

# November 2022 THE IWADE OBSERVER



See = location of Barriers, the road will be closed between these points for the safety of the public.



## IWADE'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT

**Where:** Tolly Tubby Hill - junction Ferry Road/Sheppey Way

**When:** Sunday 4 December 2022

### PROGRAMME

From 16.30 to 18.30 the road will be closed from Happy Days Nursery (Junction with Sheppey Way) down to the second junction with Sheerstone.

16.50 Dance Group

17.20 Lantern Parade and Santa arrives, followed by

Lights Switch on at 17.30

Santa will be around for a short time after so that children can meet him

**No Street Vendors Permitted**

Sponsored by Iwade Parish Council

## BUSINESS FOCUS

Want to get your business featured in our monthly Business Focus Feature? Showcase your business, tell Iwadians who you are, what you do etc, and get into every home in Iwade - free of charge! We try to showcase one business per month. Email us: [the.iwade.observer@gmail.com](mailto:the.iwade.observer@gmail.com)



"Hello", I am Claire of Day Claire Garden Care and House Clearance. I live in Iwade. We have recently completed 3 full house clearances in the village and surrounding area. We can do one-off small clearances of garages, lofts, sheds etc to a full house clearance, deep clean and garden.

I can even arrange marketing if needed and the



organisation of other trades if required. We also look after vacant properties. We are registered waste carriers but try to keep

waste to a minimum by donating or recycling what we can. The smaller jobs I manage alone, but I have a team of people available who share my passion for the job and the same work ethic. I adore my job, it is hard work but very satisfying and interesting. I am mindful and compassionate at all times. I especially know from personal experience how traumatic it is clearing a loved one's property. I do buy some goods including motorcycles and bikes. Clearances start from £150. I have excellent references. Contact me for a free quote and chat

Claire - 07770929422  
[colston333@sky.com](mailto:colston333@sky.com)



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## HAPPY DAYS ENJOY AUTUMN'S BOUNTY



Caroline Wiles

Autumn's arrival brought with it some beautiful sunshine allowing us to spend precious time in the garden. The nursery is full of seasonal finds with colourful leaves, conkers and pumpkins at every turn. Natural objects give curious children great opportunities to wonder, smell, touch and even taste these marvels of the season. Pumpkin soup with crusty bread has been a welcome addition to our menu and a great way to get rid of chills when temperatures dip.

For 'Team Happy Days' autumn has been a period of reflection as we embarked on an accreditation to achieve the #JustQuality Award. The next 12 months will be an exciting journey of reflection, action and impact for our whole team. Life never stands still at Happy Days and we can't wait to get started!

2023 is shaping up to be a busy year so if you are interested in a place for your child from January 2023 or beyond please contact the office on 01795 424348 for more information.

Alternatively, please feel free to use the contact from on our website

[www.happydaysuk.co.uk](http://www.happydaysuk.co.uk)



and we will get back to you. It is never too early to book your place.

## AUTUMN FUN AT TINKERBELLS/EARLY YEARS

**Donna Barker**

Our first term at Tinkerbells has flown by, our topic for the term was 'All about Me' and the children took part in various activities that taught us about us and our families.

Towards the end of the term the children took part in lots of autumnal activities including leaf rubbing, wreath making, they worked their small hand muscles hammering tees into pumpkins, lots of fun for the children and excellent for fine motor control and hand-eye coordination!

Term 2 is upon us already and we are excited to explore Winter and Christmas with the children. This always a busy term and we look forward to sharing our news about the term with you all in the next edition.

We are excited to finally be holding our Christmas Fair again this year, it will be held at the village hall on Tuesday 22nd November at 3.15pm. There will be lots of fun activities and stalls for all including Santa's Grotto, teddy tombola, bottle tombola, lucky dip, hula game, snail racing, bric-a-brac and so many more.

We have limited availability at our Iwade and Clocktower settings, if you are interested in a place for your child please feel free to pop in if you would like to be added to the waiting lists or require a place from September 2023. Alternatively, you can email us at [enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk)

### Parent and Toddler

We have had a really busy first term, it has been lovely meeting lots of new

families.

Children have taken part in a crafting morning where some of them created an Autumn wreaths and autumn trees.

We have had Boogie tots visit which was a workout for all, Boogie tots now visit every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Sensory and messy play takes place on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

We are open every Tuesday 9-11 term time only. Sessions are £2.50, siblings £1.00, any other children £2.50 each. No need to book.

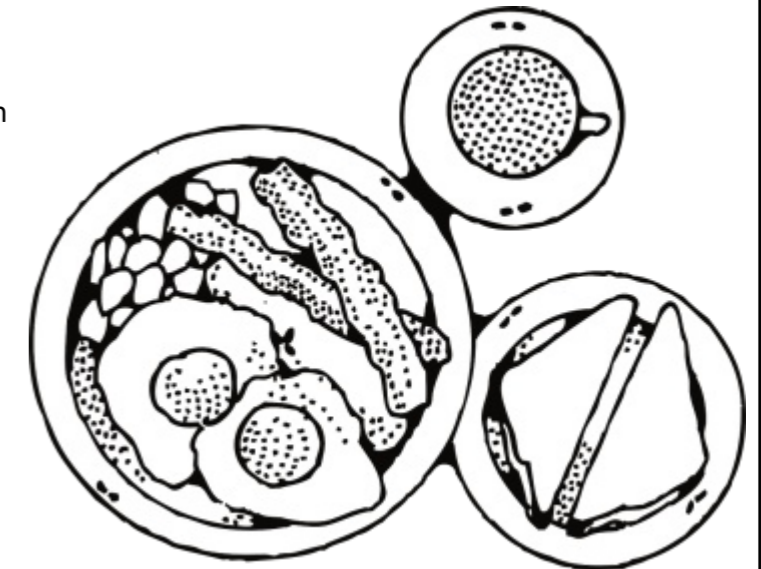


## MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 09:30 in the Barn. If you are of a certain age and enjoy a bacon or sausage butty, a cuppa and a chat and a chance to make new friends then come along and give it a try.

We occasionally go out on outings and often have a speaker or a member showcasing a hobby or interest. Subjects have ranged from Gliding through wooden box making, vintage motorcycles to a "what is this Tool?" quiz, and even Valentines card making!

Love to see you there.

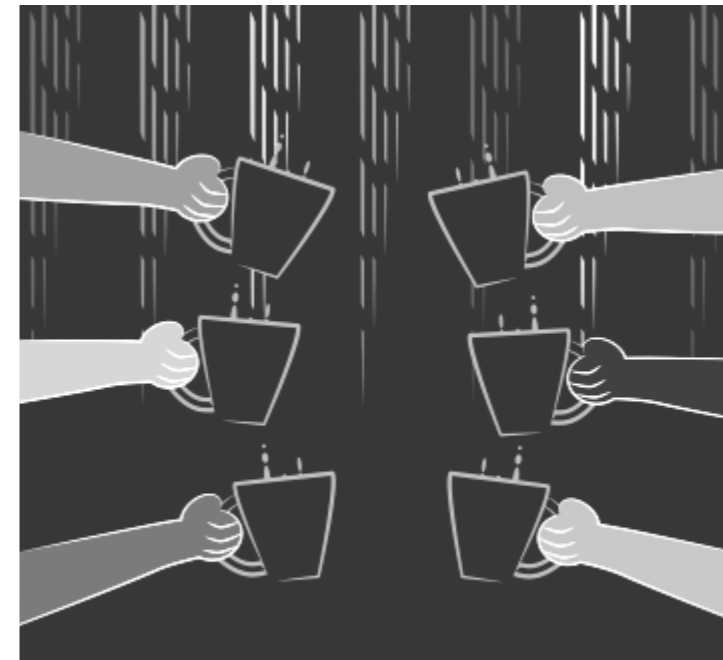


## MONDAY FRIENDSHIP GROUP

We are a friendly group, for men and women, where you can come along for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat. We have occasional speakers and various activities or just sometimes enjoy a natter and a chance to make new friends and catch up with old acquaintances. We meet on alternate Mondays at the Barn from 10:30 until midday, and you'd be most welcome. At a loose end? Why not come along and give it a try sometime?

Dates for November are 14th and 28th and into December, on the 12th

Hope to see you there



## IWADE READING GROUP - OCTOBER 2022

**Hilary Foulds**

Iwade Reading Group meets at 10.30 in Iwade Barn on the second Tuesday of each month. In October everyone who read Messy Wonderful Us by Catherine Isaac had thoroughly enjoyed it. It was unusual for the whole group to like the same book. It was deemed the best book we'd read for ages. It had a real, true to life story which wasn't easy to put down.

November's meeting will be reviewing the works of Jeffrey Archer. We will all be choosing to read one of his titles with the idea of swapping and sharing afterwards.

For those avid readers, Christine recommended 2 books she'd read recently: The Couple at Causeway Cottage by Diane Jeffrey, a psychological thriller set off the coast of Northern Island and The Last House on the Cliff by Anne Wyn Clark set in Anglesey. Both books were available currently on Kindle at much reduced prices.

Our December meeting will start a little later at 11 as we are planning to celebrate the Christmas season with lunch and Secret Santa at the Woolpack.

## IWADE'S NAUGHTY VICAR!!

### Graeme Horner

Last month a gentleman came to All Saints' Church enquiring whether we held record of the grave of a Richard Willis in the churchyard. I replied that there was a record of the burial of Willis but no marked grave remained. The visitor explained his interest in the unusual history of Willis and encouraged me to explore further.

Richard Child Willis was born in Petworth, Sussex in 1799. He was the son of Admiral Richard Willis of whom it was said 'he was not of much use to the navy' and his wife, Ann Child. More significantly he was the grandson of Dr. Francis Willis who was the leading physician successfully treating the madness of King George III. From this Dr. Francis achieved fame and a £1000 fee. (He also treated, unsuccessfully, the Queen of Portugal for which he earned £60,000)!

Richard Willis, more properly the Rev. Dr. Richard Child Willis, graduated from Cambridge in 1822 and achieved his doctorate in 1841. He was appointed to various parishes and finally became rector of Warden in 1845, vicar of Minster in Sheppey in 1847 and Chaplain to the Sheppey workhouse in 1849. He had inherited a manor in Yorkshire in what was later to become the town of Ravenscar. His manor house was Raven Hall (now a successful hotel). The town of Ravenscar was planned to become a rival to Blackpool and Scarborough as a holiday resort, but it became known as 'the Town That Never Was'. The planned town received a railway line and station, but on such a steep slope that trains struggled to climb to the top. Its high location meant it was continually buffeted by winds. Its clifftop elevation, some 600 feet above its beach and the fact that the 'beach' was of rocks rather than sand, made it less than ideal as a holiday destination. In the end few houses were ever built and nowadays it serves as a destination only for determined hikers who are still able to see remains of the station platform and the abandoned railway. Richard Willis soon gambled away his estate of some £30,000 due to his addiction to horse racing and 'louse racing'. (Betting on the movement of lice was a popular way of gambling for soldiers at the time!).

He was declared bankrupt but continued to seek the high life. In 1843 he lived for 7 weeks at a London hotel under the name of Captain with a female whom he left there to pay the cost. Willis was clearly a charmer. Over the next few years he paid other hotel bills with large cheques asking the hotels to advance the balance in cash. Hotels, trusting him as a respectable, elderly cleric, did so freely. The cheques were all fraudulent and drawn on banks where he had no account. He was eventually arrested for this and tried for 12 sample frauds at the Central criminal courts in April 1850. A spirited defence by his lawyer claimed that the prosecution had neglected to produce any documentary evidence to prove their case. The judge, having none of this, had advised that he was liable to penalty of 7 years transportation, but handed down a sentence of 1 year's hard labour in Clerkenwell prison.

By 1861 the census reveals that Willis was living in Minster with a wife, Hester, an adopted son and a servant. He was now 67 and Hester was 27. There was a suggestion that though living as husband and wife, Hester was in fact his daughter-in-law. This remains unproven. Hester was never-the-less not his wife, as he had neglected to divorce his previous wife, Frances, who was still alive and living in Sussex. At his death in 1877 he left all his assets, which amounted to no more than £100, to Hester. She subsequently became a matron/proprietor of children's homes.

The only saving grace in this story was that, as Vicar of Minster, he became well known for his brilliant sermons which attracted a large following from all over Sheppey. He died, aged 78, in Sheerness and the large procession from there to his funeral in Iwade included many notable worthies of the district. Church bells were rung in Sheerness and Iwade and all the intervening parishes. It is said that all the inhabitants of Iwade, about 230 at the time, lined the street in respect. He was buried in All Saints Churchyard in February 1877 following a service led by the vicar of Sheerness.

Iwade may not have produced many famous men but at least we may claim one who was infamous.

## All Saints Church Iwade Saturday Circle

At the Church



Offering friendship and  
a listening ear  
over a free bowl of soup

EVERY SATURDAY IN  
NOVEMBER  
12 till 1:30 p.m

Christmas  
Wreath making  
(bring your own  
decorations and  
greenery, we will  
provide rings)  
plus Childrens  
Christingle &  
Arts and Crafts

Iwade Village  
Hall Sunday  
27th  
November  
3:30pm -  
5:30pm

To book email:  
[iwadechurchevents@yahoo.com](mailto:iwadechurchevents@yahoo.com)

## (FANTASTIC) FOOD AND (FANTASTIC) DRINK FESTIVAL AT THE BARN



under the banner of the Shepherd's Crook.

The car park soon took on another identity and became the sparkling venue for the Barn's first Food and Drink Festival. In the Barn the beer pump was ready to dispense hundreds of pints of Kent brewed beers and ciders. Dozens of cans of soft drinks were sitting chilled in refrigerators and a good range of spirits and wines were shelved ready to go.

Outside in the car park further gazebos had been erected by our fantastic local food vendors. Grumpy Dad's Grill, The Tray Bakery, Barritos Mexican and Try, Taste, Love were raring to go the sights and smells of their brilliant offerings already tempting taste buds!

Mics and sound system were positioned ready for an open mic session and later in the day a set from The Klicks, Iwade's own local brother and sister acoustic duo.

As our 15:00 kick-off time approached there was an air of expectation palpable



Saturday the eighth of October saw an early morning flurry of activity in the barn car park as trustees met to put up two marquees, set up tables and chairs, lighting and a bar

from all and a certain nervousness as we pondered the question, "Where is everybody?" Well, we needn't have worried for Iwadians turned out in droves to sample good local food and drink and stayed right through until we closed at 21:00. A few teething problems with our beer pump didn't dampen the atmosphere and we managed to get by in spite of that. Food outlets were running short and many kegs were consumed during the course of the day.

Then on came The Klicks for their fantastic set. Nearly two hours of great songs and sounds which were hugely enjoyed by the crowd for a foot-tappingly brilliant evening. Watch out for them at other local venues (you can find them on Facebook) – you won't be disappointed!

What a great day, great food, great drink, and great music. Massive thanks to The Klicks for being the soundtrack to this first Food and Drink Festival, to Grumpy Dad's Grill, to Barritos Mexican, to The Tray Bakery and to Try, Taste, Love for their fantastic fare. Again, look out for them (you can find them all on Facebook) – you won't be disappointed!

We hope to make this an annual event to provide much needed funds to continue to allow the Barn to be made available, free of charge, to local non-commercial community groups.

If you are interested in helping in our fundraising efforts you'd be most welcome. Contact [trustees@iwadebarn.org.uk](mailto:trustees@iwadebarn.org.uk) for more info.



# IWADE PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

## Present

Cllr. S. Waters – Vice Chair  
Cllr. P. Hyde  
Cllr. S. Lancashire  
Cllr. R. Stalley-Moores  
Cllr. D. Waters  
Cllr. S. Tolhurst  
Samantha Gray, Clerk  
Lynda Ives, RFO  
Borough Cllr. M. Baldock  
11 Residents

## Welcome and Apologies

The Vice-Chair chaired the meeting, formally welcomed everyone and declared a Minute's Silence would be held at the start as a mark of respect for the late Queen. Following the Silence, apologies were received and accepted from Parish Cllrs. Dollimore, Langham, Cheeseman and Whiting.

## Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Stalley-Moores, the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held 10 August 2022, were agreed and signed by the Vice-Chair as a true record.

## Visitors/Public Time

**1. Visitors** - A resident attended to further outline his concerns over the state of the **VILLAGE CENTRE**, he had been in contact with the Clerk, who in turn had been pushing the management company to clean up the area, both the centre and the car park, and to undertake urgent work to the crumbling walls, particularly around the stairs and ramp to adjacent to the Pharmacy. He was concerned that three months on, nothing has been done. The Vice-Chair advised that the Council has discussed this matter and does share the residents' concerns, he added that there should be pressure from residents too.

Residents attended to express concern that the Parish Council proposed to spend more money on **FENCING AT TELLY TUBBY HILL**. The Vice-Chair advised that the fencing was to stop children going up and

down Telly Tubby Hill on bikes at what is a very busy junction. It was also to stop children climbing on the Christmas Tree, something that occurred at the 2021 Event, when parents stood and watched their children doing this and were not happy when asked to stop this. Residents were happy with temporary fencing being erected when the Christmas tree was in situ.

As numerous residents attended to discuss this matter, the Vice-Chair brought forward item 7.8 – **PARKING ISSUES, SHEERSTONE:**

Residents have approached Cllr. Mike Baldock with a proposal for a vehicular access to extend the close further to end of numbers 50 and 48 Sheerstone. Parking has become a severe issue for residents in this area and the surrounds, with many struggling to park their car. Granting vehicular access will allow those who wish, to install a driveway to the front of their property, which will alleviate the parking issue. To protect the Public Right of Way, a single lane will be created for residents to drive along, with pavement installed on both sides. Double yellow lines will be used to ensure the safety of pedestrians. Cllr. Baldock felt this proposal would be beneficial, as well as potentially taking 8/10 cars off the road. He also agreed that ownership of the land needs to be ascertained.

Action: Clerk

## **2. County and Borough Councillors -**

**A. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS WOODFORD AND CLARK** – no reports.

**B. BOROUGH CLLR. M BALDOCK ADVISED:**

i. West Parishes Meeting in October; will be talking about HIPs, including how Parish Councils can work together on this to try and save money.

ii. KCC are still looking at cutting subsidies for buses.

iii. County are looking at Enterprise Zones – worrying how they are going to achieve this.

iv. Swale Borough Council is looking at

suspending progressing Regulation 19 of the Local Plan until the Government clarifies what it is doing and the publication of the Levelling Up Act.

## **3. Community Warden / PCSO**

Community Warden and PCSO– No report.

## Matters Arising from the Minutes

### **Highway Improvement Plan (HIP) Review**

– The following costs have been received from KCC:

- 20 mph scheme  
**£300.00** Extra costs will be incurred if scheme progresses.

- Yellow Lines (TROs)  
**£2500.00** Additional £570 if more than 5 objections.

**Total: £2800.00** KCC will pay £1500 of this.

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters: Parish Council to go out to consultation regarding the yellow lines.

Action: Clerk

**Planters, The Street** – no update, keep on Agenda.

Action: Clerk

## Planning

Applications are viewable on: Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

## Correspondence

**A. SWALLOW AVENUE – TO DISCUSS RECURRING DAMAGE TO PROPERTY** – The damage is caused by delivery vehicles having difficulty in turning due to parked cars.

Members agreed the first course of action should be yellow lines to see if this eases the situation.

Action: Councillors/Clerk

**B. IWADE VILLAGE CENTRE** – See Item 4.1, paragraph 1 above.

Action: Clerk

**C. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING REQUEST-SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR POND FARM SITE** – Agreed to put forward the suggestion of

'Henge' (following the discovery of a Henge on an adjacent site), Solstice, Equinox, Sarsen etc.

Action: Clerk

**D. SPEEDING VEHICLES SHEPPEY WAY** – Concerns noted, agreed to ask PCSO to carry out random speed checks along this route.

Action: Clerk

**E. SITE ENTRANCE POND FARM – PLANNING APPLICATION 22/503598/SUB** – Councillors were concerned to see that the developers have installed an access to the Pond Farm site on Sheppey Way, contrary to the submitted details and against the conditions set on the approval notice. The access is totally in the wrong location as it will push construction vehicles through the villages of Iwade, Bobbing, and surrounding areas, causing unnecessary harm to the residents. There is better access directly from Grovehurst Road and the A249 without having to impact local roads. Agreed to write to Swale Planning voicing the Council's concerns.

Action: Clerk

**F. APPOINT PROPER OFFICER FOR THE COUNCIL DURING CLERK'S LEAVE** – Lynda Ives appointed, to cover from the 1 October 2022 to the 31 January 2023.

**G. THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY – MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING FOR HER MAJESTY** - Agreed to sign up for this initiative.

Action: Clerk

**H. PARKING ISSUES, SHEERSTONE** – See Item above, paragraphs 3 and 4.

Action: Clerk

## Finance

**Internal Auditor for 2022-23** - Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, agreed to appoint Mike Platten, to undertake the Council's annual audit at a cost of £325 plus £50 travelling expenses.

Action: Clerk

**Christmas Tree Fence - Revised quote from KSM £2,170** – Agreed no further action at the present time.

**Replace Lamp post poppies – 10 at £3 each** – proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters agreed the purchase of 10 Lamp Column Poppies at a cost of £3 each.

Action: Clerk

**Clerk Salary Review** - Proposed by Cllr.

Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, agreed Clerk to progress to Spinal Column Point 20 on the pay scale, following the satisfactory completion of her probationary period, with effect from the 1 October 2022.

Action: RFO

**Gateway Repair – Quotes** – carry forward to next meeting.

Action: Clerk

**Sign-Post Telly Tubby Hill/School Lane – Quote £430 + VAT** – Cllr. Tolhurst to look at this. Bring back to next meeting.

Action: Cllr. Tolhurst/Clerk

**Phone with answer machine & Printer for Clerk - £158.99p + VAT** – proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, cost agreed. Bobbing Parish Council have agreed to reimburse 50% of the cost.

Action: Clerk

**AGAR Section 3 External Auditor Report** – Members noted the External Auditor has raised no issues regarding the Audit for 2021/22. The Notice of completion of Audit and associated papers have already been posted on the Council's website and noticeboards.

**Bollards - Ferry Road – 2 Quotes** – Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, agreed to accept the quote from K.S.M., for the sum of £535.

Action: Clerk

**Grounds Maintenance Contract – to include additional areas in revised maps – Note cost TBA by Swale Borough Council** – still awaiting information, bring back to next meeting.

Action: Clerk

**Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** - Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to the 31 August; the following payments were agreed. Cllrs. Lancashire and Hyde to log in and authorize payments.

Action: Cllrs. Lancashire/Hyde

## Projects – Updates on Current and New

**Christmas Lights Event 2022** – Taking place 4 December. Snow Machine ordered. Cllrs. Baldock and Woodford have agreed to each donate £500 and Cllr. Clark agreed to donate

£300 towards the cost. South-East 4X4 have agreed to assist, as they have done in previous years. KCC have been chased for the Loading Report.

Action: Clerk

**Next Village Clean up** – The next village clean up will be held Sunday 23rd October. So far, a good response from residents.

Action: Clerk

## Reports from Representatives

**Hall** – No report.

**KALC** – Written report from Cllr. Langham - attended the General Purposes Committee on 23rd August and discussed suggestions for various speakers at the null meetings up to June next year. These have now been agreed. The next full meeting which all councillors from member Parish Councils are welcome to attend is on 18th October; the speakers are Dr T Willison and Sandra Norval.

**Swale Western Area Committee** – Cllr. Tolhurst updated the members on items relevant to Iwade that were discussed at the the SBC Western Area committee on September 1st. Money was allocated to the Youth Provision Project. The KCC Youth Hub will get the Vibe Youth workers to engage with young people in the western parishes including Iwade. The intention is to talk to the young people and understand what they would like in terms of provision of local youth amenities. A donation of £10,000 will be made to local food banks, but the committee wanted the food banks to provide some guarantee that this funding would benefit western area residents and that deliveries be made to residents that could not travel. David Carey of the of the Kent Tree and Pond Partnership made a presentation on Pond Management. His knowledge and advice would be helpful to manage the ponds in Iwade. Cllr. Tolhurst to approach Davide Carey for advice.

## Any Other Matters Arising

Councillors wished Sam, the Clerk, all the best during her Maternity Leave.

## Next Meeting(s)

Wednesday 12 October 2022, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall