

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 11th August, 2009

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr. D. Manning (Chairman)	Clerk
	Cllr. D. White (Vice Chairman)	Community Warden, Julia Warner
	Cllr. P. Wilks	County Cllr. Mike Whiting
	Cllr. J. Gregory	County Cllr. Alan Willicombe
	Cllr. J. White	Cllr. Ben Stokes
		8 Parishioners

1. **Apologies**

Received from Councillors. Hyde, Hurrell and Fearn.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. White declared an interest in the Barretts development to the rear of his property.

8. **Parish Councillor Vacancy**

Item 8 was brought forward to the beginning of the meeting. Councillors noted that one applicant had withdrawn and the remaining one was asked to leave the room whilst a vote was taken by Members. It was proposed by Cllr. Wilks; seconded by Cllr. J. White that Paula Robb be co-opted as a Councillor on Iwade Parish Council. Members welcomed her to the Council and asked her to take part in the rest of the meeting.

3. **Minutes of the previous Meetings**

Proposed by Cllr. D. White and seconded by the Chairman. Agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true transcript.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Swings - School Lane Playing Field – Clerk reported that the Handyman has taken down all four swing seats due to signs of wear and new seats have now been received from Wickstead, at a cost of £346.38.; these will be installed shortly. The Handyman will be carrying out a visual inspection of all the equipment located on this field on a weekly basis and will report any findings to the Clerk.

Action: Clerk

Bus Shelter, Grovehurst Road/Seat – Clerk confirmed the bus shelter has now been handed over to the Parish Council and Travel Link is looking at using it for the London commuter service.

Litter Bins – The Clerk now has a map of the village showing the location of 9 litter and 7 dog waste bins, but details concerning frequency of emptying are still awaited.

Action: Clerk

Village Park – The letter sent to the Chief Executive at Swale Borough Council urging the hand over of the Village Park was noted. Clerk confirmed that it had been acknowledge, with the promise of a full response in due course.

Allotments – The letter sent to all Members of Swale’s Planning Committee urging the provision of allotments in the Village was noted. Cllr. Wilks agreed to attend the Planning Meeting on the 13th August to speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

5. Visitors/Public Time

Parishioners – A group of residents have consultant a Solicitor regarding the Barrett Homes development. The residents don’t have a problem with the housing – they do with the proposed road, which in their view will be dangerous and have been advised by the Solicitor that they could fight it on the grounds of health and safety. Cllr. Wilks stated that the actual planning application has not been presented yet and when it is the Parish Council will look at it closely.

Another resident expressed concern at youngsters playing football at the top end of School Lane, cars revving/speeding on this road and young women sleeping on the benches. The Chairman suggested the parishioner discuss her concerns with the Community Warden.

It is believed that the developers placed marker poles in the graveyard of All Saints Church, and they have also sprayed blue paint on the grass. No approach has been made to the Church for permission to enter the land. Cllr. Stokes promised to look into this.

Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes –mentioned the £2,000 for community projects, which means Iwade could be eligible for £1,000 if it has a suitable project in mind. Clerk suggested a Parish Map, which costs approximately £950; Cllr. Stokes agreed the funding could be used for this type of project. Clerk to write to Cllr. Stokes regarding a Parish Map.

Action: Clerk

He has been pursuing the Village Park hand-over issue. Swale Borough Council’s Solicitor has informed him that there are one or two problems, but the land should be handed over by the end of this month.

County Cllrs. Mike Whiting and Alan Willicombe – Cllr. Willicombe has been asked to look at improving the car park to the front of the Hall; it could then being used for parents taking their children to school, which is possible providing the school has a travel plan. The project is stuck at the moment as there is a need to get costs. He suggested the Village Hall Committee liaise with him regarding these costs.

Cllr. Whiting referred to highway funding being used for mobile speed units, and the possibility of pooling this money for use around the county. Cllr. Wilks thought an electronic ‘speed sign’ would be more effective. He requested the Parish Councillors to consider this matter and inform him of their thoughts on the mobile speed unit.

Community Warden – Appraised the Council of work she had carried out in the village to date and Members thanked her for her hard work and input into the village.

PCSO Lyndsey Woods – not in attendance.

6. **Finance**

Although not on the Agenda, Cllr. D. White referred to conversations with other Councillors regarding the possibility of purchasing a laptop for the Clerk, to ease software problems with her own computer and assist her in her work for the Parish Council. Suggested Clerk obtain quotes and place this matter on the next Agenda.

Action: Clerk

Cheques raised at this meeting:

Chq.	Date	Details	Amount
1233	11.08.09	Crusader Packaging Services	£32.20p
1234	11.08.09	Peter Wilks (photocopying)	£32.64p
1235	11.08.09	Office Expenses - Wages July	£323.08p
1236	11.08.09	Inland Revenue (July Tax)	£80.80p
1237	11.08.09	Office Expenses - stamps	£8.28p
1238	11.08.09	Steve Wakeling (Handyman – July)	£234.88p
Six cheques in total			

7. **Correspondence**

Sittingbourne Local Engagement Forum – Community Project Grants – letter from Swale Borough Council noted (ties in with the Cllr. Stokes’ funding – Item 5 above).

Action: Clerk

Swale Borough Council Gypsy and Traveller Corporate Policy, July 2009 – noted

Citizens Advice Bureau – 5th A.G.M. – Clerk to send apologies.

Swale Borough Council PPG17 Open Space Assessment Consultation – Cllr. Wilks to assess.

Action: Cllr. Wilks

Proposed sustainable energy plant, Kemsley Paper Mill – Cllr. Wilks to contact RPS concerning the 1999 bird survey.

Action: Cllr. Wilks

9. **Village Handyman**

The Handyman, Steve Wakeling, outlined the work he has undertaken so far. He referred to the swing seats and also mentioned minor damage to the slide and will advise the Clerk as to the replacement parts needed to repair this piece of equipment. A piece of the chain link fencing leading onto the roadway is also damaged – Councillors agreed that he should carry out this repair.

He reported that an area of land in one of the football pitches looked as though it had been dug up and then reinstated, but it had been left with lots of stones on top and the area was raised above the surrounding ground. Members believe this to be a drain which crosses the field. Clerk to investigate to see who carried out the excavation and to request them to reinstate the area.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk advised that she has spoken to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee regarding a bin for green waste and there could be a problem placing it at the rear of the hall. The Chairman of the Hall Committee promised to look into it and report back to the Clerk. It was agreed that this matter needs to be resolved urgently to facilitate the Handyman in carrying out his work. Despite pursuing Country Side Recycling, the Clerk is still awaiting a call-back on the cost of hiring a green waste bin.

Action: Clerk

10. **Broadband**

Cllr. Gregory advised it has not yet been decided which company has been successful with its bid. The next meeting of the Broadband Committee is on the 27th August, 2009.

One company has requested, if successful, is it possible to site their equipment on lamp columns within the village. Proposed by the Chairman, Cllr. Manning, and seconded by Cllr. D. White – agreed that parish lamp columns could be used.

11. **Street Names**

Members agreed to ‘All Saints Close’, for the development adjacent to the Church and ‘The Waterway’, for the development to the rear of School Lane/Ferry Road.

12. **Planning**

SW/08/1127 - Land Adjacent to Coleshall Farm, Sheppey Way/School Lane, Iwade – Cllr. Wilks referred to the Planning Report, which has been circulated to all Members. This item is also mentioned under matters arising above.

SW/09/0623 - Two storey rear extension – 17 Colson Drive, Iwade - no objection.

13. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council takes place on Tuesday 8th September, 2009, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.