

Iwade Parish Council

Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 13th March at 7.30pm

Present: Chairman Peter Wilks
Cllr Brian Groves Mrs Sarah George, Parish Clerk
Cllr Lisa Older Gerry Cox, Community Warden
Cllr Derek White 4 Parishioners
Cllr Malcolm Hutchings
Cllr John White

Apologies:

Borough Councillor Ben Stokes
County Council Brenda Simpson (personal)
County Councillor Roger Truelove
Cllr Phil Hyde
Cllr Sue Dowling
Vice Chairman Phil Fearn

2. Confirmation of Minutes

The following amendments were added:

- 4.3 Amend second paragraph to read: The Parish Council agreed in principal to pay the increase in charges for use of the village hall by voluntary organisations.
- 4.4 The Annual Parish Council meeting will meet before the monthly Parish Council meeting
6. An omission from minutes: The Parish Council had received a letter from Iwade School advising them of a federation of Bobbing Community Primary School and Iwade Community Primary School all under the same head, Mrs K Ware. The Parish Council had no objections to this federation.

The minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting of 13th February 2007 were signed as a true and accurate report. This was seconded by Cllr Brian Groves

3. Matters Arising from the minutes

3.1 Land North of the Church

Papers are still with Swale Borough Council, but should be distributed by the end of March, for the Parish Council consideration.

3.2 Phase 5, Grovehurst Development – removal of hedge

Parish Council had received complaints from residents regarding the removal of the hedge along the Grovehurst Road, Iwade. Iwade Parish Council were unaware

that this hedge was to be removed in this manner and were not satisfied after inspection of the replacement whips which would take many years to mature into a recognizable replacement hedge.

New hedge has been planted and Swale Borough Council Planning has written to Ward Homes expressing concerns that the removal of the hedge had been done without further contact with Swale Borough Council

Parish Council is also concerned about the trees which have been left that are being strangled by ivy. Clerk advised to speak to Ward Homes via Swale Borough Council asking them to remove the ivy and make the trees safe. If response is negative then Iwade Parish Council will pay for a tree surgeon to deal with the ivy problem.

Parish Clerk to action

4. Planning

SW/07/0118 AJJ

Case: 02712

Proposal: Change of use of vacant land to form extension to existing scaffolding yard with portable office and store at The Old Gun site, Marshbank Far, Old Ferry Road

It was reported by an Iwade resident that Borough Councilor Ben Stokes was also dealing with this application. The Parish Council objected to this planning application due to the unnecessary industrial development in the countryside and also the disturbance it would cause to neighboring residents.

SW/07/0217 JRW

Case 13724

Proposal: continued use of existing farm shop/stall for sale of home grown produce and up to 20% bought in produce, on a temporary basis for 12 months

Iwade Parish Council objected to this application as it was originally for a chicken farm and the temporary home was to look after the fowl. Once again this area was receiving unnecessary commercial development in the countryside.

5 Business of the Council

5.1 Iwade Community Primary School fence

Parish Council received a number of complaints from residents about the condition of the chestnut boundary fence alongside Meadow Close which was continuously being broken down by vandals. Young children were seen running out into a busy trafficked road. Clerk to obtain quote for new fencing after speaking to school and if school is in agreement, under section 137 of the Local Government Act will purchase and install a metal fence for the school. Clerk to advise Laurence Young in order to obtain a subsidiarity grant for this proposal.

This was proposed by the Chairman Peter Wilks and seconded by Cllr John White, all Parish Councilors present were in agreement

Parish Clerk to action

5.2 KAPC Update

Cllr Brian Groves reported to Iwade Parish Council that Mr Haratbar asked to attend the KAPC meeting so that he could update members on what is happening in Kent Highways. Several members of local Parish Councils raised local issues with Mr Haratbar, who urged members to report problems to the liaison officer.

5.3 Village Hall

The Chairman and Cllr Older attended a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee on the 7th March to obtain information on the proposed increase in hire charges to village clubs and voluntary groups.

Charges. The charges to local clubs and groups has been £5 per session for the use of the Hall. From April 1st the charge will be £12 per session.

Air Conditioning The Management Committee has received an estimate for fitting air conditioning equipment and will be deciding whether to proceed with installation at their next meeting.

Section 106 payments to the Village hall. In a report to the January Parish Council Meeting the Chairman advised Members that the Village Hall had received £257,000 from Developers for repairs. This figure is incorrect and the Chairman apologised for this mistake. The figure should read £134,600 total when the final balance is received.

The Council resolved that the Parish Council will pay the Village Hall hire charges for non profit organisations such as Beavers/Cubs, Iwade WI, Iwade Parent and Toddlers.

Clerk to contact the Village Hall Committee requesting invoices for these organisations.

Parish Clerk to action

5.4 Road Closure

Southern Water intend to mains connection The Street and in order to carry out these work it will be necessary to temporarily close The Street, Iwade outside number 9 and 11. The temporary Closure will be in operation on or after 25th March and 21st April. Access will be available up to the point of closure or via a signed diversion route.

It was agreed that Cllr Phil Hyde would take before and after pictures so if any reinstatement issue arose the Parish Council would have evidence of before and after.

Cllr Phil Hyde to action

5.5 Grass areas in Ferry Road

It had been agreed that the clerk would get in touch with Highways to see if the Parish Council could put a pigeon fence around these verges and plant bulbs.

Clerk still to contact Highways

5.6 Missing 30mph signs

Clerk advised that signs had been ordered and installation should be done in due course. It was agreed that the Clerk would carry on chasing until installation actually took place

Parish Clerk to action

5.7 Annual Village Clean Up

Village Clean up would take place on Saturday 19th May 2007 from 10am to 2pm. Iwade Parish Council would provide the equipment again and the Clerk placed noticed on website and in Iwade Village News

Parish Clerk to action

5.8 Parish Lighting Maintenance

Clerk obtained quotes for annual lighting maintenance and it was agreed to stay with EDF Energy. As there was not much difference in the quotes and the previous year contract with EDF Energy had been successful

6. Correspondence /. Notices

6.1 Bus Shelter Maintenance

Clerk advised Parish Council that in compliance with the 106 agreement £12,900 had been received from Ward Homes, for the future maintenance of the two bus shelters. This money to be lodge in a deposit interest earning account.

6.2 Community Warden Update

Gerry Cox, Community Warden advised the Parish Council that he had been receiving complaints that burning of toxic waste was still taking place at Plantation Lodge. Had been advising residents to contact the Environment Agency and report times, incidents etc

Iwade had been targeted by vandalism and the glass in the phone box had been broken, but this was not the only village that had been targeted, whole of Swale had been hit. British Telecom will not remove phone box but will continue to replace glass.

6.3 Parish Plan

Members were given a leaflet from 'Communities in Kent' outlining the requirements of a Parish Plan. Parish Plan aims to identify local problems and sets out an achievable long term (5 to 10 years) vision for the future. It was agreed that no further action at the present moment, as the current volunteers are heavily engaged preparing 'the village of the year' submission.

6.4 Fence in Village Park

Complaints had been received about the state of the boundary fence south side of the village stream. Swale Borough Council has arranged for a contractor to repair the fence.

7. Finance

The following cheques were raised

Sarah George	Clerk fee, January	Clerks Wages £675.91
Office Technical Solutions	Printing	£10.79
Graham Chambers	Handyman fees for January	£120.00
Actions with Communities in Rural Kent	Membership for 2007/08	£35.00
Peter Wilks	Chairman's Allowance and Expenses	£52.50
Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)	Membership for 2007/08	£150.00
Phil Fearn	Councillor Expenses	£5.47

Meeting closed 9.25pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th April 2007 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall