

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 10th April, 2013

Present: Cllr. S. Plumb - Chair
Cllr. A. Jennings
Cllr. M. Gale
Cllr. A. Jennings
Cllr. L. Mitchell
Cllr. J. White
Nick Mayatt, Community Warden
15 Parishioners
Lynda Fisher, Clerk

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Parishioners to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Hyde, Hunt and Wastall. Apologies were also received from County Cllr. Willicombe and Borough Cllr. Stokes.

2. Declarations of Interest – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 13th February, 2013, were proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell; agreed by all (date in the heading changed from February to March) and signed as a true transcript.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **New Housing Proposals for the Village** – A Scoping Opinion has been received from Swale Borough Council regarding land at Pond Farm, following an approach to the Parish Council by Agents acting on behalf of the Developers, Crest Nicholson. Cllr Whiting mentioned that the Borough Council is opposed to any further development, apart from that already granted planning permission. Clerk instructed to write to Swale Borough Council stating that the Parish Council backs the decision made at the Local Development Framework meeting on the 21st February to oppose any changes to the Core Strategy as directed by Central Government. **Action: Clerk**

2. **20 m.p.h. Speed Limit in Iwade** – The 20 m.p.h. speed limit guidance notes, passed to the Clerk by County Cllr. Whiting, were circulated to all Members. Cllr. Hunt's survey has shown that residents would prefer this speed limit, and it was recognised that speed restriction measures would need to be put in place on those roads in the village that do not already have these features. County Cllr. Whiting suggested writing to County Cllr. David Brazier, the Deputy Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, at Kent County Council, seeking a 20 m.p.h. speed limit throughout the whole of Iwade. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Secondary School Transport – Bullying Issues** – Cllr. Gale and the Clerk had a meeting with various representatives concerning the issues. There is a School Incident Policy which came out a few years ago, which basically means that during school time, when a child leaves their address the School has responsibility for their safety until they reach home at the end of the school day. County Cllr. Whiting has written to Headteachers about the Policy and asked for information on what policies they have in place. He will chase if this information is not forthcoming. The PCSO and Community Warden are talking to the bus company to explore how they can work together, and it has also been agreed to look at the feasibility of setting up a help line on bullying. **Action: Cllr. Gale**

4. **Village Centre** – Clerk reported that the Centre Management Group has stated that the former people who ran Budgens did not have authority to manage the car park; this is overseen by the Group.
5. **School Lane Playing Field** – Clerk to write to Persimmon querying why, despite the Parish Council being told it's a health and safety issue by the company, the field is still 'open' for access. It was also agreed that further article be placed in the Iwade Observer reminding residents that the field is closed to the public. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Visitors/Public Time**

1. **Parishioners** – The Chairman was pleased to see so many youngsters present at the meeting, presumably to look at the possibility of creating a Youth Council. He briefly outline how the Council could work, possibly in tandem with the Parish Council although it would be entirely independent, and how it would present youths with the opportunity to have a voice in their community; work towards achieving facilities within the village for their age group and other projects. He asked all those present, and who were interested, to leave their contact details with the Clerk and the Parish Council looks forward to taking the formation of a Youth Council forward.

Parishioners raised their concern at the lack of seats on buses transporting children to and from schools and children not being taken to their destinations (being abandoned part way through their journey). County Cllr. Whiting explained that if a child has a free bus pass and travels on a bus allocated for school transport, then the child will have a seat; most pupils travel on public services and thus are not guaranteed a seat. Clerk instructed to write to the bus company concerning seats and failure to transport children to their destinations. **Action: Clerk**

2. **County Councillor and Borough Councillors** – Borough Cllr. Ben Stokes was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but he had mentioned to the Clerk that he recently had a meeting with the Medical Centre and there is an issue with car parking; Tony Hillier might be able to help.

County Cllr. Whiting mentioned that a Lollipop Person has been appointed and is going to undertake training, which will release the required Legal Warrant; then it's all systems go!

3. **Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO** – Nick's report has been circulated to Members and contents noted. Issues involved fly tipping incidents (Old Ferry Road and Raspberry Hill); dog fouling, dog noise nuisance, car parking and delivery vans blocking School Lane during the afternoon school run.

6. **Finance**

1. **Cheque Signatories** – Members reminded that those who have not already done so need to submit their details to the Bank. **Action: Councillors**
2. **KALC Planning Conference** – Agreed Cllr. Mitchell to attend the Conference at a cost of VAT inclusive cost of £72.
3. **Year End Account, Risk Assessment and Asset Register** – It was proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Rook that the year end accounts, to the 31st March, 2013, be approved – agreed.

The response to each of the internal control objectives on the Internal Audit Report Checklist was 'yes', apart from item 'C', assessing significant risks; registered as 'continual' and 'J' preparation of year end accounts; registered as 'in progress – Audit due end April 2013'. This form was then signed by the Chairman

The Asset Register was noted; Clerk to add the new Noticeboard and the Jubilee Plaque to the Insurance Schedule and Register. **Action: Clerk**

4. Cheques signed at this meeting:

It was proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Rook, all agreed, that the following cheques be signed and the accounts to the 13th March, 2013 accepted.

Date	Chq.	Details		Amount
10.04.13	1606	L. Fisher – Expenses	Telephone/Broadband/Use of Home as office Mar; 12 1 st & 12 2 nd Stamps, Airport Conference Fee – Re. Cllr. Mitchell	£45.97p
10.04.13	1607	Ditton Electrical Contracts Ltd	Installation of 3 new Lighting Columns – Sheerstone	£6989.66p
10.04.13	1608	CPRE	Subscription, 2013/14 Membership	£28.00p
10.04.13	1609	ACRK	Subscription, 2013/14 Membership	£35.00p
10.04.13	1610	Citizens Advice Bureau, Swale	S.137 Donation	£50.00p
10.04.13	1611	Stiddard Kent Ltd	Payroll Preparation March 2013	£15.00p
10.04.13	1612	Steve Wakeling	Handyman duties March 2013 and Materials	£322.35p
10.04.13	1613	KALC	Planning Conference – Cllr. Mitchell	£72.00p
10.04.13	1614	All Saints Parish Church	Donation – Bi-Annual Flower Festival June 2013	£50.00p
10.04.13	1615	Iwade Herons	2013/14 Donation	£500.00p
10.04.13	1616	Iwade Women’s Institute	2013/14 Donation	£250.00p
10.04.13	1617	1 st Iwade Scout Group	2013/14 Donation	£1752.00p
10.04.13	1618	Iwade Parent & Toddler Group	2013/14 Donation	£900.00p
10.04.13	1619	Broker Network Ltd	Increase Premium due to new lamps and bus shelter	£25.00p
Fourteen cheques in total				

Payments made by Direct Debit: Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting - £58.59p; L. Fisher: March Wages - £601.19p

7. Correspondence

1. **Street Trading Local Policy Document** – noted; no comments.
2. **Swale Borough Council’s Sports Development Reorganisation Consultation** – Members agreed to write expressing disappointment that this service is being discontinued and adding that it will be a loss to the community. **Action: Clerk**
3. **KALC Community Awards Scheme** - proposed by Cllr. Gale and seconded by Cllr. Jennings; agreed to adopt the Awards Scheme.
4. **Meet your Commissioner** - noted, none to attend.

8. Iwade Localism Project (Swale Borough Council)

1. **10 Point Plan** – Distribution complete, closing date 19th April.
2. **The Barn** – The Chairman advised that he is still waiting to hear if Swale’s Legal Department have advised on the way forward with the premises.

9. Neighbourhood Plans

Cllr. Mitchell to try to ascertain costs involved in creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Iwade and to report back to the May meeting. **Action: Cllr. Mitchell**

10. Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr. Jennings placed an item on 'Iwade Does Facebook' and two volunteers have come forward who are happy to run the scheme. He now needs to talk to the PCSO about getting this up and running.

Action: Cllr. Jennings

11. Planning

1. **KCC/SW/03012:** – Ballast Phoenix application - Ridham Dock Industrial Complex, Iwade: After looking at the documents Members came to the conclusion that their objection to this application should still stand. Ballast Phoenix (BP) has addressed the Environment Agency's (EA) concerns in the Fugitive Emissions Management Plan and Risk Assessment but still haven't addressed two points; Ballast Phoenix responses are shown in red; the Parish Council's responses are shown highlighted in grey below:

- Maximum storage capacity of the site and storage areas should be clearly stated in writing and effective stock management should ensure that the max storage capacities of the site and storage areas not exceeded. **BP controls site inputs, outputs and stock management at all of its facilities to ensure that any maximum storage capacities of the site or storage areas are not exceeded.** **There is no written confirmation still**
- Uncovered or outdoor storage of material should be avoided where possible and practical to do so. Enclosed (but ventilated) or covered storage will help prevent fugitive emissions, particularly from separated fine fractions. **BP believes that the enclosed storage of Incinerator Bottom Ash is inappropriate and that properly controlled outdoor storage provides a safer and environmentally acceptable method of operation. The percentage of fines materials within the material accepted, processed and stored at the site is very small – between 1% and 3.5%. The ability for material above a certain particle size to be carried at distance from the site is documented by the EA as being low (see the Fugitive Emissions Management Plan and Risk Assessment for references). The small quantities of fines materials handled at the site are appropriately controlled using dust suppression methods and stock controls in accordance with the Fugitive Emissions Management Plan and Risk Assessment.** **Between 1% and 3.5% may be a small amount for BP but they are not the only company with Wood Stock Piles at Ridham Dock. If all the companies there have low percentages of fine materials blowing about it will all add up to a high percentage and with the dust problems Iwade has had in the past any percentage will have an effect. BP is arguing with the EA that outside storage is better; surely the EA is the expert on these matters?**

There have also been objections from Natural England and Swale Borough Council; the Parish Council does not know what these are or if BP has addressed them. We do know that the Fugitive Emissions Management Plan and Risk Assessment is satisfying some of the EA's concerns; much is mentioned about how BP does things at their other sites but are their other facilities right next to a SSSI and RAMSAR site? Is this what Natural England has concerns over?

Finally, if other companies at Ridham Dock are not allowed stock pile heights over six metres then surely the same should apply to BP? If BP is given permission then the others may well turn around and seek the same.

12. Other Matters Arising

Members are concerned at the number of Estate Agents' signs being erected in Grovehurst Road. These signs are causing damage to the fencing to which they are fixed. Clerk requested to contact the Estate Agents asking them to stop this practice and pointing out the damage.

Cllr. Jennings asked if a shield could be placed on one of the new street lights in Sheerstone; the brightness at night time is causing a nuisance to the adjacent house. **Action: Clerk**

Annual Parish Meeting – Clerk advised that the Editor and Chief Reporter from the Sittingbourne Extra, and James Freeman and Jim Wilson, Planning Officers from Swale Borough Council, are happy to attend and give a talk on their work.

The Chairman and Cllr. Mitchell attended the conference concerning hub airports. Most delegates were against the Thames suggestion, which looks as though this is not a reality.

13. Next Meeting

The next Meeting will take place as follows:

1. Wednesday 8th May, 2013, 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Village Hall - Annual Parish Council meeting; followed by the normal Monthly Meeting
2. Tuesday 21st May, 2012, 7.30 p.m. in Iwade Village Hall - Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.