

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 12th June, 2013

Present: Cllr. J. Hunt - Chair
Cllr. S. Plumb – Vice-Chair
Cllr. M. Gale
Cllr. D. Wastall
Cllr. L. Mitchell
Cllr. J. White
Cllr. A. Jennings
Cllr. P. Hyde

Nick Mayatt, Community Warden
County Cllr. R. Truelove
Borough Cllr. B. Stokes
8 Parishioners
Lynda Fisher, Clerk

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Rook.

2. Declarations of Interest – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th May, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Gale and Seconded by Cllr. Plumb, agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 8th May, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Plumb; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 21st May, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Plumb; agreed by all and signed as a true transcript.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Secondary School Transport – Bullying Issues** – Cllr. Gale commented that the logo (circulated) has been incorporated into the Code of Conduct produced by Arriva. The company has been speaking to Westlands School and if approved they will then circulate to all Schools. Cllr. Gale will keep the Parish Council updated. **Action: Cllr. Gale**

2. **School Lane Playing Field and Search for new Temporary Field** – Persimmon finally got back to the Parish Council on the 23rd May. The Council had asked if it was possible to open up the Playing Field, but was informed that this was impossible as the Company would be moving on to it to carry out drainage work. Persimmon have to re-open it, complete with new pavilion and football pitches by the 100th occupation and it is anticipated this will take between 30 to 36 months. The Parish Council cannot do anything else until the field is handed back, when it will then be transferred into the ownership of Swale Borough Council.

The Chairman has spoken to the Iwade Herons and suggested they contact Oliver Doubleday to see if he can help as he owns quite a bit of land surrounding the built up area. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Wards Homes, Oliver Doubleday and the Ledgers to see if they can assist in any way with finding a suitable short-term solution to the lack of a football pitch. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Youth Council** – Cllrs Wastall and Jennings agreed to attend the next meeting of the Outreach Group to see if any youngsters are interested in forming a Council. **Action: Cllrs. Wastall/Jennings**

4. **Neighbourhood Watch – Neighbourhood Watch** – The PCSO has approached the Sittingbourne Police Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, and they are happy to assist Iwade residents in setting up the scheme. Cllr Jennings is still trying to bring this forward by speaking with the PCSO. Agreed to bring this item to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Jennings/Clerk**
5. **Neighbourhood Plans** – Cllr. Mitchell has set up a meeting on the 3rd July with James Freeman, Swale Borough, to explore this matter further. Cllr. White referred to the financial implications of producing a Neighbourhood Plan; Cllr. Mitchell is trying to get as close an estimate to the actual cost as he can. **Action: Cllr. Mitchell**
6. **Village Website** – Clerk advised that EIS have now released the Kent Parishes Website. This site is under construction and will take a little time to bring it up to scratch. **Action: Clerk**
7. **20 m.p.h. Speed Limit** – Cllr. Stokes has received some information from KCC Highways and commented that if this is introduced it will need to be self-enforcing, not enforced by the Police. Clerk instructed to place this item on the August Agenda. The question of a speed survey was raised and who would undertake this; Clerk to check with Kent County Council **Action: Clerk**
8. **Clerk Updates from last meeting** – Clerk advised that the verges are 9 times a year, they are due for a cut in June when the ‘tufts’ (foliage from bulbs) will be removed. Agreed Clerk to contact Swale Borough Council to explore the feasibility of the Parish Council taking on the cutting of Iwade’s verges; ascertaining whether there will be a reduction in Council Tax paid by Parishioners for this (avoiding double taxation if the Parish Council needs to increase the Precept to cover the cost) and seeking a quote from the Village Handyman for cutting the verges. **Action: Clerk**

The Chairman advised that the grass has been left longer in the village park to protect the habitat of the Noble Chafer Beetle. He has been talking to the People’s Trust for Endangered Species and they are going to put six posts up around the Orchard to educate people about the Beetles. There had been some concerns about Adders, but he has carried out a search and the nearest Adder population is four miles away in Tunstall. Furthermore the Jubilee Trees have been damaged by Strimmers; Clerk to ask the Village Handyman to put strimming protectors on the lower part of the trunks. **Action: Clerk**

Clerk has been advised by Swale Borough Council that the gates in the Village Park open outwards for health and safety reasons. Graeme Tuff and Jim Wilson, officers from Swale Borough Council were unable to attend tonight’s meeting to talk about School Lane Playing Field. She has spoken to Lyndon Gurr at KCC regarding repaying the left over sum relating to the Broadband Grant; he has promised to get back to her.

3. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Parishioners** – Suggested using the hall garden for football; Cllr. Jennings to check with the Hall Committee. Another resident suggested using the School playing field; Cllr. Hunt to talk to the Headteacher. **Action: Cllrs. Jennings/Hunt**
2. **County Councillor and Borough Councillors** – County Cllr. Truelove attended last Friday’s the Planning meeting at Kent County Council at which the Ballast Phoenix application was discussed. The Planning Committee were told that Iwade Parish Council would like it to be a temporary permission for two years to ascertain dust levels, but five years permission was approved. He also accompanied Members of the Parish Council and Swale Borough Council Officers around the new Wards estate to look at the road and footpath, which has no demarcation, the reason being that this is a ‘shared space’. He thinks the problem will come back to us because eventually people will be asking for some designation as a footpath. He agreed with our concerns on grass cutting, which he mention is awful everywhere and is not acceptable.

Borough Cllr. Stokes mentioned his concern with the Ballast Phoenix application and he will make sure that they do monitor and take dust samples of the ash. He is happy to arrange a meeting with the company for Members to have a look around the site. He referred to the 'Iwade Localism Live' project; if the Parish Council were to draw up a plan he will then arrange a meeting to include Persimmon, the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council, Swale Borough Council and himself. Regarding the old Barn, he has spoken to Swale's Solicitors. The Barn needs some missing roof tiles replaced and the grass cut before Len Mayatt will agree to take it on. Finally, the School's Lollipop Person is undergoing training. Relating to the Playing Field, ben wondered if the Speedway Site might be suitable; Members responded that the Herons had looked at this but it would not be big enough. Cllr. Hyde suggested it might be good enough as a 'kick about area' but there were concerns about its remote location.

3. **Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** - Nick's report has been circulated to Members and contents noted. He has spoken to Wards Site Manager regarding parking in Woodpecker Drive, who promised to have a word with the contractors, but in part cars are being parked on land owned by Wards.

6. Finance

1. **SLCC Membership 2013** – Agreed to renew membership. Clerk to approach Borden and Tunstall Parish Councils to see if they are agreeable to paying one-third of this fee in future. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Village Logo** – Members like the idea of a village logo, which can be used on letterheads, posters, etc. This could be achieved through a competition and there is a person in the village that will undertake the artwork and create the logo. Agreed to place on Iwade Does Facebook; to involve the School and the competition should be aimed at different age groups. Chairman to speak to the Executive Headteacher and Clerk instructed to place this on the next Agenda. **Action: Cllr. Hunt/Clerk**
3. **Cheques signed at this meeting:**

Members agreed that the following cheques be signed and the accounts to the 31st May, 2013 accepted.

Date	Chq.	Details		Amount
12.06.13	1628	L. Fisher – Expenses	May - Telephone/Broadband/Use of Home as office; Stamps	£31.87p
12.06.13	1629	PFL Electrical Ltd	Repairs to Columns Linkway, 43 Springvale	£175.64p
12.06.13	1630	Steve Wakeling	Handyman duties May 2013 and Materials	£214.50p
12.06.13	1631	SLCC	Annual Subscription	£114.00p
Four cheques in total				

Payments made by Direct Debit: Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting - £58.59p; L. Fisher: May Wages - £581.62p

7. Correspondence

1. **Southern Water – Water Resources Management Plan Consultation** – Noted – Cllr. Plumb agreed to complete the consultation form on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr. Plumb**
2. **South East Water – Draft Water Resources Management Plan** – Noted.
3. **World War 1 Project Record Form and Request – Swale Borough Council** – Noted and Members suggested perhaps planting commemorative trees between the periods 2014-2018. Clerk instructed to place on the next Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

4. **Iwade School Academy Status** – The Chairman reported that a consultation letter had been received from the Executive Headteacher and Chair of Governors concerning Iwade Community Primary School gaining Academy status. Cllr. Plumb, being a School Governor, tried to answer as many questions as possible, but Members still felt they needed to seek further clarification on ultimate responsibilities, a Business Manager, intake and class sizes, staffing levels, financial implications, School Crossing Patrol person funding and a possible new hall facility and the pros and cons as regards the impact of this facility on the village. Cllr. Plumb mentioned that he thought the Executive Headteacher had intimated that the deadline might be flexible, but he will check this with her. It was agreed to await the response from the Executive Headteacher and if the deadline is flexible to invite the Chair of Governors to attend the July meeting (and to see if a representative from Bobbing Parish Council would like to attend) as it will be helpful to have an informal questions and answers session which will enable Members to make an informed response. **Action: Cllr. Plumb/Clerk**

5. **DCMS Consultation – Mobile Connectivity in England:** Simplifying the Planning Process –Noted and agreed to support KALC’s response.

6. **Traveller Sites – Letter from Eric Pickles MP to Gordon Henderson MP** – documentation noted.

8. **Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council)**

1. **10 Point Plan** – Agreed to put on the July meeting and look at putting the outcome of the survey in the next edition of the Iwade Observer. **Action: Clerk/Cllr. Hunt**

2. **The Barn** – No details of further progress; to be placed on the July Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

9. **Village Hall**

The existing plans need to be amended in light of the hall not incorporating the Pavilion, and then arrange a meeting with Persimmon, the Village Hall Committee and Swale Borough Council to explore how we can go forward with this project.

The Parish Council has also spoken to Tony Hillier, who owns the freehold of the Surgery. He has had people complaining to him regarding parking at the Surgery; he is willing to give any help he can to assist.

10. **Village Clean Up Day**

Suggested date Sunday 25th August, but it was agreed to post this on ‘Iwade Does Facebook’ to see if a good response is received to this date. **Action: Cllr. Hunt**

11. **Medway Swale Estuary Partnership and Iwade Nature Reserve**

The Chairman has met with the Partnership; been working with Pippa Palmer and talking to Graeme Tuff, putting together a project to turn the area to the rear of the village park (perhaps incorporating the Barn) into a Nature Reserve with circular walks. It is hoped to install proper footpaths and signs and funding will be obtained. Mark Loos hopes to attend the next meeting to discuss the project.

12. **Iwade Health Centre**

Malling Health Care (Dr Reichhelm and Dr Newell), based at Kings Hill will be taking over the running of the Centre. It was agreed that the Parish Council write to them commenting that it would be good to work with them from the beginning as we would like to see the surgery being a success again. **Action: Clerk**

13. **Planning**

1. **SW/13/0621:** To alter an existing integral garage into a family room – 88 Sanderling Way, Iwade, ME9 8TE – no objection.
2. **SW/13/0636:** Removal of existing garage door and installation of Bi-fold doors together with internal alterations to convert existing integral double garage into home cinema with adjacent domestic boiler room – Hazel Lodge, Grovehurst Road, Iwade, ME9 8QZ – no objection.
3. **SW/13/0550:** Loft conversion including erection of two dormer windows to rear, and one dormer window to front – 3 Turnstone Close, Iwade, ME9 8TU – no objection.

14. Other Matters Arising

Cllr. Wastall mentioned there will be a bike riding charity fund-raising event in September, which will be advertised.

15. Next Meeting

The next Meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th July, commencing at 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.