

IXWORTH AND IXWORTH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Ixworth & Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council meeting held in Ixworth Village Hall on Wednesday 14th February 2024 at 7:30pm

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Lord (Chairman), Pam Shelton, Kate Rees. Stephen Mann, John Rowe and Tony Molloy

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

Abbreviations

Cllr/Cllrs – Councillor/Councillors, C Cllr – County Councillor, PC – Parish Council, WSC – West Suffolk Council, RFO -Responsible Finance Officer, SCC – Suffolk County Council, D Cllr – District Councillor, APM – Annual Parish Meeting, De-fib – defibrillator, NP – Neighbourhood Plan, WG – Working group,

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from the following Cllrs –

Cllr Black – childcare – apology accepted
Cllr Sutton – childcare – apology accepted

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The draft minutes had previously been distributed to all Councillors and taken as read. It was resolved that the Chairman sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 and Monday 22nd January 2024.

4. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported the following:

- **Cllr Resignation** – WSC had given permission for the PC to fill the Ixworth Thorpe vacancy through co-option.
- **De-Fib** – the de-fib at the Fire station is now operational.
- **Community Awards** – the Community Awards would be presented again at the APM being held on 17th April 2024.
- **Cobbled Area** (near Village sign) – A quote to clear the moss from the cobbles had been received for £150

It was agreed to write to all residents in Ixworth Thorpe highlighting the PC vacancy for their ward.

Action: Clerk

It was agreed that C Cllr Spicer would arrange to have a photo opportunity at the Fire station to thank all the parties involved in getting the new de-fib fitted.

It was agreed that Cllr Lord would write an article for the magazine to encourage residents to nominate a person, a group or a business for a Community Award.

Action: Cllr Lord

It was agreed by all present to accept the quote to clear the cobbles and the Clerk was instructed to contact the contractor to get this work completed.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk also read the following report from H Jermy who empties the litter bins;

- The bin by the village sign is being filled with adult incontinence products. They are not being packaged at all so are a health risk.
- A person is also placing bags of plaster dust in bins.
- Would it be possible for the PC to replace the red dog waste bin on the playing field. The bin has become very rusty at the bottom and dog waste bags are falling through and getting ripped.

It was agreed to place an article in the magazine requesting that only litter and dog waste bags are placed in the bins.

Action: Clerk

It was agreed that the Clerk could order a replacement bin for the playing field up to a cost of £250.

Action: Clerk

5. Public Forum

The following comments were made by members of the public present;

- **NP** – a resident was concerned about the changes to the NP in relation to the Langridge Site Allocation. Consultations had taken place and residents were pleased with the possibility of a new VH at the Langridge location. Also, concerns were highlighted that the website did not seem to be up to date in relation to the plan. The resident was also concerned about the delay in moving the NP forward.
- **WSC Local Plan** – a resident requested if the PC would be able to make note in their response of the problems with the A143 corridor. Concerns were also raised that some aspects of the plan may be out of date in relation to the Crown Lane Masterplan previously adopted by WSC.

Cllr Rowe stated the NP would be discussed later in the meeting. However, as there had been some confusion as to the number of houses in the NP and the WSC Rural Plan it was agreed at the meeting held on 22nd January 2024 to remove the site allocation from the NP.

It was agreed to let WSC, who are the planning authority, to deal with numbers of houses and site allocations.

Cllr Lord stated that whilst a letter had been received from the landowner of the Langridge site in relation to a new VH it did take some time which contributed to the delay in the NP.

6. Reports from County & District Councillors

D Cllr Griffiths had previously offered his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

C Cllr Spicer reported the following;

- **Pothole Repair** – Cllr Spicer reported that SCC had responded quickly to the PC's concerns on a pothole being repaired in heavy rain. SCC has apologised for this happening and the pothole has now been repaired.
- **Bridge Farm Bridge** – At this time there is no date to confirm closure of the bridge enabling the bridge to be repaired.
- **Hempyard Bridge** – Cllr Spicer was arranging with all stakeholders a meeting at the end of February to discuss continuing issues with the bridge prior to its repair. A tree causing issues at the bridge has a planning application submitted to conduct work on them.
- **Fire Station De-fib** – Cllr Spicer as discussed agreed to arrange a photo opportunity to thank all who helped fund and install the new de-fib which would also advertise to the community this new asset to the village.

7. Planning

No planning applications had been received for the Council to comment on.

8. Finance

The following payments were made;

Chq No's 1439,1440, 1441	Staffing	£1913.92
Chq No 1442	Viking	£356.36
Chq No 1443	Scribe	£414.72
Chq No 1434	Jose Acosta	£1003.74
Chq No 1445	Cloudy IT	£400.74
Chq No 1446	Wicksteed	£392.26
Chq No 1447	SARS	£100.00
Chq No 1448	Headway Suffolk	£25.00
NEST	Pension Payment	£60.71

The RFO was authorised to transfer £2000 from the Business account to the Community account.

Action: Clerk

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Previous to the meeting all Cllrs received an updated copy of the plan that would be used to move to the Regulation 16 stage.

Cllr Rowe explained that Cllr Mann and he had amended various small points such as spelling and Chris Bowden had altered other sections, as requested by the PC, on site allocations and policies.

Cllr Lord still had concerns on points 4.5 and 6.5. Cllr Lord read his suggested alterations.

It was agreed by all present to accept these suggested alterations. It was agreed that Cllr Lord send these agreed alterations to Cllr Rowe who would incorporate them into the plan.

Cllrs Rowe and Mann would continue to work on the plan document.

Action: Cllrs Rowe, Lord & Mann

10. West Suffolk Local Plan

Prior to the meeting Cllrs had been sent the link to view the Rural Plan consultation and Cllrs had also attended the drop-in session at West Suffolk House.

A discussion was held on various aspects concerning the Parish within the plan. It was agreed to make the following comments to the consultation

- Make representation on the A143 corridor
- Consider the suggested plan for the Cemetery extension be removed. Previous versions did not have this section included.
- Langridge site development should have a roundabout access from A1088 not Bardwell Road. A roundabout here would also help with the traffic problems along this stretch of the A1088.

It was agreed that Cllr Lord would formulate the Council's response and complete the consultation form.

Action: Cllr Lord

11. Ixworth Cemetery

The following quotes were received for work required at the Cemetery;

- Trim the holly tree and fell a Conifer in the old section - £702
- Trim and tidy the hedge in the new section - £1350

Both quotes were accepted by all present and the Clerk was instructed to contact the contractor to arrange for the work to be completed.

12. Play Area

The Clerk informed members that the recent play area inspection highlighted a few issues that need implementing. The Clerk stated she would arrange a meeting of the Play Area WG to discuss the issues and obtain quote.

The play area Management Agreement was discussed and the Clerk informed members that the spreadsheet with payments was now completed. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Mr Ben Birrell the Trustee at the Village Hall to discuss.

Action: Clerk

13. Chairman's Report

Cllr Lord reported that he had recently met with the Rural Police Officer to discuss anti-social behaviour in Ixworth.

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence had been received;

- **Resident** – Fly tipping near River
- **Kirsop** – VH Boundary Wall
- **Resident** – Hempyard Bridge
- **Resident** - VH Car Park
- **WSC** – Housing Homelessness Reduction
- **WSC** – ITR (invitation to register) Consultation
- **WSC** – Parish Forum (18.03.2024 at Mildenhall)

- **WSC** – Permission to co-opt
- **WSC** – Rural Plan Consultation
- **Green Ixworth** – Great Barton Air Management
- **Green Ixworth** – Community Energy South
- **WSC** – Capital sport fund, Grass Cutting, Leader Strategic Priorities, Langridge Information Rural Plan Drop-in

15. Councillors Reports

No additional Cllrs reports were made.

16. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 13th March 2024 at 7.30pm in Ixworth Village Hall.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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Signed

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Date