new Chairman had recently been appointed.

11. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1279	S Chandler (NP)	£800.00
Chq No 1280, 1281, 1282	Wages	£1407.25
Chq No 1283	H M Rev & Customs	£466.03
Chq No 1284	Ixworth VH	£165.13
Chq No 1285	Anglian Water	£17.39
Chq No 1286	MR M Royal	£819.00
Chq No 1287	John Hutchings Services	£2579.99
Chq No 1288	Ixworth VH	£1350.00
Chq No 1289	Ixworth & District RBL	£350.00
Chq No 1290	A Adlington	£90.00
Chq No 1291	B Birrell	£620.00
Nest Pensions		£15.83

It was agreed by all present the RFO could transfer £7000 from the business account to the community account.

12. 2019-2020 Budget

The Responsible Financial Offer (RFO) distributed two suggested budgets for 2019-2020. After a discussion, all members agreed to accept the lower of the suggested budget options. This will keep increases to the parishioners limited to a 1.5% (approx.) increase for Band D properties.

13. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- **RBL Ixworth & District** – Stow Road Telephone Kiosk
- **West Suffolk** – Calls for Sites
- **Resident**– Thetford Road Pavement
- **S.C.C. Temporary Road Closure** – Ixworth-Stanton-Walsham Le Willows
- **Ixworth Patients Association** - Thank you for Grant

It was agreed no responses were required.

14. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman wished to thank Mr Trevor Anderson and his team for installing all the Christmas trees and lights in the High Street, everyone was commenting on how good they looked. The Chairman also thanked Cllr Birrell for sourcing and obtaining the lights for the larger tree at the bottom of the High Street.

15. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **Matters Arising on the agenda** – the clerk reported she had sought advice on including this as an agenda item from LPCAS who advised that whilst it is not illegal it is inadvisable if decisions were made under that item, they would be illegal. It was agreed by all present not to include this as an agenda item in the future
- **Play Area** – quotes were still be obtained for the repairs needed to some equipment in the play area

16. Councillors Reports

Cllr Shelton enquired if any further information had been received about the mobile Post Office Van – no further information had been received

Cllr Wilson enquired if a new salt bin was going to be fitted at Ixworth Thorpe and when was the footpath sign in Stow Road was going to be repaired. Cllr Wilson also reported the ditch in the layby in Ixworth Thorpe was blocked and needed clearing and that she had been unable to get a contractor to remove the tree stump in Ixworth Thorpe. It was agreed by all present to leave in situ to rot away naturally.

Cllr Laughton read the monthly report from Steve Wilson.

17. Date of the Next Meeting

It was agreed by all present the next meeting would be held on 9th January 2019 at 7.30 pm in Ixworth Village Hall. It was agreed that this would be a planning and finance meeting only.

18.Exclusion of Press & Public

To resolve that, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded for the remaining items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by the reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

19. Staffing

Matters of staffing issues were discussed.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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Signed

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Date