

## IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 8 January 2025

#### Present:

Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Chair	Cllr. P. Hyde	Lynda Ives, RFO
Cllr. S. Fuszard – Vice-Chair	Cllr. D. Waters	1 Resident
Cllr. J. Hartley	Cllr. S. Waters	
Cllr. P. Holowczycki	Samantha Gray, Clerk	

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. Gomez.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None.

#### 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Holowczycki and seconded by Cllr. Hartley, the minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting held on 11 December 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Waters, the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 13 December were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

#### 4. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Visitors:** Nothing to report.
2. **County and Borough Councillors:** None attended.
3. **Police Constable:** No report received.

#### 5. Village Matters

1. **Village Centre Litter Collections – Omnicroft** – Omnicroft Management Company have not reinstated the litter collection service in the village centre, and have not responded to the parish council. Members agreed Omnicroft should be held accountable and will contact them again, and also contact our County and Borough Councillors. ***Action: Clerk/Cllr. Tolhurst***
2. **Flood Action Group** – Members agreed to post emergency plan contacts on the Parish council website, Facebook page and newsletter. ***Action: Clerk***
3. **Plaxtol Investments** – A contact from Plaxtol Investments has been in touch with the Clerk, and they are looking into the background of the land at Mansfield Drive. Keep on the agenda. ***Action: Clerk***
4. **Installation of Tree Guards** – The tree guards have been delivered and council members volunteered to install them. ***Action: Cllrs. Holowczycki/Hyde***

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

1. **24/503312/REM:** Land East Of Iwade Iwade Kent ME9 8ST. Approval of reserved matters (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale sought) for sites E1 and E2 for residential development

comprising 455no. dwellings and erection of a community hall, together with associated access, landscaping, drainage, infrastructure and earthworks, pursuant to 19/503974/HYBRID.

Members stand by the following comments made in August:

Following a housing needs survey it was highlighted that bungalows are needed in the village, will the developer provide them in this plan.

Road infrastructure, more schools and doctors are needed to accommodate the increase in residents in the area.

Members made the following comments in August and note they have been addressed and are happy with the new hall plans:

Request details of the village hall garden area; a safe area away from the road is required.

Village Hall car park - the parking allocation plan shows the car park area is shared with nearby properties. How will parking allocation be separated?

During Village hall hiring parking needs to be closed to the public using the Nature Park.

Toilets at the Village Hall will be available to the public, who will cover the maintenance cost?

Request the speed limit is 20mph.

2. **24/503220/FULL:** Culnells Farm School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8QJ. Change of use of outbuilding to a two bedroom holiday let accommodation, including removal of log store and alterations to fenestration.

Council members discussed the above planning application and made no comments.

## 7. Correspondence

1. **Ferry Road Water Leak** – Kent County Council (KCC) have inspected the site and advised the water tested positive for chlorine. Southern Water also carried out an investigation and their water test did not show any traces of chlorine. Council members agreed for the following action to be taken – ask the County and Borough Councillors to help take action, contact the Press and ask KCC to carry out an independent review of the water test.

*Action: Clerk/Cllr. Tolhurst*

2. **KALC Community Awards 2025** – Members agreed a nomination.

*Action: Clerk*

3. **Raspberry Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund** – The Clerk contacted RWE to put forward The Barn for a solar panels project. The trustees require time to source quotes due to The Barn being a Grade 2 listed building. The Clerk will pass this information onto RWE. Members agreed to also source quotes for 20 tree's in the village, to be planted in various locations.

*Action: Clerk/RFO*

## 8. Parish Council Matters

1. **Storage for Parish Council items** – Members agreed to use storage space at The Barn which has kindly been offered by the trustees.
2. **To receive update on 'Tracker' document – Parish Council work in progress report** – The document was circulated to all members and staff. The following updates were noted; a payment has been received from Iwade School towards the cost to implement a temporary 20mph zone, and the Three Network advised they are aiming for the mast to go live in early February. They will be in touch when a date is confirmed.

## 9. Finance

1. **Quotation from Restore Datashred** – Proposed by Cllr. S. Waters and seconded by Cllr. S. Fuszard, members agreed the cost of £86.40p including VAT for secure document destruction.  
*Action: Clerk/RFO*
2. **Clerk Training - Introduction to Cilca webinar** – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. S. Fuszard, members agreed the cost of £60.00p including VAT for the training course. *Action: Clerk*
3. **Parish Council contact with McCabe Ford Willaims (payroll)** – Cllr. S. Waters agreed to be the Parish Council contact. *Action: RFO*
4. **Bank signatories** – Cllrs. S. Waters and Fuszard agreed to sign up as signatories for internet banking. *Action: Clerk*
5. **Councillor Training – ‘The Nuts and Bolts of Parish Councils’** – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members agreed the cost of two training courses, at a cost of £60.00p including VAT each for Cllrs. Gomez and Hartley.
6. **Precept/Budget 2025/26** – Proposed by Cllr. Fuszard and seconded by Cllr. S Waters, members agreed the 2025/26 Precept of £69,000.00p. This equates to an 11.65% increase, £4.87p extra per year which is 9p per week on a Band D property. The increase is due to rising costs the Parish Council need to cover. *Action: RFO*
7. **Grant for roof repairs to All Saints Church** – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. D. Waters, members agreed a donation of £1,000.00p towards the cost of roof repairs on All Saints Church. *Action: RFO*
8. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** – Proposed by Cllr. Holowczycki and seconded by Cllr. Hyde, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 31 December. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Holowczycki and Tolhurst to log in and authorize payments. *Action: Cllrs. Holowczycki/ Tolhurst*

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
08.01.25	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Telephone, home as office– December	£18.00p
08.01.25	BACs	S. Grey	Expenses – Telephone, home as office – December	£44.00p
08.01.25	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax December (includes backpay to April 2024)	£363.57p
08.01.25	BACs	Unity Insurance Services	Event Insurance Cover	£461.76p
08.01.25	BACs	K.A.L.C.	Course ‘Nuts and Bolts of Parish Councils – Cllr. C. Gomez	£60.00p
08.01.25	BACs	Forvis Mazars Ltd	External Audit 2024	£378.00p
08.01.25	BACs	S.L.C.C.	Introduction to CiLCA – Clerk	£60.00p
08.01.25	BACs	C.P.R.E.	Subscription 2024/25	£36.00p
08.01.25	BACs	Gala Lights	Storage/PAT Testing/Installation/Taking Down Festive Lights 2024	£10866.00p
08.01.25	BACs	Greenbarnes Ltd	‘T’ Handle for Village Centre Noticeboard	£28.68p
08.01.25	BACs	K.A.L.C.	Course ‘Nuts and Bolts of Parish Councils – Cllr. J. Hartley	£60.00p
01.01.25	SO	Staff Salaries	December (includes Pay Award Backdated to April 2024)	£1866.84p
01.01.25	DD	NEST	Pension contributions December (includes Pay Award Backdate)	£105.48p
01.01.25	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
25.01.25	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply December	Awaited
31.01.25	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	£40.63p
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
19.12.24	BACs	Iwade School	Donation towards Speed Reduction outside School	£407.00p

## 10. Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. **VE Day 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025** – Members discussed the upcoming event and put forward the following ideas; crochet aeroplanes on bollards, serve the celebration cake and arrange a choir to sign the hymn ‘I vow to thee my country’. The Barn trustees are also planning an event and members will work with them to organise the events. Members agreed to order two of the VE Day flag of celebration, to be added to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk/RFO**

2. **Future public events** – No volunteers have come forward. Members agreed to ask for the message to be printed on the front of the Observer. **Action: Clerk**

11. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **Village Hall Committee** – Little Lions football group will start on Saturday mornings.

2. **KALC Area Representative** – No meeting has been held, the next meeting is planned for February. Cllr. Holowczycki spoke about a visit that has been organised to Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara and Gravesend Mosque on Thursday 13 February. There will be a guided tour outlining the work the mosque does in the wider community. All councillors and Clerks are welcome.

12. **Items for the Next Agenda**

- Litter Pick
- Static CCTV camera
- Finance Committee

**Action: Clerk**

14. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 8 January 2025, 7.30 p.m., in The Barn, All Saints Close.

**The meeting closed at 09.07 p.m.**