

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

Also Present: Mandy Adlington (Parish Clerk), D Cllr John Griffiths MBE and two members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rowe and Sutton – apologies were accepted by all present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Laughton and Lilley declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7, Ixworth Village Hall.

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 9th October 2019.

4. Public Forum

No comments were made.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

Apologies were received from C Cllr Spicer for not being able to attend the meeting.

6. Report from District Councillor John Griffiths MBE

D Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Persimmon Application** – Various issues are still ongoing with this application
- **Hempyard Bridge** – A meeting has been requested to meet with the new Cabinet member from Suffolk County Council to discuss this issue. The Parish Council (PC) requested that D Cllr Griffiths inform them of the date and time so that a member of the PC could also attend. D Cllr Griffiths stated he would inform the PC as and when the meeting has been arranged.
- **Vertas- Fordham's Site** – West Suffolk were investigated a complaint received from a resident that Vertas were still using the site
- **Locality Budget** – D Cllr Griffiths urged local groups to apply for a grant from his Locality Budget

Cllr Lord highlighted that planning applications were sometimes decided before the PC had time to discuss at a Full Council meeting.

7. Village Hall

The Clerk reported that the PC Solicitor was still waiting to hear back from the Village Hall solicitors about the Transfer Document.

8. Hempyard Bridge

No further information was available about this issue.

9. Mulley's Roundabout

Cllr Lord reported that he had now received the contract from Marketingforce for the PC to sponsor the roundabout. Cllr Lord reported he had also would be contacting all the interested parties wishing to join the sponsorship scheme with full costings and requesting that they confirm they are still interested.

10. Neighbourhood Plan

Debra Reay, The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG), addressed the Council about the suggested skeleton/draft policies previously circulated to members.

Cllr Wilson stated she was very disappointed that there was limited mention of Ixworth Thorpe and wished to remind all that Ixworth Thorpe is very much part of the Parish.

Cllr Birrell was also disappointed that there did not seem to be much mention of the youth of the village and facilities needed for them.

A very tense discussion took place on the policies suggested and how to move this forward.

The NPWG Chairman reiterated that these policies were only the first draft and they could be amended as the plan progressed, but they needed the PC approval at this point to move forward and enlarge upon each suggested policy.

It was agreed by all present to accept the suggested draft policies in their current form but retain the right to alter as the process moves forward.

11. Planning

DC/18/2462 (re-consultation) – 1no Walnut tree (i) crown raise to 5.5 metres over road and 4 metres all road (ii) prune back to provide 2 metres clearance from structures (iii) reduce lateral crown spread to south-east by up to 2 metres to appropriate pruning points (iv) reduce lateral crown spread to north-east (over road) by up to 2 metres to appropriate pruning points – 3 Saddlers Yard, Ixworth **No Objection**

DC/19/1358 – (re-consultation) – 1no Walnut tree – crown reduction of up to 1.5 metres all round, to appropriate pruning points – 2 Crown Crescent, Ixworth **No Comment as already Approved**

DC/19/1701 – 1no Oak tree – reduce lower lateral branches by up to 3 metres in direction of dwelling – 10 Crown Crescent, Ixworth **No Comment as already Approved**

DC/19/1900/TCA – 1no Ash tree-Fell – Round House, Thetford Road, Ixworth **No Objections**

DC/19/1961 – (i) 3no Yew trees crown lift to 2.5 metres above ground level (ii) 1no Maple tree – fell – 7 High Street, Ixworth **No Objections**

12. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

Chq No 1383 & 1384	Wages	£1408.07
Chq No 1385	West Suffolk council	£21.34
Chq No 1386	Ixworth village Hall	£182.13
Chq No 1387	A Adlington (CAS)	£60.00
Chq No 1388	The Poppy Appeal	£25.00
Chq No 1389	Ixworth Patients Association	£500.00
Chq No 1390	Ixworth RBL	£150.00
Chq No 1391	Ixworth RBL	£50.00
Direct Debit Nest Pensions		£28.16

The RFO (Responsible Finance Officer) was authorised to transfer £2500 by on-line transfer from the business account to the community account.

It was resolved that Cllrs Lord and Wilson would apply for online banking so that PC staff could be paid via BACS transfer. The RFO was given permission to pay each member of staff £1 once the online system had been set up to confirm the payment system would work. The £1 would then be deducted from the next payment.

13. Consultations (S.C.C. Boundary – West Suffolk Sustainability Settlement Review)

It was agreed by all present the Clerk complete the form sent from West Suffolk correcting errors in the listed facilities in the Parish.

14. Christmas Tree

Cllr Sutton sent her apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

Cllr Sutton sent the following report;

- Cllrs Birrell & Lord have arranged posters and a leaflet drop inviting residents to attend
- The lights would be installed in the tree on Tuesday 26th November 2019
- Cllr Sutton had spoken with Rev Dr Karen Burton the Reverend of with St Mary's who agreed to produce some song sheets for a few carols

Cllr Sutton urged all Council members and their families and friends to attend to make this a memorable evening..

15. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- Jaya Godwin – EPQ Query
- Gordon Palastanga – Flowerpots in High Street
- Resident – Concerns over Vertas site
- Resident – Vehicles in Thetford Road
- Steve Wilson – Monthly Report
- C Cllr Spicer – Overgrown Hedge in Walsham Road
- NPWG – Various Correspondence (7)
- Hempyard Bridge – Various (3)
- Cllr Sutton – Christmas Lights
- West Suffolk – Sustainability
- Suffolk County Council – Boundary Review

16. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman wished to thank all those who attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade. Once again it was a great turnout for the Parish.

The Chairman reported he was in the process of arranging a meeting with the Head Teacher of the Primary School.

17. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported the following;

- **All Saints Ixworth Thorpe** – The Chairman and I met with Rev Dr Karen Burton and she agreed that the responsibility of the grass cutting and other issues rests with the Parochial Church Council as it is still an open Churchyard. This will now be taken out of the grass cutting specifications for the Parish.
- **St Marys Ixworth** – As it is still being investigated as to who is responsible for the upkeep of this closed Church, whether it is the Parish Council or West Suffolk, Rev burton requested if some issues with trees within the Churchyard could be looked at and a quote obtained. The Clerk was instructed, if possible, to obtain a quote for the December meeting for further discussion.
- **January Meeting** – The clerk suggested the January meeting is a shorter meeting due to the Christmas period and the Clerk taking holiday over the festive period. This was agreed by all present.

18. Councillors Report’s

Cllr Lilley and Birrell had been approached by a resident requesting further details to be included in the Council minutes.

Cllr Birrell also wanted to highlight again the problems with traffic in Crown Lane at school times.

Cllr Laughton read Steve Wilsons monthly report.

Cllr Wilson reported the VAS sign had been knocked over by a vehicle in Ixworth Thorpe.

19. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 11th December 2019 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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Signed

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Date