

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 12th September, 2012

Present: Cllr. R. Jones – Vice-Chair
Cllr. J. Hunt
Cllr. P. Hyde
Cllr. R. Rook
Cllr. T. Avron-Cotton
Cllr. J. White
Nick Mayatt, Community Warden
4 Parishioners
Lynda Fisher, Clerk

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Vice-Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Plumb; County Cllrs. Whiting and Willicombe and Borough Cllr. Stokes

2. Co-option of New Parish Councillors (2)

Three candidates had applied; each candidate was invited to introduce themselves to Members, give a brief outline of their experience and how they felt this could aid the work of the Council and benefit the Village. Candidates were then asked to retired to another room whilst Members took a paper vote; the outcome of which was that Matt Gale and Hannah Williams were co-opted onto Iwade Parish Council. The new Members duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Parish Councillor and from thereon took part in the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest – None.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 8th August, 2012 were proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Avron-Cotton; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on the 22nd August, 2012 were proposed by Cllr. Hunt and seconded by Cllr. Rook; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Trees – Having looked at the site again; it was finally agreed that six trees will be planted in the meadow side of the Village Park, just behind the fencing fronting onto The Street; the remaining 3 trees can then be kept in reserve. The donation has now been received from Knauf and Cllr. Hyde will contact the Nursery regarding delivery of the trees.

Action: Cllr. Hyde

Replacement of Old Parish Lighting – At the August meeting Members agreed to replace the old parish lighting on a rolling programme. Clerk now instructed to contact PFL, the

contractor who maintains the current lighting, requesting costings for replacing the existing columns with the same style as those in the new parts of the village. *Action: Clerk*

Speed Watch – Cllr. Rook advised that the team has decided to opt for equipment supplied by Unipar Services, and that the cost for a Genesis radar unit and 2 digit display is £1465, plus V.A.T; this to be paid for by a grant offered by Cllr. Willicombe. Clerk requested to apply for the grant but in the meantime, to get the project moving, it was proposed by Cllr. Hunt and seconded by Cllr. White that the Parish Council pay for the equipment pending receipt of the grant; agreed. *Action: Clerk*

Pond Clearing Day Update – Cllr. Hunt advised that this brilliant initiative, started by the Environment Agency, had been very successful and it was great to see so many people come forward from within the village to help. It was a huge task which could not be completed in one day, so when their work schedule allows the E.A. are still working on it as they are keen to try and finish the job. The Clerk has written a letter of thanks to Debbie and all her team.

6. Visitors/Public Time

Parishioners – No comments.

County Councillor and Borough Councillors – Could not attend due Full Council meeting.

Temp. Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO – Nick's report had been circulated to Members. He mentioned the need for a dog waste bin in Fans Lane; Clerk reported that this had now been installed. He visited on the Pond Clearing Day and commented that it seemed very successful. There's been an increase in cars being sold in the pub car park; this might be a Trading Standards problem.

7. Finance

ROSPA Report, School Lane Playing Field and Village Hall Garden Area – Clerk advised that in the playing field a bolt needs replacing on play equipment and a small area of the wet-pour surface needs repairing; in the Hall garden a tree has a fungal infection; potholes in the grass area need filling and the fence/gate needs attention.; she will ask the Village Handyman to undertake the work. Clerk will also ascertain when the play equipment needs to be removed from the playing field as it is fast approaching the end of the year, the deadline for cessation of use given by the developers; Cllr. Rook will see if the School still wants the equipment. A couple of items need work in the areas owned by the Village Hall; Clerk will ask the Handyman to provide details to the Committee. *Action: Clerk/Cllr. Rook*

Village Clean Up Day – It was agreed that the event will take place on Saturday 20th October, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon. Clerk will contact Swale Borough Council regarding litter picking equipment and rubbish removal and Amanda Hurrell concerning the trailer. It was agreed that the sum of £100 be used to provide refreshments for the volunteers and purchase any other equipment needed for the day. *Action: Clerk*

Audit Commission completion of 2011/12 Audit – Clerk advised that the Annual Return for the year ended 2011/12 has been signed off by the External Auditor; she will now post the necessary notice advising of the completion. *Action: Clerk*

Cheques signed at this meeting:

Date	Cheque	Details	Amount
12.09.12	1559	Stiddard Kent Ltd	£15.00p
12.09.12	1560	H.M. Revenue & Customs	£4.45p
12.09.12	1561	L. Fisher	£666.65p
12.09.12	1562	Playsafety Limited	£151.20p
12.09.12	1563	Iwade Village Hall	£50.00p
12.09.12	1564	Steve Wakeling	£497.72p
12.09.12	1565	Audit Commission	£342.00p
Seven cheques in total			

8. Correspondence

The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way County of Kent – Cllr. Hunt has a couple of queries regarding footpaths at the top of School Lane; agreed to place this item on the October Agenda matter. *Action: Cllr. Hunt*

17th October, 2012 – Save the Date – Starfish and Spiders – The Chair has already reserved a place at this event.

Appointment of External Auditor from 2012/13 – details noted.

Electoral Review of Swale: Final Recommendations – report noted.

KALC 2 New Government Consultations – Social Care White Paper and Changes to simplify RIDDOR – noted and agreed to support KALC’s response.

KALC Council Tax Base and funding for Local Precepting Authorities Consultation – report and consultation document noted.

New Weed-screens for Iwade Stream – Clerk advised that she has been contacted by the Environment Agency, who propose to install these screens on the culvert next to 33 Sheerstone and on the one located by the footpath to the rear of properties in Springvale; the Agency has the support of adjacent residents. The Agency also hope to install CCTV cameras to monitor these two areas so that they can take action in the event of the screens becoming blocked and impeding the flow of the water.

Council Tax Support Consultation (Swale Borough Council) – document noted. Clerk commented that it was interesting to note that under ‘Potential impact of this proposal’ – Local Precepting Authority – it states that “the local precepting authority’s element of the council tax band D would therefore remain at the same level as now, providing the local precepting authority does not increase their precept.” There is no mention of the impact if the precept is increased by a Parish Council.

9. Other Matters Arising

Village Hall Update – Cllr. Hunt advised that the meeting with the Solicitor had gone ahead to discuss the covenants placed on the land by G.H. Dean and Wards. Additionally, a meeting has

been arranged with Oliver Doubleday on Friday 14th September to discuss the Village Hall and the Questionnaire that was sent to all residents. He will report back at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr. Hunt

Emergency Plan for Iwade – Cllr. Rook needs to send a letter to all residents seeking volunteers to come forward if they want to assist during an emergency; this list will form part of the Plan. Cllr. Hunt agreed that the letter can go out with the October edition of the Iwade Observer.

Action: Cllrs Hunt and Rook

Village Pond – Cllr. Hunt advised that a couple of residents mention the ‘sewage’ like smell coming from the pond. This is being investigated by the Environment Agency and the outcome is awaited. More people are now visiting the pond and there is a bit of a rubbish problem due to lack of bins. Clerk requested to contact Swale Borough Council requesting additional bins in this area.

Action: Clerk

Village Park Play Equipment – deferred till next meeting.

Iwade Health Centre – Lack of updates – Although promised by the PCT the Parish Council has not received any updates on the situation. Clerk instructed to write a letter of complaint to Gordon Henderson M.P.

Action: Clerk

Provision for Teenagers – Cllr. Hunt referred to previous failed attempts to get teenagers to come forward to create a Youth Parish Council. With Iwade’s growing population and the increase in teenagers there is a need to do something about the provision of facilities or activities for this age group. Members agreed to look towards budgeting this in for future years.

Action: Councillors

Green Dog Walking Scheme – Members were advised that this scheme is still going ahead.

KALC access to Members area on website – Councillors agreed to the circulation of the password for access to the members’ area of the website.

Action: Clerk

11. **Planning**

KCC/SW/0297/2012: Extension of wood storage area and improvements to site access at the approved Ridham Biomass power plant (planning permission SW/10/774); Ridham Dock, Iwade, ME9 8SR – Members raised the following objections:

- The two 10m stockpiles will be well over the height of the nearby wall; these need to be reduced to prevent dust contamination of the nearby SSSI, Ramsar and Public Right of Way.
- There have been a number of fires involving stockpiles of wood at Ridham Dock recently; the Parish Council seeks assurance that systems will be put in place to prevent or deal with this risk.

SW/10/774/R3, 6, 16 & 20: Amended site layout pursuant to condition 3, plan for protection and mitigation of protected species pursuant to condition 6, archaeological evaluation pursuant to condition 17 and bird collision plan pursuant to condition 20 of planning permission SW/10/774 – Land at Ridham Dock, Iwade, ME9 8SR – Members raised no objections.

KCC/SW/0310/2012: Variation of condition 9 of planning permission SW/05/1203 to amend permitted stockpile heights at Ballast Phoenix Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) Recycling Plant – Ridham Dock Industrial Complex, Iwade, ME9 8SR – Members raised the following objections:

- **Page 2; Item 1.1.2:** *“it can be surmised that the levels of noise, dust, odour and traffic generated from the operations have not been considered an issue during the period of operation under the extant consent”*. The Parish Council insists that this assumption needs facts to support the statement
- **Page 2; Item 1.1.3:** *“It has been noted that the Local Planning Authority has received complaints relating to dust emanating from the site, but these have been found to be attributable to operations carried out by other parties and not those of BPL”*. . Iwade regularly suffers from dust ‘fall-out’; what official tests have been undertaken to support the statement made that it is not attributable to the IBA? The Parish Council’s view is that raising the level of stock piles could introduce a dust issue and this view is supported by the condition that was previously applied by Kent County Council to restrict the height of the stockpiles, which was stated in the consent as:
 - *“to help prevent any potential dust escaping from the containment system and to accord with the objectives of Structure Plan Policy ENV20 and Waste Local Plan polities W2 and W18.” (Page 4 Item 2.2.2.)*
- **Page 4; Item 2.2.3:** *“...BPL now considers that this requirement is no longer appropriate”* The Parish Council insists the company produces the evidence that supports this statement.
- **Page 5; 2.2.8:** *“The assessment concluded that the operations at the site would not pose a significant adverse impact and the site has now operated for six years without substantiated complaint or problem in relation to dust management.”* The Parish Council would point out that this relates to the current height restrictions, what evidence is there to support that there will be no complaint or problem if the stockpile heights are increased?
- **General Issues**
 - Can BPL confirm that waste will be contained at the new levels and not increased again in the future?
 - What control measures are in place in the event of a spillage of this hazardous material outside the bunded area?
 - The site is located near to The Swale Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar Site. The Parish Council is deeply concerned and acknowledges that although the site itself might not be within a ‘sensitive area’, airbourne dust has no boundaries and with a high wind can be carried away from the site to find its way into the surrounding areas.

12. Next Meeting

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 10th October, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.50 p.m.