

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 8 March 2023

Present: Cllr. A. Dollimore – Chair
Cllr. S. Waters – Vice Chair
Cllr. R. Langham
Cllr. S. Tolhurst
Cllr. D. Waters

Cllr. R. Stalley-Moores
Samantha Gray, Clerk
S. Wood, Gala Lights
2 residents

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Cllrs. Lancashire, Cheeseman, Hyde and Whiting.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Langham and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on 8 February 2023, were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. Visitors –

- (1) A resident advised the path in front of Woodpecker Park is flooded. Clerk to inform Kent County Council. **Action: Clerk**
- (2) A resident contacted the Parish Council by email regarding yellow lines on the councils H.I.P request and parking issues at their address. Clerk to respond to resident. **Action: Clerk**

2. County and Borough Councillors – None attended. Cllr. Baldock sent this report via email:

- The Conservative Budget has been passed by Full Council. With a multi-million pounds cut to Highways Maintenance, against a backdrop of a backlog nearing £3/4 billion and roads in Kent found to be the worst in England by the RAC in 2022, this effectively signals the end of any real pretence by KCC that our highways will ever be properly addressed, and again brings forward the possibility that within a decade they will have to start closing roads.
- There is also further cutting of the budget for Community Wardens
- A big issue currently is the large number of school children that have not been able to get a school place at any of their preferred schools and I am helping them with their appeals.

3. Community Warden/PCSO – none attended.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **School Lane – Bollards** – Council members reported at the previous meeting that the improvement to the junction at School Lane/Chetney View could benefit from bollards to prevent any parking on the grass verge. Cllr. Dollimore will source a quotation. **Action: Cllr. Dollimore**

2. **Woodpecker Drive** – The Clerk circulated an email received from KCC which advises they will not support traffic calming at this location. KCC suggest carrying out Speed Watch at Woodpecker Drive. Cllr. Langham will look into adding the area to Speed Watch. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Bobbing Garden Village Plan** – Council members viewed a map of the proposed development and discussed the size of the development. Local Parish Councils have met to put a plan in place to fight the development. There is also a resident’s group and their next meeting is 25 March at Bobbing Village Hall.
4. **Brambles Village Hall** – The Brambles that run along the back of the Village Hall Garden are very overgrown and require cutting back once a year. Cllr. Dollimore will source a quotation. **Action: Cllr. Dollimore**

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

23/500789/FULL: Conversion of existing roof space to habitable rooms, including two new dormer windows and a rooflight to the front and a flat roofed dormer to the rear with skylights. (Resubmission 22/505170/FULL). ADDRESS: 7 Meadow Brown View Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8XB. Council members discussed and advised no comments.

23/500878/REM: Approval of Reserved Matters for erection of 20no.residential dwellings (Appearance, Landscape, Layout and Scale being sought). ADDRESS: Land South Of Dunlin Walk Iwade Kent ME9 8TG. Iwade Parish Council stand by their previous objections, in particular: This proposal would fail to provide safe vehicular access. Apart from the issues of the junction of The Street and Sanderling Way, access to the site is unacceptably unsafe. Vehicles exiting the proposed development from the western end run the very real risk of collision with vehicles entering and exiting the parking spaces of residents at houses 1-4.

Kent Police raised issues with the development layout; the perimeter, boundary and divisional treatments include neighbouring boundaries and that of Iwade School, adding that the proximity of the school requires a CSE policy or additional boundary treatments. Parking, including visitor spaces and lighting policy were also of concern.

Access to the site will be via Sanderling Way, already overpopulated with parked vehicles and pinch points. The proposed junction is on a corner and will struggle to cope with the additional demand of a possible two to four cars per new household. Coupled with the proposed access for potential new development (18/505157/OUT) on a blind corner, it will create a traffic nightmare in an area that already has issues. The junction of Sanderling Way/The Street is also a blind corner.

Parents expressed views that this creates a significant child safety and child protection concern; they do not feel their children, whilst on their lunch break or in P.E. attire, should be overlooked by houses so close to the playing field.

This could be classified as an infill development and over intensive development of a small site.

The school could reach its maximum size of 630 pupils in 2 years’ time, with further housing proposed another expansion of the school is very realistic.

Drainage in this area is not good and any development on this site could result in run-off to the playing field, compounding the problem the school already has with flooding.

Council members noted Iwade School have planted trees on their boundary and suggest the developer should pay a contribution to the school for alterations they need to make due to the proposed development.

23/500759/FULL: Part conversion of garage to provide utility room (Retrospective). 8 Ferry Road Iwade Kent ME9 8RR. Council members discussed and advised no comments.

23/500575/FULL: Change of use of land for a Gypsy/Traveller site comprising of an additional 6no. Mobile Homes, 6no. Touring Caravans and 1no. Utility Building. Land Adjacent To Tiptree Bungalow School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8QE. Council members discussed and advised no comments.

23/500720/FULL: Conversion of existing attached garage to habitable space. ADDRESS: 6 Ringlet Grove Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8XE. Council members discussed and advised no comments.

7. Correspondence

1. **Kent Priority Survey – Neighbourhood Watch** – Members agreed to respond individually.
2. **Roadworks – Sheppey Way** – Council members discussed the road closure which happened without warning on Sheppey Way. This is due to ongoing electrical works. The road is currently open with traffic lights in place but Cllr. Dollimore advised the road may close again for future works.
3. **Community Services Consultation** – Kent County Council issued a Community Services Consultation. The Clerk circulated to all members to complete if they wish to.

8. Finance

1. **Gala Lights – Quote to extend Christmas Tree Lights** – Council members discussed the quotation with S. Wood who agreed to supply a revised quote. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Plaque for Beacon** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Waters, council members agreed to purchase an 8” plaque for the Jubilee Beacon, to be inscribed with ‘Iwade Parish Council’, at a cost of £149.95p. **Action: Cllr. Hyde**
3. **CCTV** – Council members discussed a revised quote supplied by Swale Borough Council for 3 cameras and agreed that there was very little saving compared with the quote for 4 cameras. Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. S. Waters, members agreed to the installation of 4 CCTV cameras around the village, at the cost of £9,789.80, and annual cost of £3,875. **Action: Cllr. Tolhurst**
4. **Grounds Maintenance Contract** – Swale Borough Council advised this year’s grass cutting contract will include an uplift to cost of 11.1% but we are still waiting for the quotation. No update from KCC. Keep on the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Faulty Street Light, nr 50 Sheerstone** – Council members discussed quotes from Swale Borough Council and Kent Service & Management LTD to replace a bollard which needs to be removed for a street light repair. Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members agreed to the quote for £565.00p from Kent Service & Management. **Action: RFO**
6. **Request for Donation – 1st Iwade Cubs and Scouts** – Proposed by Cllr. S. Waters and seconded by Cllr. Langham, members agreed a donation of £530.00p **Action: Clerk/RFO**
7. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** - Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Langham, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to the 28 February 2023; the following payments were agreed. Cllrs. Langham and Whiting to log in and authorize payments. **Action: Cllrs. Langham/Whiting**

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
08.03.23	BACs	L. Fisher	Expenses – Telephone, home as office	£18.00f
08.03.23	BACs	S. Gray	Expenses – Telephone, home as office	£23.00f
08.03.23	BACs	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax February	£402.00f
08.03.23	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee and Materials	£321.50f
08.03.23	BACs	K.A.L.C.	‘Dynamic Councillor’ Event – Cllr. Tolhurst	£60.00f
08.03.23	BACs	Kent Service & Maintenance Ltd	Planting 3 Trees, Woodpecker Park	£365.00f
08.03.23	BACs	Streetlights	Repairs to Lighting Column O/2 13 Coleshall Cottages	£115.50f
08.03.23	BACs	K.A.L.C.	‘Dynamic Councillor’ Event – Cllr. Stalley-Moores	£60.00f
01.03.23	SO	Staff Salaries	February, including Locum coverage for January	£2369.38f
01.03.23	DD	NEST	Pension contributions	£63.38f
01.03.23	SO	Invicta IT Solutions	13 Microsoft 365 Mailboxes and Exchange	£63.70f
01.03.23	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99f
06.03.23	DD	I.C.O.	Annual Registration Fee	£35.00f
27.03.23	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply	T.B.A
30.03.23	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin, monthly	£36.94f
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
06.02.23	BACs	Bobbing Parish Council	Reimbursement for Printer Inks	£36.32f

9. Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. **King’s Coronation 2023** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members agreed to purchase a Coronation Flag at the cost of £29.99p. **Action: RFO**

10. Reports from Representatives

1. **Hall** – It was reported that the Village Hall have received a steady number of bookings for occasional hirers and work on the floor to sand and varnish will go ahead during the Easter holidays.
2. **KALC** – Cllr. Langham attended the meeting and advised there were speakers from the General Purpose Committee. Cllr. Langham will attend the next SAC on 14 March and on the agenda are speakers Alan Watson, Community Speed Watch Manager and Scott Montgomery, Community Resilience Manager. There will also be a report on Lighting grants and the response from KCC.
3. **Swale Western Area Committee** – Cllr. Tolhurst attended the meeting and reported there was a discussion about the Kent County Council Community Services Consultation on proposed changes to the way KCC used their buildings to deliver some community services. Feedback was invited by 26th March 2023.
The reduction in Police Community Support Officers (PSCO) and the effect in the Western area was discussed. Area Committee members commented that the new Police model of moving to community policing and replacing some PCSOs with Police Officers could be beneficial.
4. **Swale West Parishes** – No meeting held.

11. Any Other Matters Arising

- Members advised they would like to review the criteria for applications for financial assistance. Clerk to add this to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk**
- Members would like to plan the next Iwade Clean Up. Clerk to add to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk**
- Members noted the support of a Criterion Blue Town Nomination Request.
- Members asked the Clerk to contact the manager of Rose Hill Care Home to arrange a meeting with council members. **Action: Clerk**

12. Next Meeting(s)

Wednesday 12 April 2023, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall

The meeting closed at 08.37 p.m.