

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 8th May, 2013

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

Nick Mayatt, Community Warden
County Cllr. R. Truelove
County Cllr. L. Burgess
3 Parishioners
Lynda Fisher, Clerk

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Jennings, Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes and the PCSO.

The welcome was also extended to the newly elected County Councillors, Roger Truelove and Lee Burgess. Councillor Mike Whiting was also present and the Chair thanked him on behalf of the Parish Council for all he has done and appreciation of all his support for Iwade.

2. Declarations of Interest – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 10th April, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. White; agreed by and signed as a true transcript, but with the following addition, raised by Cllr. White at the last meeting:

Clerk to write to Swale Borough Council to ascertain what happens as regards the Precept and occupation of new houses. **Action: Clerk**

The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 30th April, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **20 m.p.h. Speed Limit in Iwade** – The response received from County Cllr. Bryan Sweetland is good and he thinks the Parish Council should pursue this in the summer, which will coincide with the completion of the trials outside Maidstone schools.

2. **Secondary School Transport – Bullying Issues** – Cllr. Gale has circulated the School Incident Policy, which he was given by the Police. He has also visited the bus company and they agreed to put up posters in prominent places on buses. He has also had a reply from the Child Protection Unit at the NSPCC, who will give guidance with the help line. All this information will be fed down to the schools. **Action: Cllr. Gale**

3. **School Lane Playing Field** – Clerk to write to Graeme Tuff and Jim Wilson, from Swale Borough Council inviting them to attend the June meeting to discuss the Playing Field. The Parish Council is aware that at the present time there is nowhere in Iwade for children to play football and although the

playing field will eventually be re-opened there is no indication from Persimmon as to timescales. There is still concern that children are accessing the site, although it has been fenced off. Clerk instructed to write to try and ascertain timescales and requesting that a 'Private Land' sign be erected.

Action: Clerk

4. **Youth Council** – Councillor Wastall reported that sadly despite contacting all those present at the last meeting, who expressed an interest in creating a Council; only one person had come forward. Clerk instructed to get in touch with Bianca Reynolds from CATs to see if they can take this forward and to also invite her to the next meeting to discuss the group's work in Iwade. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Neighbourhood Watch** – to bring back to the June meeting.
6. **Neighbourhood Plans** – Cllr. Mitchell has been trying to ascertain how much it will cost to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Iwade, but the issue is that we don't know how much work we can do 'in-house' to reduce the costs. Additionally there is no clear indication as to how much funding the Parish Council could receive. Clerk will put him in touch with the Swale Area KALC Vice-Chairman who has looked into Neighbourhood Plans. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Visitors/Public Time**

1. **Parishioners** – A Parishioner raised the issue of open space and the lack of any plans. Members responded that the Playing Field will be open when the Pavilion and LEAP work has been completed; at the present time (as already advised to villagers) it is owned by Persimmon, when complete it will then be handed over to Swale Borough Council, who will become the new owners. The Parish Council has never owned the land; has tried on several occasions to purchase it but the owner always wanted to use it for housing, but this never came to fruition. The field was leased to the Council on a 'peppercorn rent'; the lease being drawn up by a Solicitor; thus the Parish Council could never claim this as a 'village green'. The Parish Council has and is looking into this issue.
2. **County Councillor and Borough Councillors** – Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

County Cllr. Roger Truelove is new one of our new County Councillors; he has been our County Councillor before and will do what he can to support Iwade.

County Cllr. Lee Burgess is our other new County Councillor; he has also been a Parish Councillor with Tunstall for four years and is at present the Chairman; he too will do whatever he can to help Iwade.

3. **Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** – Nick's report has been circulated to Members and contents noted. The traffic lights have been under investigation and it now looks as though the whole thing needs to be replaced, and will be one of the first within this new financial year. He has also had a complaint about cars parking on the yellow lines in School Lane; Swale Borough Council will monitor the situation. He has also had complaints about construction staff parking their cars near to existing homes in Woodpecker Drive. Nick has spoken to the Site Manager and he will get them on site (there is sufficient site parking). Nick mentioned that Wards are part of the 'Considerate Construction Scheme' and residents could go to them with any complaints.

6. **Finance**

1. **Year end Accounts and Asset Register** – The Clerk advised that the accounts to the 31st March, 2013 had been adjusted due to VAT payments and the Asset Register updated.
2. **Annual Audit 2012/13; adoption of Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2013** – Members formally adopted the Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for 2013/13. The Internal

Auditor's report for the year end was noted and accepted. David Buckett commented on the Broadband Grant. The Clerk has e-mailed Lyndon Gurr at Kent County Council regarding repayment of the outstanding sum and has asked if the remaining funds can be used for communication within the village or Wi-Fi in a new village hall; she is still awaiting a response. **Action: Clerk**

3. **KALC Subscription 2013/14** – It was proposed by Cllr. Wastall and seconded by Cllr. White, all agreed, to renew the subscription at a cost of £842.83p for 2013/14.
4. **Countrystyle – increase in cost of emptying Eurobin** – noted the increase of 60p per weekly empty.
5. **Village Website** – Due to increased work commitments the webmaster of the Iwade Village website is finding it difficult to fit in updating the Parish Council section and might need to charge for this work in order for her to give the same priority as her paying clients. Following a discussion, Members agreed to reinstate the Kent Parishes Website, which a free site offered by Kent County Council to all Parish Councils and ask the Iwade Village website to have a link to this. **Action: Clerk/Cllr. Hunt**
6. **Precept and V.A.T. Receipts** – The Clerk advised that payments relating to half the annual precept; £17560 (this includes the lighting grant of £1310) and £2737.51p, being the reimbursement of V.A.T., have been credited to the Parish Council's current account.
7. **Annual Insurance Renewal 2013/14** – Agreed to renew the Insurance held with Came and Co. for the annual premium of £1232.41p.
8. **Cheques signed at this meeting:**

It was proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Rook, all agreed, that the following cheques be signed and the accounts to the 13th March, 2013 accepted.

Date	Chq.	Details		Amount
10.04.13	1620	Stiddard Kent Ltd	Preparation of Employers Annual Return	£108.00p
08.05.13	1621	L. Fisher – Expenses	Telephone/Broadband/Use of Home as office April; Black Ink Cartridge; Stationery	£55.25p
08.05.13	1622	KALC	Subscription 2013/14	£842.83p
08.05.13	1623	Broker Network Ltd	Insurance Premium 2013/14	£1232.41p
08.05.13	1624	Steve Wakeling	Village Signs work	£240.00p
08.05.13	1625	PFL Electrical Ltd	Lantern Shield - 22 Sheerstone; Fuse - 36 Sheerstone	£160.54p
08.05.13	1626	Steve Wakeling	Handyman duties March 2013 and Materials	£220.00p
08.05.13	1627	David Buckett	Year End Audit 2012/13	£139.95p
Seven (plus 1620 omitted from April 2013 Minutes) cheques in total				

Payments made by Direct Debit: Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting - £58.59p; L. Fisher: March Wages - £581.62p; Countrystyle - Hire and emptying of Eurobin - £44.84p.

7. Correspondence

1. **South East L.E.P. Mobile Phone Coverage Survey** – This was placed on Iwade Does Facebook, but there was a very small response from residents.
2. **Public Rights of Way Vegetation Clearance Contracts** – Revised contract noted. Clerk requested to query whether ZR95 was cleared in 2012. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Environmental Resource Centre** – Members agreed to write supporting this initiative.

8. Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council)

1. **10 Point Plan** – Councillors were disappointed to note that only 50 responses had been received.
2. **The Barn** – No further progress; Swale Borough Council’s Legal Department is looking at what can be done to release this to the community. Cllr. Plumb spoke to David Buckett and he suggested, for legal reasons, the Borough Council is more likely to hand it over to the Parish Council, and this would be more beneficial for grants.

9. Village Hall

Persimmon is looking at whether the new hall can go elsewhere within the development. The Parish Council has approached the Planning Department for their views and they don’t see any problems, but it is down to Swale’s Green Spaces Officer; we are still waiting to hear from Graeme Tuff. Clerk to chase Swale Borough Council and to see if Graeme Tuff and a Director from Persimmon can be invited to the next meeting of the Iwade Localism Live group. **Action: Clerk**

The Parish Council has also spoken to Tony Hillier, who owns the freehold of the Surgery. He has had people complaining to him regarding parking at the Surgery; he is willing to give any help he can to assist.

10. Planning

1. **SW/12/1565:** – Ballast Phoenix application kcc/sw/0310/2012 - Ridham Dock Industrial Complex, Iwade: Members considered the information put forward and requested the Clerk to reply as follows:

The Parish Council withdraws its objections on the proviso that stockpiles do not exceed 6m in height and that this is a temporary approval, for a set period of time, in order that it can be firmly ascertained that the claims made regarding dust are proven validated. After this time, and providing dust sampling has proven there is no issue, then the permission to be made permanent. Members feel that this is an important point because of all the dust problems associated with Ridham which spill out onto Iwade, Kemsley Fields and the surrounding area (including the RAMSAR SSSI Site).

12. Other Matters Arising

Clerk requested to contact the Green Spaces Officer and ask if the gates in the village park can open inwards; at the present time they open out and children gain easily run into the road/streams.

Action: Clerk

Clerk to check on frequency of cutting verges in the Village.

Action: Clerk

13. Next Meeting

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th June, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.