

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13th May, 2015

Present: Cllr. J. Hunt
Cllr. S. Plumb
Cllr. J. White
Cllr. M. Gale
Cllr. R. Clark
Cllr. D. Gale
Clerk, Lynda Fisher
4 Parishioners

This is a Parish Meeting called as required by the local Government Act, 1972. The meeting is an opportunity for the residents of the village who are registered electors to raise and discuss any subject affecting the village. Discussion and voting on any subject is restricted to electors, residents who are not registered as electors are welcome as observers. Residents wishing to speak are requested to give their name and the name of their road or street.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr. Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies were received from Cllrs. Wastall and Hyde, who will attend later, from Nick Mayatt, the Community Warden and Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes.

2. REPORT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR ON THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Cllr. James Hunt commented that over the last year the Parish Council has had good relationships with Persimmon, at the moment a lot of the issues seem to have been sorted out, although the issue with grass verges is still outstanding. Relationships with Ward Homes seem to have improved and the Parish Council has been working closely with them. Further development has taken place at Ridham and there is the expansion to the School; we have been trying to ensure that these don't impact on residents too much.

The Parish Council has taken on paying for an extra monthly cut, after services were reduced by Swale Borough Council; we are paying £45 for this. Twinning is progressing, but it has taken a year to get to this point of almost having it in place!

20 m.p.h. Speed Limit – County Cllr. Roger Truelove had a speed survey carried out but it was found that due to the cost of necessary infrastructure we have put this project on hold.

Vodafone Rural Sure Signal – Much progress has been made with this. Iwade has been chosen by Vodafone as one of the villages in the country for the flagship 'Sure Signal'. They visited on the 8th May to do a tour of the village and the houses/buildings that have been put forward as sites for the equipment.

Orchard and Woodpecker Park – Had quite a few events, especially in the Orchard with the planning of the trees and we are hoping to get more people in the village involved. We are nearer to having the bridge build to span the stream in Woodpecker Park; plans have been drawn up, money agreed and consultations carried out. Disable play equipment is also being looked at for the park.

Electric Shocks – We spent quite a lot of time on the electric shocks on the Sheppey Way. We didn't make much progress until we managed to get U.K. Power Network out on site and they did a proper survey!

Community Warden – Nick has been a great asset to the village and keeps a close eye on things. One of the biggest problems is vandalism to the bus shelter at Woodpecker Park. The Parish Council took the decision to remove the glass because every time it was replaced it was vandalised. We are hoping to look at this problem again this year.

Street Lights – This project is making good progress and we are ahead of schedule. Over last two years 12 out of the 26 lamp columns have been replaced and our County Councillors have kindly agreed to fund four columns for 2015, with the Parish Council paying for a further two.

Councillors not Standing for Re-Election – Four Councillors will be co-opted onto the Parish Council at the Annual Meeting, making a total of eleven; a much bigger body. Sadly we have to say goodbye to Councillors Lou Preston and Rachel Rook and would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work and commitment over the last year.

3. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS

None.

4. ANY OTHER MATTERS ARISING

None.

Meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.