

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held at Ixworth Village Hall on 9th October at 7:30pm

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

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Laughton – apology was accepted by all present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lilley declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 7 and 14.

Cllr Lord declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7.

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 11th September 2019.

4. Public Forum

A member of the public wished to highlight once again the give way sign at the traffic calming section of the High Street has still not been repaired.

5. Report from County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

The following was discussed in C Cllr Spicer's report;

- **Ixworth Free School** – Ixworth Free School has been renamed as SET Ixworth School. The school also has just received their Ofsted report which states the school overall is good. The report can be found on the following link - <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/140047>
A general discussion was held about schools within the area and C Cllr Spicer suggested that she arrange a meeting for the Suffolk County Council (S.C.C.) Officer who oversees the schools within Suffolk to meet with the Parish Council to discuss their concerns further
- **Mulleys Roundabout** – C Cllr Spicer confirmed the trees on Mulleys roundabout had been removed. Cllr Lord stated he had further information on this issue in item 9 on the agenda
- **Hempyard Bridge** – C Cllr Spicer reported she had no further information to give the Parish Council (PC) at this time. Cllr Rowe enquired as to why the PC had not yet received the letter from S.C.C. on the progress of this issue, a letter that C Cllr Spicer had stated, at the September meeting, would be received by the end of September or the beginning of October. C Cllr Spicer apologised that no letter had been forthcoming as she did not realise that is what she had stated in the September meeting. Cllr Rowe reported that he had spoken with Chris Leveson, West Suffolk Principal Conservation Officer, who, now that ownership had been established, would be serving an Urgent Works Notice on S.C.C. to repair the bridge. C Cllr Spicer was also asked when submissions for the new budget were to be presented. C Cllr Spicer stated the budget submissions were being presented now. Cllr Rowe suggested that Hempyard Bridge repairs be requested as a priority
- **Highways Issues** - Cllr Lord stated that he was dissatisfied with recent responses from highways to a letter he had written on the Parish Council's concerns about the traffic on the A1088. Not only had the reply taken a long time but the response did not address the issue he had raised.
- **Full S.C.C. Meeting** – Cllr Lord enquired when the next full Council meeting, where members of the public can ask questions, would be held. C Cllr Spicer stated the next meeting was being held on 17th October 2019.

6. Report from District Councillor John Griffiths MBE

D Cllr Griffiths reported the following;

- **Persimmon** – The planning application for the first stage of houses in the Crown Lane site was still ongoing. West Suffolk Planning Officers were still in discussions with Persimmon over issues such as affordable housing and viability studies

- **Locality Officer** – As mentioned previously Helen Lindfield has now retired and her role has been taken over by Will Wright, however, the officer overseeing Ixworth is Nigel Yeates
- **Locality Budget** – D Cllr Griffiths urged local groups to apply for grants from his Locality Budget
- **Local Plan** – West Suffolk were now beginning to form a new Local Plan and urged all to take part in any consultations held to affect the plan in their area

7. Ixworth Village Hall

The Clerk reported that the PC Solicitor had send all documentation to the Village Hall Solicitor for their agreement. Once all documentation had been received back from the Village Hall Solicitor, his advice would be the transfer can be completed.

8. Hempyard Bridge

The issue was discussed in item 5.

9. Mulley's Roundabout

Cllr Lord reported he had had a god response from local businesses interested in being included in sponsoring the two roundabouts within the Parish. Cllr Lord felt there was enough interest to recoup the annual cost as below;

- Site 64 – A143/A1088 Stow Road is £2,250 + vat per annum (Mulleys)
- Site 65 – A143/Walsham Road is £1,800 + vat per annum

It was resolved that the PC would initially sponsor the roundabouts at the above cost.

Cllr Lord would contact Marketingforce to arrange the contract.

Cllr Lord would contact the interested businesses mentioned above to discuss costings for their involvement in the sponsorship scheme.

C Cllr Spicer stated she would give £1000 to help fund this project.

10. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Lord read the latest report to the PC from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG). A discussion was held on comments from the NPWG consultant on the Site Allocation responses. The members felt there were one or two queries raised that they wished to discuss with the consultant. It was agreed to try to arrange a meeting with the consultant to discuss further.

11. Planning Other

No planning issues were discussed in this item.

12. Planning Applications

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 Objection**

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

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

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 Objection**

13. Accounts

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

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|-------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Chq No 1375, 1376 | Wages | £1376.76 |
| Chq No 1377 | TOP Garden Services | £615.00 |
| Chq No 1378 | Anglian Water Business | £17.74 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Chq No 1379 | Navigus Planning Ltd | £2142.00 |
| Chq No 1380 | Suffolk Libraries | £71.32 |
| Chq No 1381 | Ixworth Village Hall | £165.13 |
| Chq No 1382 | Mr G Palastanga | £47.00 |
| Direct Debit Nest Pensions | | £27.99 |

The RFO (Responsible Finance Officer) was authorised to transfer £3500 by on-line transfer from the business account to the community account.

14. Remembrance Sunday

Cllrs Lord and Lilley declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item as members of Ixworth & District Royal British Legion.

A letter had been received from Ixworth & District RBL requesting a grant of £200 to fund the Remembrance Parade on Sunday 10th November 2019.

After a discussion it was agreed to grant £100. It was also agreed to grant £25 to the Poppy Appeal for the wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Parish.

15. Ixworth Christmas Tree

Cllr Sutton reported she had obtained quotes for some new lights for the tree. Cllr Sutton also reported that she had obtained the services of an electrician to install the lights at no cost to the PC. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Sutton had a budget of £750. Cllr Sutton informed members she was in the process of arranging an official 'Switch On' on Friday 29th November and had invited some groups to attend, such as the Brownies and Cubs. Cllr Sutton would also be placing an article in the magazine informing residents of the 'Switch On'. It was agreed by all present that if Cllr Sutton had to pay for the new lights up front, as opposed to a 30 day credit account, then a cheque could be raised between meetings to reimburse Cllr Sutton if the RFO was satisfied invoices presented were correct. The cheque would then be included in the November payments.

16. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- **Marcus Hopkins, By-Pass Farms** – Email and Statement from Meeting
- **Resident** – High Street Parking/traffic Problems
- **Cllr Wilson** – Email Response from Safety Camera Team
- **Resident** – Walsham Road Concerns
- **Bridge Club** - Grant Request
- **Suffolk Police** – Part Funded PCSO
- **Ixworth Patient Association** – Grant Request
- **Marketing Force & Mark Wedgewood x 2** – Mulley's Roundabout
- **SARS** – Thank You Letter
- **S.C.C.** – Roadworks – A14 Junctions 42-47
- **SALC** – Electoral Review of Suffolk – Briefing 10.10.19
- **West Suffolk** – Affordable Housing Guide
- **NPWG** – Pigeon Presentation (8th/9th November)
- **Ixworth & District RBL** – Grant Request
- **West Suffolk DC** – Local Plan
- **NPWG** – PC Monthly Report
- **Steve Wilson** – Monthly Report

The following responses were agreed;

- **Marcus Hopkins** – reply to email thanking him for the copy of his statement and state the PC are looking forward to being invited to participate in the forming of the new Masterplan for the land North of Crown Lane
- **Residents' Concerns Re Traffic in the Village** – reply to inform residents their concerns have been passed to C Cllr Spicer and S.C.C.
- **Suffolk Police** – request further information on costings and how the scheme works. Also, contact Thurston PC as they currently part sponsor a PCSO

- **Grant Requests** – The Clerk was instructed to speak with the Bridge Club for further information. The Clerk was instructed to confirm how much and when the last grant was given to the Patient Association
- **Safety Camera Team Response Ixworth Thorpe** – It was agreed by all present that the recent responses from S.C.C. safety camera team and Suffolk Police regarding the issues of speeding in Ixworth Thorpe were unsatisfactory. It was agreed by all present to Contact Matthew Hancock MP to highlight the concerns the Parish Council has.

17. Chairman's Report

Cllr Lord requested that, following on from the discussions in C Cllr Spicer's report, he could attend the S.C.C. Full Council meeting to ask a question on highway concerns on the A1088. It was agreed by all present that Cllr Lord attend. It was also agreed that Cllr Rowe would attend to ask a question on Hempyard Bridge. Cllr Lord also reported, as a member of Ixworth & District RBL, that work had started on the telephone kiosk in Stow Road.

18. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following;

Committees/Working Groups – Dates to be arranged

Finance Group – 24.10.19 (time and venue to be confirmed)
 Cemetery Group – confirm 4.30pm 23.10.19 at the Fire Station
 Rules/Regs – Confirm a date and venue – still to be arranged

Play Area – Latest inspection raised one or two small issues which need addressing, permission was given to the Clerk to address all the issues due to the Health & Safety implications involved. The wooden poles on the large climbing frame and the Jungle Walker have some more rotting problems. The Clerk has contacted Playdale stating an engineer needs to meet on site to inspect this equipment as soon as possible. Cllr Wilson volunteered to attend once a date has been confirmed

Ongoing Issues

Ixworth Thorpe Church Lights
 Paperless Working – possible projector (obtain quotes and research Wi-Fi access in VH)
 PC Email accounts – reminder given to activate accounts
 Hempyard Bridge – Dog Bin – Requested cost (inc emptying from West Suffolk)
 VAS Ixworth – C Cllr Spicer to arrange meeting in order to complete VAS application - no response (08.10.19)
 St Mary's Church – Meeting required to determine who is responsible for the closed Churchyard (still checking with West Suffolk Council for responsibility)

19. Councillors Reports

Cllr Wilson reported the sign at Heath Road was still not repaired. Cllr Wilson also reported, as the PC representative, she had attended The Calthorpe Trust Annual Meeting. The Calthorpe Trust can award grants to local students for such things as University fees.
 Cllr Reeve would like to attend any meetings on Hempyard Bridge.
 Cllr Birrell once again wished to highlight the number of cars parked near the school which is causing great concerns to parents. Cllr Lord sated when he next met with the School's Headteacher he would request if she could perhaps mention to all parents about safety issues of so many cars at starting and closing times of the school.

20. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 13th November 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