

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 9th January 2013

Present: Cllr. S. Plumb -Chair
Cllr. J. Hunt
Cllr. M. Gale
Cllr. J. White
Cllr. R. Rook
Cllr. D. Wastall
Cllr. L. Mitchell

Lynda Fisher, Clerk
5 Parishioners
PCSO Aaron Harris

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Hyde, Nick Mayatt Community Warden, Borough Cllr. Stokes and County Cllrs. Mike Whiting and Alan Willicombe.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – None.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 12th December, 2012 were proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Wastall; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 8th December, 2012 were proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Plumb; agreed and signed as a true transcript.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1. **Diamond Jubilee** – Clerk advised that the commemorative plaque has now been installed and as everything is now in place it was agreed to arrange an unveiling ceremony to take place on Monday 28th January in the morning. Clerk to invite John Bourne from Knauf, who donated £1500 towards the trees, to unveil the plaque and to send out invitations to other dignitaries and the local press.

Action: Clerk

2. **Lorries in Iwade** – Cllr. Hunt met with Inspector Evan Jones and County Cllr. Mike Whiting, and was happy to report that three new signs directing Lorries to Ridham Dock have now been installed; one at Bobbing, one in the village and one on the Grovehurst Road. At the Sheppey Bridge end the signpost needs to be relocated. The Police are sending a report to KCC Highways on this and it is hoped KCC will carry relocate the sign. The sign near to the roundabout on the Grovehurst Road needs moving too; this area comes under the jurisdiction of the Highway Authority, who will also be sent a copy of the Police Report which will indicate that this problem needs solving..

Cllr. Hunt advised that he has had an acknowledgement from the Police regarding the complaint concerning the incident with the lorry that damaged property within the village. He was amazed to learn that there is not a Traffic Policy for Swale.

3. **Village Centre/CCTV Cameras** – Clerk requested to write to Chaminox, regarding the urgent need for bollards to stop cars parking on the pavement and to raise concerns over the empty shelves in the former Budgens retail unit.

Action: Clerk

4. **School Lane Playing Field** – Clerk advised that she has posted a notice on the entrance to the playing field (twice because the original was removed) informing villagers that the land has now been passed over to the developers; the same notice has also been displayed on the village website and she has requested that it be placed in the local paper by the Parish Correspondent.

Regarding disposal of the play equipment; the school is interested in the Tropicana Slide/climbing frame Unit but is asking if its possible for the Parish Council to pay for its removal and re-installation; the Iwade Herons do not want the ‘Kick Walls’ but if possible would like their goal posts stored and Swale Borough Council might be interested in the equipment and may be able to pay a small sum for it, but this needs to be agreed. Once the School has made a decision, then the Clerk will go back to Swale Borough Council to look at taking up their offer. Cllr. Rook volunteered to investigate the cost of storing or scrapping the equipment. ***Action: Cllrs. Hunt/Rook/Clerk***

5. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Parishioners** – No issues were raised.
2. **County Councillor and Borough Councillors** – Non present.
3. **Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** – Nick sent his apologies, he is unable to attend due to a training day. Clerk has circulated his report to Members and its contents were noted.

Aaron, the PCSO, advised that crime is down in Iwade but he is still getting loads of complaints about parking. He has sent letters to offenders; moved vehicles parked on pavements and now the Police are looking at issuing tickets for cars parked on footpaths. Nick and Aaron have spent time at the school monitoring parking, which has improved. He is going to speak to Nick Mayatt and they will try and increase the amount of times they are outside the school during dropping off and picking up periods.

There has been some anti-social behaviour outside Budgens at night time; officers at the Police Station are aware of this. He has spoken to the children waiting at the village centre bus stop about damage being done to the shelter and will keep a watchful eye on this.

Complaints about dogs mess have risen and Aaron asked about progress with the Green Dog Walking Scheme; Cllr. Hunt has some people interested in organising this. Cllr. Wastall raised the issue of children walking dogs and not being aware that they have to clean up after their animals; perhaps the Dog Warden could visit the school to give a talk on this? Aaron will talk to the School Liaison Officer, to see if he will visit the School to talk to the children about dogs mess and litter.

6. Finance

1. **Replacement of Notice Boards** – It was proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Gale, agreed to purchase a 3 Bay 9A4 Noticeboard in manmade Oak effect material from Greenbarnes, at a cost of £3181.83p. Clerk to contact the Village Centre Management Group, Chamonix (who have agreed to it being located in the Centre) concerning installation. ***Action: Clerk***
2. **Quote to remove small climbing frame by Village Handyman** – A quote of £900 has been received to only dismantle and remove the Tropicana Slide/Climbing Frame Unit from School Lane Playing Field. Members felt that they could not justify spending this amount of money, particularly if the School asks the Parish Council to pay for the installation too. It was suggested the School might prefer to use the £2000 promised to them for a Sensory Garden for this purpose. Cllr. Hunt to raise this with the Headteacher. ***Action: Cllr. Hunt***
3. **Broadband Cabinets** – Cllr. Wastall is still trying to contact someone at BT Openreach about Broadband Cabinets for the new development. ***Action: Cllr. Wastall***

4. **Precept/Budget** – With the details regarding the decrease in the Tax Base Rate for Iwade for 2013/14; it was proposed by Cllr. White; seconded by Cllr. Hunt and agreed by all that the Precept be increased to £32500 for 2013/14, meaning an increase for Band D properties of £1.65 per annum.
5. **Cheques signed at this meeting:**

| Date | Chq. | Details | | Amount |
|-----------------------------|------|---------------------|--|-----------|
| 09.01.13 | 1586 | L. Fisher | Wages – December | £601.19p |
| 09.01.13 | 1587 | L. Fisher– Expenses | Tele./Broadband for Dec., Home as office, 4 Ink Cartridges, 2 rms. A4 Paper, A4 Laminate Pouches | £75.95p |
| 09.01.13 | 1588 | PFL Electrical Ltd | Repair to Col - No 3 Meadow Close | £88.80p |
| 09.01.13 | 1589 | K.C.C. | Second Half Yearly Grounds Maintenance | £86.36p |
| 09.01.13 | 1590 | Steve Wakeling | Handyman duties December | £373.72p |
| 09.01.13 | 1591 | Shelley Signs Ltd. | Jubilee Trees Plaque | £1134.00p |
| Six cheques in total | | | | |

It was proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. White, all agreed, that the above cheques be signed and the accounts presented accepted.

7. Correspondence

1. **LEF Administration Support 2012/13** – noted.
2. **DCLG Consultation on Examining Speed Limits for HGVs over 7.5 tonnes on single carriageway roads Technical Review of Planning Appeal Procedures** – Cllr. Hunt agreed to respond stating that the Parish Council does not support this increase. **Action: Cllr. Hunt**

8. Village Hall Update – No updates at present.

9. Localism Meeting (Swale Borough Council)

The Parish Council was invited by Swale Borough Council to attend a last minute meeting with Cllr. Mike Cosgrove, the Swale Borough Council Cabinet Member with responsibility for Localism. Basically because of the development that has gone on within Iwade over a number of years, Swale Borough Council wants to see how they can reel out localism and have chosen Iwade as a good place to do that; they are looking to put a lot of energy and resources into Iwade.

Interestingly they are very keen to see that a new village hall is built in Iwade, and were sad to hear that work on this has gone quiet at the moment. They felt with the right facilities it would become a central ‘hub’ for the Village. They are also looking to bring the Barn into use, so that it can become a community place, rather than just a tool shed for the Cemetery.

10. Meeting with Wards Homes re proposals for the S.E. Sector of Iwade

About 18 months ago the Parish Council looked at a document issued by Swale Borough Council (SHLAA), which identified areas for housing in Iwade. The Core Strategy Consultation arrived and as a result of Parish Councils talking to each other R.A.H.M. was formed; a group that could put forward unified objectives on behalf of the Parish Councils and their residents in response to this consultation. The outcome at the end of the day was that we were informed that there would be no more housing for Iwade, and this was backed up by a statement in the local newspapers, made by Cllr. Lewin in March, 2012.

The Parish Council was therefore rather surprised to receive an invitation from Wards Homes to meet with Members to discuss options for land to the South-East of Iwade, which turned out to be the area mentioned in the SHLAA document, reference SW/123, for 300 new homes.

The Parish Council pointed out to Wards that we had been promised there would be no further housing in Iwade, apart from areas that already have planning permission. Furthermore Members stated that residents would be angry to see a 'U' turn had been made on developing this area, and added that there was insufficient infrastructure to support the additional houses/population.

Members instructed the Clerk to write to Borough Cllr. Gerry Lewin, and send a copy to Borough Cllr. Mike Cosgrove, asking for clarification on this matter. **Action: Clerk**

11. Planning

1. **SW/12/1531:** – Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of single storey side extension: 81 Springvale, Iwade, ME9 8RX – no objections.
2. **SW/12/1552:** Loft conversion including erection of flat roofed rear dormer and insertion of three roof lights to front roof slope: 3 Turnstone Close, Iwade, ME9 8TU – no objection.
3. **KCC/SW/0310/2012:** Variation of condition 9 of planning permission SW/05/1203 to amend permitted stockpile heights at Ballast Phoenix Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) Recycling Plant: Ridham Dock Industrial Complex, Iwade, ME9 8RS – Clerk to write stating that Parish Council Members considered the further details submitted and still wish to object to the variation of Condition 9, which they believe was put in place by Kent County Council for a valid reason and the applicants need to prove that this does not exist. It is ironic that other companies at Ridham are reducing the height of their stockpiles down to 10m because of dust implications and visual impact. Kent County Council set a precedent with this condition and other companies have/are now coming into line with this.

12. Other Matters Arising

Clerk referred to Members giving approval to purchase three grit bins back at the beginning of 2012, but that at that time KCC had intimated that they would install the bins. Unfortunately this was not the case and she will now look into purchasing these bins; Councillors commented that if it was possible to order them within two weeks then to go ahead and purchase them.

13. Next Meeting

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 13th February, 2013, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.