

Iwade Parish Council

Monthly Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 14th October 2008 at 7.30pm

Present:

Chairman Phil Fearn
Vice Chairman Brian Groves
Cllr Derek White
Cllr Amanda Hurrell
Cllr Peter Wilks
Cllr David Manning
Mrs Sarah George, Parish Clerk
Borough Cllr Ben Stokes

Apologies

Cllr John White
Cllr Phil Hyde
Dave Davey Community Warden
County Councillor Roger Truelove
County Councillor Brenda Simpson
Gordon Henderson

2. Confirmation of Minutes

Alterations from the last minutes of 9th September 2008 were as follows:

4.2 Should read "closed unnecessarily".

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council meeting held on 9th September 2008 were proposed by Cllr Derek White and seconded by Cllr Amanda Hurrell, as a true and accurate report. All members present were in agreement.

Matters arising from the minutes

3.1 Additional Letter Boxes in the Village

No further development to report

3.2 Traffic Gate Entrance by Medical Centre

No further development to report. Clerk to continue to chase KCC

3.3 Land North of the Church regarding section 106 requests

Future meeting regarding the Parish cemetery to be arranged, Cllr Wilks awaiting dates from Andy Jeffers of Swale Borough Council. Borough Councillor Ben Stokes offered to contact Andy Jeffers

Cllr Wilks to action

Visitors Time

4.1 Community Warden Update

1. Reported street lighting to KCC Highways in Meadow Close and Evergreen Close
2. .Reported four fly tipping incidents in the areas of Old Ferry road, Sheppey Way and Fans Lane.Made a number of reassurance house visits.
3. Regular visits to nurseries and Iwade School
4. Regular patrols to play areas, rural areas and the football field in School Lane
5. Dealt with two animal issues. One lost Dog and the theft of six puppies and two adult dogs
6. Carried out two holiday house watch.
7. Carried out evening patrols
8. Attended School bus pick up points for two mornings a week, reference bullying and anti social behaviour reports
9. Dealt with a number of vehicle issues. ie Parking, tax issues, road side sales and seat belt issues
10. Passed on information to the appropriate authorities ref underage drinking.
11. Carried out a one to one Stranger danger Talk
12. Carried out a Stranger Danger talk to the induction class at a local school
13. Reported illegal posters, Removed illegal posters.
14. Visited Village Hall and made contact with Scout Group.

4.2 Police Community Support Officer Update

PCSO Lynsey Woods has been reinstated into the village.

The Kent Freedom Pass - free travel for young people aged 11 to 16, is coming to Swale.

The Kent Freedom Bus will be in Swale launching the scheme during the October half term.

On Wednesday 29 October the bus will be in the Forum car park Sittingbourne handing out lots of freebies and information between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

4.3 Parish Councillor Vacancy

The vacancy of Parish Councillor to replace Cllr Lisa Older was advertised and two applications were received. Candidate Stephen Freeman passed his on his apologies for not being able to attend this months Parish Council meeting. Other candidate Janet Gregory was present.

After a discussion it was put to a ballot and the decision was Janet Gregory would be co-opted as Parish Councillor. This co-option was unanimous.

Mrs Janet Gregory was present and clerk forwarded relevant paperwork for her to complete and return. She joined in all further discussion and decisions.

4 Planning

SW/08/1071EE Case 02647 Free standing sign at Budgens Store School Lane, Iwade

The Iwade Parish Council wished to raise a strong objection to the planning application SW/08/1071 EE Case 02647 to erect an Advertising Sign at the corner of School Lane advertising the mini-market in the village centre.

Grounds: In the interests of visual amenity

Iwade is a rural village and during the design phase of the Village Centre and the new dwellings in The Street planning officers worked with Ward Homes to produce a building which blended with the older part of the village. The result has produced an attractive well designed building which is a credit to the Officers involved in the consultations.

The Grant of Planning Permission dated 3rd March 2004 is subject to a number of 'Conditions',

Condition (24):- All shop windows fronting the Street or School Lane shall retain a window display, and shall not be used for internal advertising or the display of storage or posters otherwise than in strict accordance with a scheme previously agreed in writing by the District Planning Authority.

Condition 24 demonstrates the original wish of all the parties in the planning process that the visual amenity of the village should be preserved. Parish Council have previously complained to the Planning Department about the sign erected by the children's play school, which, as far as the Parish Council is aware still does not have planning permission. Parish Council consider that all the businesses in the Village Centre should be required to honour the principle of the original Planning conditions and refrain from erecting advertising signs fronting The Street or School lane.

SW/08/1054 RDM Case 20537 Construction of a new single storey pitched roof extension to the rear elevation of 2 Teal Way, Iwade

No Objection

SW/08/0462 PDV Case 12481 Change of use from storage site to concrete site building block production facility

No objection subject to correct measures being put in place to stop any cement dust being blown over the village of Iwade and surrounding areas.

Land South West of Iwade development

An extraordinary meeting for Thursday 30th October 2008 at 7.30 in the village hall to be arranged to discuss this draft development brief in more detail.

Basser Hill Farm – Change of use to Nursery Operations (Sale of Plants etc)

Letter received from Peter Hinckesman of the Enforcement Team of Planning Services at Swale Borough Council who advised the Parish Council that their previous concerns regarding the possibilities that this site may have varied the planning permission applicable thereto and was selling items not specifically covered by the planning permission.

Enforcement and Development control sections of the authority have inspected and discussed the matter with the owners and after careful consideration as to the extent of the operation, Officer did not feel that the sale of plants etc amounted to a material change of use of the land requiring the benefit of planning permission. Therefore no further action is contemplated.

Registers of Common Land or Village Greens

Kent county Council is responsible for holding the legal record of all registered Common Land or Village Greens for the county.

The Commons Act 2006 was passed by Parliament in effort to update the provisions contained within the Commons Registration Act 1965. Until now, Commons Registration Authorities have had only limited power to update the Register of Common Land or Village Greens.

The most significant element of the new 2006 Act is the creation of new powers for Commons Registration Authorities to amend the Registers of Common Land and Village Greens.

The Registers of common Land and Village Greens are available for public inspection during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone

5. Business of the Council

5.1 Project Allocation for Subsidiarity Grant

Quote received from Wicksteed Leisure for the safety surfacing under the swings and seasaw for £7,104.10 ex VAT. Parish Council confirmed that this was excessive and would find alternative project to use remainder of subsidiarity grant money

5.2 Parish Lighting Grant

Letter has been received from Cllr Andrew Bowels advising the Parish Council that they have misunderstood the letter Cllr Cosgrove sent to all parishes in March 2008 concerning future Swale Borough financial support to parishes. Cllr Bowles has

consulted with Cllr Cosgrove on this matter and he is expecting to receive a report on parish footway lighting at the next scheduled Budget task force on 30th September.

At the present time no decision has been made on the future of the parish grant for footway lighting other than to maintain it at its current level. The budget Task Force will make a recommendation to the Executive on major issues concerning next years Budget, which will include the grant for footway lighting.

Regarding the parish Council enquiry as to whether the Borough Council or County Council would be willing to take over the responsibility of the footway lighting this would be for KCC to determine.

5.3 Dog Fouling Bag Dispenser in Woodpecker Drive

Swale Borough Council has provided dog bag dispensers in fouling hotspots in Woodpecker Drive. Dog Fouling bags are for residents who have forgotten or have already used up their poop bags. This facility is not a replacement for dog owners not to bring their own dog fouling bags.

Clerk to monitor usage

Parish Clerk to action

6. Correspondence/ Notices

6.1 Flowerbed Nursery

Parish Clerk advised the Parish Council that the Flowerbed Nursery was organizing a Santa Visit for Sunday 30th November. Father Christmas would travel through the village on a trailer, leaving from the Woolpack Public House and making its way through the centre of the village, ending up at the Flowerbed Nursery where a snow machine and the UK Paper Concert band would be playing Christmas Carols.

Residents would be able to follow Father Christmas and make their way to the Flowerbed Nursery and also look around at the animals up there.

6.2 Public Lighting Maintenance Contract – Notice of Termination

EDF Energy Contracting Ltd currently provides the public lighting maintenance services. EDF Energy has recently undertaken a detailed strategic review of its business and following this review EDF Energy will cease to provide public lighting maintenance services with effect from 31st March 2009.

Clerk provided alternative lighting maintenance quotes. Clerk contacted PFL Electrical and Ringway for maintenance quotes

6.2 Iwade KCC Community Warden

Parish Council have received a letter from John Martin, Area Manager of West Kent community wardens. Parish Council advised that Patricia Kennedy, is currently

undergoing training, and subject to successful completion, will be available for duty in Iwade as of 17th November 2008. The temporary cover currently being provide by Dave Davey will continue until the new warden is deployed.

7. Finance

Sarah George	Clerk fee, phone/ fax, stationary for September	£592.24
EDF Engery	Replacement lantern outside 1 Evergreen	£222.09
Graham Chambers	Handyman fees for September	£280.00
Phil Fearn	Chairman's Expenses for September	£20.00

Under the Local Government Act 1972, (Sch 2) the signing of the cheques were proposed by Cllr Derek White and seconded by Cllr Peter Wilks. All Councillors present were in agreement.

Meeting Closed 9.45pm

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th November 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall