

Iwade Parish Council

Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 12th June 2007 at 7.30pm

Present:

Chairman Peter Wilks
Mrs Sarah George, Parish Clerk
Vice Chairman Phil Fearn
Cllr Lisa Older 2 Parishioners
Cllr John White Borough Councillor Ben Stokes
Cllr Malcolm Hutchings Gordon Henderson
Cllr Phil Hyde
Cllr Brian Groves

Apologies:

County Council Brenda Simpson (personal)
County Councillor Roger Truelove
Cllr Derek White
Cllr Sue Dowling
Gerry Cox, Community Warden

2. Confirmation of Minutes

It was noted that apologies had been omitted from Cllr Brian Groves and under Planning it should read under 5 Meadow Rise, retain not obtain, on the minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting of 8th May 2007. Once amended were signed as a true and accurate report. This was seconded by Cllr Phil Fearn

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 8th May 2007 were agreed and signed as a true and accurate report by the chairman and this was seconded by Cllr Phil Fearn

The Planning Committee minutes of 29th May 2007 were signed by Cllr Phil Fearn, as Planning Chairman and were seconded by Cllr Brian Groves as a true and accurate report.

3. Matters Arising from the minutes

3.1 Land North of the Church

Planning Application SW/06/1355 AJJ, by Ward Homes to develop 27 homes north of All Saints Church Iwade.

It was noted that Cllr Ben Stokes had arranged for the Chairman and Chairman of the Planning Committee to meet Swale BC Planning Services Manager and the Area Planning Officer, to discuss details of the application on 11th June. The surface treatment of the proposed car park, the road surface to the proposed cemetery and the future of the great crested newt habitat were discussed.

A draft letter of objection to the above application was considered by Members. Members agreed that they support the Recommendation by the Local Planning Authority to the Local Plan Inquiry Inspector that:- "In order to address the issue of biodiversity, the land north of the Church carried over from the adopted Local Plan be deleted from the plan."

Members agreed that in the event planning permission for the development of the site was granted, the Iwade Parish Council was prepared to accept the ownership and maintenance of the area of land set aside for the great crested newts habitat. Members resolved that the draft letter of objection to the above development be forwarded to the Local planning Authority, unchanged.

The future ownership and use of the Grade 2 Listed Barn is still under consideration and a meeting with members of the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Committee is arranged for 13th June to consider the future use of the barn once it has been repaired at the expense of the developers as part of the housing development. The intention of the developers is that the barn will be handed over to the community under a 106 Agreement.

Members resolved that they would they would not manage the Barn as a Community Hall but would consider acting as Custodian Trustees subject to a financial appraisal.

3.2 Village Park 106 Agreements dated January 2001 and February 2005

Cllr Ben Stokes advised the Parish Council, that he had been informed by Swale Borough Council this section 106 would be completed by the end of this month (June 2007).

Clerk still waiting for Kent County Council Highways to provide a list of all roads in Iwade and whether they have been adopted and not.

Clerk still to action

3.3 Annual Village Clean Up

Areas Covered:

- Village Park completely cleared of rubbish
- Roundabout as you leave A249 for Iwade all cut back and strimmed
- Pinch Points painted and weeded
- Access points to the south and east of village cleaned and trees cut back so signs can be seen
- Playing Field School Lane completely cleared of rubbish and strimmed around perimeter.
- Walled area around Village Hall - bushes trimmed and cleared of bottles and rubbish.

- All fencing around bus stop and corner of School Lane painted
- School Lane cleared of all litter.
- Bollards by Village Centre island painted
- Car Park behind Village Centre cleared of rubbish/litter
- The Street cleared of litter and other rubbish
- The Green cleared of all litter
- Grovehurst Road all hedges cleared of rubbish including tyres, metal posts, bottles
- The Stream by the bus stop cleared including a car battery, bollards, sheets of wood.

Strengths:

- Excellent turn out (vast improvement on 2006)
- Professional help from Arty Fencing
- Support from McDonalds – 2 members of staff plus donated bags and litter pickers. Donated litter pickers to cubs/beavers to keep for future clean ups.
- Support from Iwade Herons Football Club at School Lane Playing Field – excellent amount of work completed.
- Transportation of rubbish direct to tip by Gordon Henderson - very helpful indeed . (four journeys in total)
- More coordinated than last year with more areas covered and more specific jobs completed.
- Expenditure less than last year as not so much hire equipment required.
- Students involved this year including a number of teenagers.
- Better public awareness this year.

Points for consideration for 2008 Clean Up Day:

- Need more bin liners from start of day.
- Need more heavy duty brooms to do pavements (household brooms not strong enough).
- Avoid Cup Final Day (Although turn out was still very good).
- Perhaps more presence from Parish Council as ideal time to talk to local residents reference their views etc about the village.
- Arrange for Village Hall Car Park to be open so meeting can take place away from roadside and cars can be parked off road.
- Need for plastic gloves to issue to students picking up rubbish with pickers.

In summary, a very productive four hour session with notable improvements to a large number of areas within the village.

Cllr Phil Hyde wished a special mention must be made for Gordon Henderson, McDonalds, Arty Fencing, Iwade Herons Football Club, Cubs/Beavers, Amanda Hurrell for all their hard work. Cllr Ben Stokes passed on his apologies.

4 Planning

No planning applications had been received since the Planning Committee meeting on 29th May 2007.

5. Business of the Council

5.1 Bollards

Clerk advised that she had spoken to Michael Sammut of Swale Borough Council about the Bollards and a site visit is to be arranged to consider a number of potential improvements around the village.

Parish Clerk to action

5.2 New Code of conduct

The Clerk advised the Council that they have until 1st October to adopt the revised Code. The existing code will continue in force until such time as the council adopts the new one.

Parish Clerk to action

5.3 Iwade Herons Football Club

Adam Elliott, chairman of Iwade Herons Football Club asked if a shipping container, could be put in the recreation ground where the old cricket pavilion used to be located. This would hold most of the kit, balls, goals, and training equipments and also in winter act as a modest changing room for the youths.

Clerk had written to Swale Borough Council planning with copies of dimensions of the container, to see if planning permission was required.

The Parish Council agreed to this request subject to the response from Swale Borough Council Planning Department and with conditions that the container be painted black or dark grey, and fencing and planting e.g. trees etc be installed to hide it. Any graffiti to be removed immediately at the cost of Iwade Herons Football Club.

Parish Clerk to action

5.4 Light outside number 36 Sheerstone

Clerk advised the Council that it had been brought to her attention that the street light outside 36 Sheerstone was beyond economic repair and requires replacement. A quote had been obtained by EDF Energy to carry.

This was seconded by Cllr Phil Hyde and all Parish Councilors present were in agreement.

Parish Clerk to action

5.5 Light outside number 10 Meadow Rise

Clerk was advised that the light outside 10 Meadow Rise was not working. Clerk to contact EDF Energy to get this fixed

Parish Clerk to action.

5.6 Additional Post Boxes

Cllr Brian Groves raised that the additional post boxes still had not been installed, although planning permission and location had been agreed by Swale Borough Council. It was agreed that the clerk would contact the Manager of the Local sorting officer at Sittingbourne to see what the current situation was.

Parish Clerk to action

5.7 Grovehurst Road Bus Shelter

Clerk advised to contact Ward Homes to get lead times when the Bus Shelter would be built and where it was to be located.

Parish Clerk to action

5.8 Village Centre

A resident of The Street has drawn the attention of the Council to the air conditioning units which have been installed on the east wall of the Village Centre and asked if these have planning permission. The Clerk to check whether permission has been given for the installation of these units.

Parish Clerk to action

6. Correspondence/ Notices

6.1 Iwade Community Primary School

Letter of thanks received for the work on the school fence

6.2 School Lane Sewage Pipe

The work which was due in march had been put on hold pending results of a proposal for a much larger scheme which would have superseded the original scheme.

The is new scheme is taking longer than anticipated to be considered for approval and so the decision has been taken to reinstate the earlier scheme. It is currently anticipated that this work will be completed by the end of September, but both the District and Parish Council will be consulted prior to the start of works to ensure

there is as little disruption as possible.

Clerk to write to the Environment Agency as area is SSI Ramsar Marshes and to request they monitor the stream for sewage leakage.

Parish Clerk to action

7. Finance

Sarah George	Clerk fee, May	Clerks Wages £520.00
Arty Fencing	Gate for Recreation Ground	620.00
Graham Chambers	Handyman fees for May	£346.04
Office Technical Solutions J Branch	Photocopier printing Internal Audit for 2006/07	£15.01 £180.00
Peter Wilks	Chairman's Allowance and printing costs	£29.00
Brandon Tool Hire	Village Clean up	£196.77
Phil Hyde	Fence Paint and two brushes for village clean up	£45.96

Clerk advised that the internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations of 2003 (as amended in 2006). The statement of accounts contained in the annual report presents fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2007. The Councilors of Iwade Parish Council approved the accounts. Clerk to send the Parish Accounts to the External Auditor for final approval.

Parish Clerk to action

Meeting Closed 9.05pm

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th July 2007 at 7.30pm