

## **IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held in Ixworth Village Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7:30pm*

**Present:** Councillors (Cllrs) Ben Birrell (Chair), Sophia Wilson, Pam Shelton, Ben Lord, Vicky Sutton, Steve Wilson, Clare Black and Kate Rees

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

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Reay sent her apology – accepted by all present.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The draft minutes had previously been distributed to all Councillors and taken as read.

It was agreed by all present that the Chair sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

### **4. Public Forum**

The following comments were received from members of the public present;

- **Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)** – a resident wished to say how pleased he was to see the VAS in the village. However, he was extremely disappointed that it was not being deployed in Stow Road where most of the speeding took place
- **Incident in Commister Lane** – a resident wished to highlight that an incident took place in Commister Lane. A lorry had trouble getting out of Commister Lane and scraped against the wall and a power cable. It was requested if the PC could write to Suffolk County Council (SCC) to position a sign at the beginning of Commister Lane stating 'unsuitable for lorries'

Cllr Steve Wilson explained that there were only four sites in Stow Road that SCC were prepared to have poles erected for the VAS to be mounted on. Residents close to these sites have to give their permission for the VAS to be installed. Unfortunately, the residents did not give their permission at this time, so the VAS is unable to be deployed in Stow Road.

It was agreed to add Road signage to the February agenda for further discussion.

**Action: Clerk**

C Cllr Joanna Spicer stated that a grant application for the overgrowth in Commister Lane needed to be submitted.

C Cllr Spicer also requested if Cllr Lord could meet with her to discuss the actions SCC were taking over the recent inquest into the fatal accident in the Parish. It was agreed by all present for C Cllr Spicer to arrange a meeting with Cllr Lord.

### **5. Crown Lane Development**

Cllrs Lord and Black had attended the Pegasus presentation of the Crown Lane Masterplan and development. The Cllrs had concerns on the information that was being given to the residents who attended. For instance, the consultants stating that no other access to the development could be considered, even when the current West Suffolk Masterplan for the development shows a five arm roundabout.

A discussion took place on what actions the PC should do.

It was resolved that the PC would write a response to the consultation.

**Action: Cllr Lord & the Clerk**

It was resolved to hold a presentation by the PC on the area to be developed giving residents all the history of this site over the last fifteen years. Cllr Lord would create a presentation and arrange a date and time, and report back to Cllrs at a future meeting. Cllr Lord would seek approval of the Council if funding for the presentation was required.

**Action: Cllr Lord**

## **6. Planning**

**DC/21/2338** – a. first floor rear extension including repositioning of existing roof lights – b. alterations to existing conservatory including an increase in depth, timber cladding and a new roof structure – Hill Top House, High Street, Ixworth

**No Objection**

**DC/22/0013** – Pollard to four metres to ground level – Meadow View, Thetford Road, Ixworth

**No Objection**

**Action: Clerk**

## **7. Accounts**

The following accounts were agreed for payment;

BACS	Staffing	£1102.72
BACS	WAVE – Anglian Water	£14.90
BACS	Navigus Planning (NP)	£1093.80
BACS	Ixworth Village Hall	£9.08
BACS	J R Garden & Property	£560
	Direct Debit NEST	£36.12

The RFO (Responsible Finance Officer) was authorised to transfer £2,000 by on-line transfer from the business account to the community account.

Cllr Sophia Wilson would authorise, online, the payments above.

**Action: Cllr Sophia Wilson & the Clerk**

## **8. Precept 2022-2023**

Two versions of a suggested budget were distributed to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. The Council were very aware that over the coming year residents would be facing challenging times with such things as fuel increases, so did not wish to put more pressure on the residents by increasing the precept.

A discussion on all aspects of the budget for 2022-2023, and the categories within it, took place. Two new categories of expense were created, a grant to the youth club of £5000 and reserves for future play equipment of £5000.

As the new categories had been created savings needed to be made in other areas. All other categories were discussed and amended so the above amounts could be included.

It was resolved to request a precept of £48,465 from West Suffolk District Council (WSDC). The request would see an increase of £1.68 per D Band property for year 2022-2023 which would be an increase of 2.79% on the previous year's figure. All figures are subject to ratification by WSDC.

## **9. Correspondence**

The following correspondence had been received;

- **Queen Jubilee Beacon Trail** – Invitation to take part in Queens Platinum Jubilee Trail
- **Cllr** – Apology to Cllrs for losing their temper
- **Resident** – Minutes Comments
  
- **Resident** – Walsham Road Flooding – Photos and email (2)
- **Resident** – 'We Need a Bridge'
- **Bardwell PC** – Quiet Lane
- **SCC** – Bridge Farm Bridge
- **WSDC** – Ixworth Court Tree Preservation Order Confirmation
- **Residents** – Chalk Lane Consultation (6)
- **WSDC** – Planning Enquiry
- **Green Ixworth** – Crown Lane Consultation
- **Safety and Accessibility Working Group (SAWG)** -meeting notes

It was agreed to take part in the Queens Jubilee Beacon Trail at a cost of £499. Cllrs Rees and Black volunteered to lead on this project.

**Action: Cllrs Rees and Black**

The comments received from a resident, in reference to the October meeting minutes, had been distributed to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was resolved that the minutes of the October meeting would not be amended. It was resolved that the comments would not be included within minutes as it was agreed the comments were not admissible under GDPR. The Clerk was instructed to write to the resident with the Council's decision.

**Action: Clerk**

It was agreed that SAWG would be added to the February agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

A report had been received from D Cllr John Griffiths prior to the meeting. The Clerk would upload to the secure Cllr correspondence website for all Cllrs to view.

**10. Date of the Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in Ixworth Village Hall bar area at 7.30pm.

**11. Exclusion of Press & Public**

The press and public were excluded at 8.45pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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Signed

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Date