

Iwade Parish Council

Annual Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 15th May 2008 at 7.30pm

Present:

Mrs Sarah George, Parish Clerk
Cllr Phil Fearn
Cllr Brian Groves
Cllr Lisa Older
Cllr Derek White
Cllr Amanda Hurrell
Cllr David Manning

Apologies:

Cllr Peter Wilks
Cllr John White
Cllr Phil Hyde
Borough Councillor Ben Stokes

Election of Officers and Declaration of Acceptance (Chairman, Vice Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer)

Cllr Phil Fearn was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. This was proposed by Cllr Brian Groves and Seconded by Cllr David Manning

Cllr Brian Groves was elected Vice Chairman of the Iwade Parish Council. This was proposed by Chairman Phil Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Derek White

Mrs Sarah George, Clerk to Iwade Parish Council was appointed as the Responsible Financial Officer.

Election of Representatives

Village Hall

Cllr Lisa Older and Cllr Amanda Hurrell offered to stand for the Village Hall Committee

Kent Association of Parish Councils

It was agreed that Chairman Phil Fearn and Cllr Brian Groves would act as representative

Planning Committee

It was agreed that the Chairman of the Planning Committee would be Cllr Peter Wilks, and the Committee would consist of Cllr Phil Fearn, Cllr Brian Groves, Cllr David Manning, and Cllr Derek White would act on the Parish Councils behalf regarding planning applications.

Parkland

It was agreed that Cllr Phil Hyde, Cllr David Manning and the Parish Clerk will deal with issues regarding any green areas and parkland within the village.

School Representative

It was agreed that Cllr David Manning would update the Parish Council on the School as he was already on the School of Governors as a LEA Representative.

Press Officer

It was agreed that Amanda Hurrell would provide the media/ press with Parish Council updates.

Minutes of Annual Parish Council Meeting 2007

Minutes of Meeting held on 8th May 2007 were re-circulated as a reminder and it was agreed by all present as correct and that there were no matters still outstanding arising from that meeting.

Departing Chairman's Report

Building Development: The expansion of the village commenced in 1998, the Swale Local Plan was adopted in July 2000 and set an expansion figure of 1200 dwellings to the end of the second plan period 2016. Green field land was allocated for 550 dwellings to be built in the period to 2006. The Government increased the density of house building in 2003 and expect Swale planner to order densities between 30 and 50 to the hectare (Previously 25 to hectare). So far 820 new dwellings have been built by Ward Homes and Hillreed on the land allocated for 550.

The Swale Local Plan 2008

Following the Plan Inquiry in 2006, the Inspectors Report was published in October 2007. As far as Iwade is concerned the Inspectors rejected the claim of Wards (550 extra), Hillreeds (237 extra) and Crest Nicholson (100 extra) to have green field land released for an additional 887 dwellings. Further development around Iwade should be restricted to about 400 dwellings but the developers are already trying to stretch the numbers.

At this time Ward Homes are awaiting planning permission for 27 houses north of the Church. This permission is held up because the Parish Council have been unable to agreed 'planning gain', this is a Section 106 agreement

to give the village land for a burial ground. So far they have agreed to give the land, which has a crop of winter wheat at this time, and will need to be planted with grass. So far we cannot agree the surface of the paths and car park. Wards have applied for a new planning permission to develop land west of the Street for 23 dwellings; the Parish Council has raised objections to this development. Wards are also working on plans to develop the Old Orchard east of Woodpecker Drive, phase 8. All three sites have ponds with great crested newts and the developers have to satisfy Natural England that there are satisfactory mitigation measures to protect the newts and their environment

Other Planning Items:

Tiptree Farm, the application by a travelling family to site residential homes is still outstanding.

Raspberry Hill Farm The Inspector refused the application to keep mobile homes on the site and the travellers were given 12 months to reinstate the land

Recreation Ground. There was serious vandalism to play equipment and the plastic matting in September 2007. The repair cost was over £1000. PCSO Lyndsey Wood was able to track down the vandals and three youths were arrested and charged

Matters Arising

None

Adoption of Accounts for Year Ending 31st March 2008

Accounts for the above year, were still with the Internal Auditor, once received will be signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer as a true record of the accounts relating to the above year. Once the Internal Audit had been completed and a written statement had been received, Clerk to send the paperwork to the External Auditor (Audit Commission) to close accounts.

Parish Council expressed concern that the expenditure for 2008/09 needed to be on a tighter rein due to development in the village coming to an end and money from the developers would stop in the next couple of years, also the Parish lighting grant being withdrawn by Swale Borough Council would mean that expenditure in future years would be greatly increased

Dates of Meetings 2008/09

The Iwade Parish Council agreed to meet in the Iwade Village Hall at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of every month.

Meeting Closed 8.30pm