

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 12th June 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Ben Lord (Chairman) Cllrs Sophia Wilson, Pam Shelton, Ben Birrell (arrived at 7.30pm), Nick Laughton, John Rowe and Terry Lilley.

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Reeve at the end of the previous meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

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 8th May 2019.

4. Public Forum

The following comments were made by members of the public;

Planning Application DC/19/0925 - 5 Beeches Close –

- More than one resident stated over development of the site
- More than one resident stated not in keeping with the area
- Traffic concerns
- Overlooking current properties
- Access road to properties unable to cope with increased traffic
- Increased traffic dangerous turning out into Thetford Road
- The Parish council had received emails from residents unable to attend giving their objections with similar comments to the above comments

Planning Application DC/17/0333 – Land Off Crown Lane (Persimmon)

- Several residents still concerned about access to new development from ghost island, urged Persimmon to reconsider the 5 arm roundabout as adopted in the Masterplan
- No affordable houses
- Road layout – cars would park on kerbs causing danger to pedestrians
- No area for children to play
- No green spaces
- Too many houses in a small area
- No plans for energy efficient housing
- Concerns were raised that the emergency access road into Walsham Road could be opened at a later date when further houses are developed in this area

Planning Application DC/19/0799 – Fordham's Garage

- Concerns were raised about delivery times, if before 8am this would cause disturbance to residents nearby
- Concerns were raised about what type of shop
- More than one resident supported having a new shop, choice would be a good thing
- More parking spaces needed
- A café would be nice

Comments made by David Barker Consultant from Evolution Planning on 5 Beeches Close & Fordham's Garage change of use;

Fordham's Garage, Change of use

- We are looking for a more simple planning application than the previous planning application for a shop, which had been granted
- There would be 18 parking spaces and a pedestrian crossing
- We would look at delivery and collection times
- Currently in discussions with an interested party about it becoming a convenience store

5 Beeches Close

- Previous consent had been given for one dwelling after demolition of the current dwelling
- Currently looking at replacing current dwelling with 3 dwellings with 2-3 parking spaces to each property
- Each house would have room for landscaping
- Dwellings would be different to what is currently there

The Consultant stated he would be happy to answer any questions from the public present or the Council members.

C Cllr Spicer stated that Suffolk County Council were looking into the feasibility of delivering a footbridge over the by-pass in conjunction with the Persimmon Development.

5. Planning

DC/17/0333 – 77no. dwellings with associated access road, emergency access, car parking and landscaping – Land off Crown Lane, Crown Lane, Ixworth

It was resolved to **OBJECT** to this application of the following grounds;

- Access road from ghost island not in Masterplan Adopted in 2010 – development should be served by a 5 arm roundabout
- No affordable housing
- No green spaces
- Density of houses on a small site
- Access road showing emergency access unto Walsham Road – concerns may be opened in future developments
- Cycle route shown through an area of land not owned by developer and not in Rural 2031 plans for development

DC/19/0925 – 3no. dwellings (following demolition of existing dwelling) – Sycamores 5 Beeches Close, Ixworth

It was resolved to **OBJECT** to this application of the following grounds;

- Over development of the site
- Traffic concerns, very narrow road serving development
- Not in keeping with current housing in the area

DC/19/0799 – (i) change of use of former garage to A1 shops (ii) refurbishment of front elevation and (iii) associated parking and highway works – Fordham Garage, High Street, Ixworth

It was resolved the Parish Council have **NO OBJECTION** to this application

DC/19/1053 – Fell 1no. common Yew tree – 7 High Street, Ixworth

It was resolved the Parish Council have **NO OBJECTION** to this application

6. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Hempyard Bridge** – no further information at this point
- **Community Centre at the Free School** – Good progress was taking place on this site and the hope is that it will be used again for community activities such as a possible youth club
- **Highways** – C Cllr Spicer stated she had recently had a meeting with the highway department to discuss various concerns and would report at a later date
- **Pigeon** – C Cllr Spicer confirmed she had met with Pigeon and a Suffolk County Council Officer to view the suggested development. No formal response had been given but did comment she felt there was not enough green space and the Right of Ways had not been extended
- **Motor Home in Thistledown Drive** – C Cllr Spicer had visited the area on numerous occasions but not yet seen the previously mentioned motor home

Cllr Rowe expressed his ongoing concern that Hempyard Bridge remains in poor condition as the damage was first noted in 2012. Cllr Rowe intends to look into listed status for the structure to provide some protection and ensure repairs are carried out. It was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss this issue further in July.

7. Report from District Councillor John Griffiths MBE

D Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Annual Parish Meeting** – gave his apologies for not being able to attend as it was the inaugural meeting of West Suffolk District Council
- **Vertas** – will be leaving the Fordham's site by 24th of June
- **Persimmon** – Asked the Parish Council to please provide their response to him
- **Neighbourhood Plan** – Progress seems to be good

8. Accounts

8(i) The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1332, 1333	Wages	£1372.12
Chq No 1334	H M Rev & Customs	£574.63
Chq No 1335	Proscape Ltd	£4518.00
Chq No 1336	John A Welton Partnership	£248.77
Chq No 1337	TOP Garden Services	£615.00
Chq No 1338	Ixworth VH	£200.49
Chq No 1347	L.C.P.A.S.	£150.00
Chq No 1340	Anglian Tree Solutions	£4608.00
Chq No 1341	R.B.A. Solutions	£288.00
Chq No 1342	G Palastanga	£47.90
Chq No 1343	Bury Free Press	£355.20
Chq No 1344	Profile Business Solutions	£17.64
Chq No 1345	Viking Direct	£214.04
Chq No 1346	A Adlington	£101.42
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£37.19

Chq no 1339 was incorrectly written and was cancelled.

The RFO (Responsible Finance Officer) was authorised to transfer £12,000 by on-line transfer from the business account to the community account.

- 8(ii)** After reviewing Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Return, for year ending 31st March 2019 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.

After reviewing the figures in Section 2 of the Accounting Statement of the Annual Return, for year ending 31st March 2019 it was resolved that these figures were correct. It was resolved that the Chairman and Clerk could sign this section of the form.

9. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received;

- **Steve Wilson** – Residents' Concerns
- **Steve Wilson** – St Farm Lane Tree
- **John Griffiths** – Street Farm Lane Trees
- **Resident** – Objection to Beeches Close Planning Application (item 5)
- **Resident** – Objection to Beeches Close Planning Application (item 5)
- **Joanna Spicer** – Motor Home Thistledown Drive
- **Matthew Hancock** – Ixworth PO
- **SCC** – School Entrance Markings
- **Joanna Spicer** – Bus Stops
- **West Suffolk DC** – Street Naming Process
- **Joanna Spicer** – Material on Footpath
- **Roger Spiller** – Housing
- **Suffolk Highways** – School Clear Markings – Overnight Resurfacing
- **Joanna Spicer** – Overgrown Hedges Thistledown Drive
- **NPWG** – Navigus Report – APM Report
- **NPWG** – APM Report
- **Chairman NPWG** – Meeting Request
- **West Suffolk** – Planning Application Appeal
- **NPWG** – Call for Sites (info)
- **S Wilson** – Leaky Landscapers
- **NPWG** – Executive Summary
- **Resident** – Camper Van Thistledown Drive
- **NPWG** – PC Report June
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report
- **Cllr Lord** – Cemetery
- **West Suffolk** – Delegation Panel Decision

10. Pigeon Development

The recent meeting between Pigeon and Councillors was discussed. It was felt that the Councillors were pleased that Pigeon had taken the time to discuss their future plans. A request from Pigeon to meet with the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) was discussed and it was agreed that the NPWG should compile the plan with no input from a company already in the process of developing a site within the Parish. The Clerk was instructed to reply to Pigeon stating this decision. Pigeon had discussed with councillors a public meeting to show the Parish their plans and get residents thoughts. The Clerk was also instructed to actively encourage this idea. The Clerk was also instructed to let Pigeon know their feedback from the meeting was positive but at this point in time the Parish Council do not formally wish to support or not support their development. Once plans have been passed from West Suffolk District Council (the planning authority) to the Parish Council for comment only then will the Parish Council make a formal response through West Suffolk District Council.

11. Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman of the NPWG requested a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss communications between the Council and the NPWG. A date of Monday 8th July at 2pm in Ixworth village Hall was suggested. The date was to be confirmed with the NPWG.

12. Parish Council Vacancy

The Clerk informed members that five residents had approached the Council with an interest in filling the current vacancy on the Council. It was resolved to form a small working party to discuss the applicants. It was resolved for the working party of Councillors to make the decision on who, if anyone, to co-opt to fill the vacancy.

13. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman reported that he had spoken with Bypass Farms about the Parish Council acquiring the piece of land next to the Cemetery. At present, Bypass Farms have no plans to use the land for residential development but are unable to start negotiations with the Parish Council due to the current planning application for the first phase of the Crown Lane Development.

The Chairman had also received a complaint from a member of the public about a member of the Speedwatch team. It was resolved to discuss this with them once a meeting had been arranged to move forward the project of a V.A.S. in Stow Road.

The Chairman reported two cases of fly tipping in the village.

14. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **Clerk’s Holiday** – the clerk would be away from Friday 21st June until Sunday 7th July. Emails would be checked but only emergencies dealt with
- **Play Area** – Another pole on the climbing frame is rotten and fallen down. It has been removed today as it posed a health and safety problem

15. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson reported the Heath Road sign had fallen down.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilson’s report.

Cllr Lilley enquired if there had been any progress on tidying Mulley’s roundabout. The Chairman stated he had opened dialogue with S.C.C. again on this issue.

Cllr Shelton reported that there are several overhanging hedges and branches on various footpaths within the village.

16. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 10th July at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

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Signed

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Date