

Contacts

All contacts also listed on
www.iwadevillage.co.uk

Council	Organisations and Clubs
Swale Borough Council Tel-01795 417850 E-csc@swale.gov.uk KCC 24hr Helpline Tel -08458 247247 Ward Cllr Ben Stokes Tel -01795 476979 County Cllr Roger Truelove Tel- 01795 425445 County Cllr Lee Burgess Tel-07788 101228 Chair James Hunt Tel-07788 101228 Parish Clerk Lynda Fisher Tel-01795 477015 Village Hall Hire Sue Tel-01795 475967	Iwade School Tel-01795 472578 Iwade Health Centre Tel-03000 426666 Iwade Pharmacy Tel-01795 439368 The Woolpack (and Darts) Tel-01795 472656 Bodycare Tel-01795 474555 Heaven Hair And Beauty Tel-01795 435958 Iwade Garage Tel-01795 438988 Tinkerbells Tel-07592 544285 Happy Days Nursery Tel-01795 424348 Ickle Pickles Nursery Tel-01795 474551 Brownies- Debbie Rhodes Tel-07900 302905 Rainbows- Sue Thomas Tel-01795 422810 Cubs-Lisa Andrews Tel-07889179154 Beavers- Kelly Croucher Tel- 07780 975444 Parent and Toddler (Ages 6 to 8, Village Hall- Mondays 6:15-8:30pm) Scouts- Beth Peal Tel-07854 401734 Model Flying Club Tel-07973 938171 Iwade Herons Tel-01795 477821 Iwade Allotment Assoc. Tel-07778 384233 Village Market Tel- 07990 767893 or 07904 610298 Weight Watchers (Iwade School- Tuesdays 5:30 and 7pm) Milton Hundred E-mail- miltonhundredwargamesclub@gmail.com Wargames E-mail- theoldgunsite@gmail.com Speedway Ltd. Tel-01795 471173 Health Walks- Jan Tel-01795 436515 W.I- Glenn Walters Tel- 07952 382424 Scottish Dancing (Village Hall-Friday 7:30-10:30)
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Editors Note

So here is the first Iwade Observer of 2014. We really hope you like it, from details of the work the Parish Council do for our village, to a fascinating glimpse of life here in 1664. Thank you to all our contributors this month, you are fabulous!
 On behalf of the EA and the Parish Council, we want to mention that blockages in our stream can be reported to Debbie McNamara on 07768 111913. We also kindly request that residents do not put things into the stream including grass cuttings as these have been causing blockages and contributing to some flooding. Check out the dates for the diary for details of the Iwade stream drop in session.

by Mel McDonald

Iwade Observer

February 2014



Would you like to be involved in the Iwade@TheBarn project?
 Have you noticed the barn next to Iwade church? Renovated as part of the All Saints Close development by Ward Homes, the plan is for Iwade Parish Council to take over the barn from Ward Homes and Swale Borough Council to be a quiet community venue. Think small clubs, community café, youth café, church café, work café, yoga, pilates. The plan is for the barn to be kitted out with a small kitchen and toilet, wifi and a single community computer. If you have a skill that would be useful in getting the barn up and running and would like to be involved in an exciting community project or you would just like to be involved do get in touch.

You can call Nicola on 01795 439892 or email barnsos@iwadevillage.co.uk.

By Nicola McKenzie

Iwade Market

By Steve Theobald

I hope this will be the first of regular monthly market reports in your newsletter. Firstly I would like to thank all of you who came to January's market, and indeed all of you who have supported the market since I took over the reins just a year and a half ago. January is always a difficult month for the market for several reasons such as the weather, lack of money after Christmas and lots of food still indoors to mention just a few. A lot of traders also take time off during January, so the number of stalls are down as well as the number of visitors. Having said that I was delighted with how many of you visited the January Market. I was equally delighted to have

a number of new stalls, all of whom have confirmed they will be at our next market on the 9th February. The likes of Stour Valley Game, Kent In Crepe, Margate Smoke House and Gaia Creations can only enhance the market's reputation,

couple this with our regular stall holders and I believe we now have the solid foundation to build one of the best markets in Kent.

By the time you read this I will have had another meeting with the Kent Farmers Market Association in an effort to regain the 'farmers market' status that was taken away a few years ago. Fingers crossed...

At the end of the day it is your market, in your village and you are the customers, that is why I always value your comments, good or bad, to help me improve your market. All of the contact details are at the end of this article, please don't hesitate to air your views.

On a personal note I would just like to thank all of you in this years Taste of Kent Awards. I am absolutely delighted to have been voted into the top 3 "Best Fishmongers in Kent" category. I will now be judged over the next two months by a mystery shopper to decide the overall winner, so once again ...fingers crossed...

Wouldn't it be great if we could get our market into the top 3 of the "best Farmers Market" category, next year? I look forward to seeing you all at the next market.

Steve the fish
 Phone: 07990 767893 | stevethefish@googlemail.com
 Facebook: Iwade Monthly Market
 Twitter: @Iwademonthlymarket

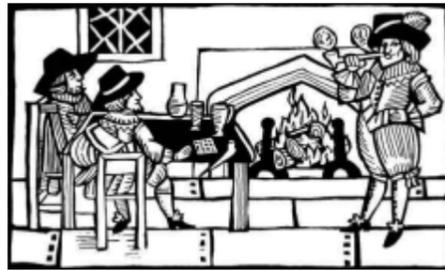


Steve and his son pictured at the January market

Who lived in Iwade in 1664? by Alan Abbey

The short and somewhat glib answer is, almost nobody. Perhaps more of an explanation is needed, how do we know who lived here so long ago? The very handy national census is a relatively recent invention and most other records from the time are of no direct help. The parish records for Baptisms, Marriages and Burials are all very interesting but cannot provide such detailed information. Yes, those registers give names and dates but for such a small parish as Iwade there can be months, if not years, between entries. There is, however, one particular historical record that provides a very useful and interesting view of many towns and villages, particularly in 1664; The Hearth Tax returns. The Hearth Tax was, quite literally, a tax on the number of fireplaces in every house. The collection was very organised for the period and every area had to collect the money and list who paid and how many hearths were taxed. Each household had to pay one shilling per hearth twice a year and, like most taxes, it was far from popular and the parish officials were often involved in ensuring it was paid in full. This is only an

introduction to the tax and I urge anyone interested in learning more to read 'Kent Hearth Tax', by Duncan Harrington, a copy can be found in Sittingbourne library.



So, what does the tax return for Iwade tell us? Iwade had just six domestic dwellings in 1664 half of which were not chargeable as the residents were too poor. Of the three liable to pay the tax one John Goateley had a house with three hearths, the largest in the village and it is possible that this building is now the Woolpack Inn, or at least part of it. A John Miles had two hearths and a William Merryweather just one. A house with a single hearth would have been a small building indeed, just a single room or possibly two. The other three buildings not liable for the tax also had just a single hearth, John Ceeling,

Widow Weekes and Widow Holloway. These three would be reliant upon charitable hand outs from the parish but with the parish being so small one wonders just how helpful these may have been.

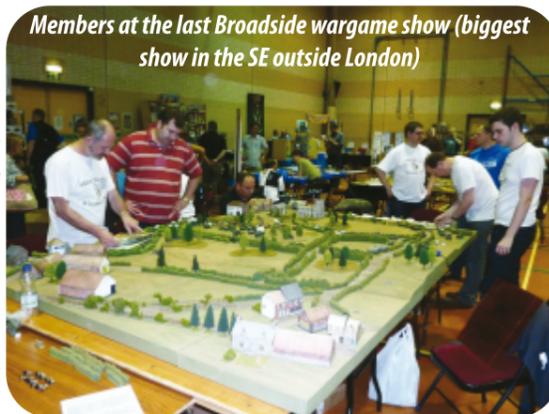
Usually, an historian would multiply the number of names on a parish hearth tax return by 4.75 to give a total number of residents in that parish, here however, I am not sure that would be so accurate given the very low numbers of dwellings and high numbers of one hearth houses; I would suggest about a dozen all told.

The last piece of interesting information the tax return gives is the name of the Parish Constable, the one responsible for enforcing the tax and overseeing the collection, Richard Skeere. Richard came from another parish, probably somewhere in Tenham as Iwade was considered to be a 'Detached Portion' of that administrative area rather than the more local Milton, a curious throw back to earlier times....but that is another story.....

Thank you for this interesting article Alan, we are loving a bit of History! Ed

The Milton Hundred Wargames Club

We are looking for new members! If you are over eighteen and have an interest in old battles, fantasy or Sci Fi games we would love to meet you. Our friendly and welcoming members meet twice a month (second and fourth Tuesdays from 6.30 to 10pm) at Iwade Village Hall to re-fight battles in miniature, from ancient Greece and Rome, Saxons and Normans, English Civil War, Redcoats and American Rebels, Napoleon, Zulus, the terrible trenches, WW2 and Beyond. We also play a lot of Warhammer plus boardgames and sci fi battles against aliens and the odd rebel alliance! You do not need your own models or figures, many games are run for others to join in with everything provided. Come along and see what we have to offer, your first meeting is free so what do you have to lose? Visit us at www.mhwc.co.uk or follow our blog



Members at the last Broadside wargame show (biggest show in the SE outside London)

Austrian troops from the Seven Years war (1756-1763).



<http://leofwinewargamer.blogspot.co.uk> You can contact us at miltonhundredwargamesclub@googlemail.com or call Alan on 873379
by Alan Abbey

Marathon Man by Shaun Pumar

I have insanely chosen to run the 2014 London marathon as a life challenge. I am running for the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) as I am passionate about animals and the world we have to share them with and "the panda made me do it". I have to raise £2000 and have set up a Justgiving page justgiving.com/Shawn-Pumar where people can donate and keep up to date with my training progress. Any support would be gratefully appreciated.

Thanks Shaun we wish you luck and hope this drums up your much needed sponsorship to run. Good luck!



Dates for the Diary

Sunday 9 February 10:00-1:00 | Iwade Market
Iwade Market under the management of stall-holder Steve Theobald is well attended with a fantastic range of stalls. Why not save your fruit and veg and meat and fish shopping for the Market once a month?

Monday 10 February 19:30 Patient Participation Group
The next Patient Participation Group meeting is on Monday 10th February at 7:30pm at Iwade Health Centre. All registered patients over the age of 18 are welcome to attend enabling the group to work together to develop new and improved health services for local people.

Wednesday 12 February 19:30 Iwade Parish Council Meeting
Why not go along to the Iwade Parish Council meeting and find out more about the administration of Iwade?! Iwade Parish Council normally meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at Iwade Village Hall.

Thursday 13 February 11:15-11:25 Mobile Library
Springvale end of Sheerstone, one piece of identification required to join. You can contact the Mobile Library on their mobile on 07740 183758

Friday 14 February 18:30 Family Movie Night-The Croods
Celebrate Valentines Day with a difference at a Family Movie Night at All Saint's Church! There will be food (jacket potato and toppings), dessert and soft drinks served at 6.30pm followed by a film at 7pm. Cost only £3 per person to cover food and drink.

Tuesday 18 February 15:00 Iwade Stream Drop-In Session
What does the Iwade stream mean to you? What are the issues affecting the stream? Would you like to help us to restore the stream? What improvements would you like to see to the stream? If you would like to help Medway Swale Estuary Partnership address the issues facing the Iwade stream or suggest some improvements go along to the drop-in session at Iwade Village Hall between 3pm and 7pm. If you're unable to attend the event then you can pass on your comments or questions to Medway Swale Estuary Partnership by email at msep@medway.gov.uk or telephone 01634 337113. Or write to them the traditional way address F34-35, Innovation Centre, Maidstone Road CHATHAM ME5 9SD

Wednesday 19 February W.I. Meeting with Alan Abbey
Alan Abbey will be talking at the February 2014 W.I. Meeting about the Purposeful Concealment of Artifacts Within Buildings. If you would like to join the Iwade W.I. or find out more contact their Secretary Glenn by telephone on 01795 436515 or by email at gk.charisma@sky.com

Thurs 27 February 11:15-11:25 | Mobile Library

Save The Date N. McKenzie

This year's Iwade Bake Off Sale for Sport Relief will take place on Saturday 7th June 2014 at All Saints Church Iwade in the afternoon. Whether you plan to bake, help or come along on the day and enjoy the luscious baked goods for sale put the date in your diary and more details will follow. *Mmmmm cake!*

Youth Bus N. McKenzie

Did you know that a Youth Bus comes to Woodpecker Park every Tuesday evening from 6.45 to 9pm? The Youth Bus provides activities for teenagers depending on the weather so if you are a teenager or a teenager's parent or carer why not give it a try? *Think we're all a bit old. Shame! -Ed*

Tinkerbells Early Years by Claire Stock

Last term at Tinkerbells was very busy with the run up to Christmas. Our Christmas carol concert which was held at the Iwade village church was a great success and we would like to thank all the children involved and their families for taking part. Our Christmas Nativity as usual went extremely well and we would like to say how proud we were of all the children that took part in the performance, they were all little stars. Our annual fundraising Christmas fete was also a great success and we were very pleased with the amount of people within the community that came along to support us, it was greatly appreciated and we thank you all including those that kindly donated raffle prizes.

This term at Tinkerbells the children have been taking part in activities supporting our topics 'People who help us' and 'Keeping safe'. The children will also be given opportunities this term to take part in Chinese New year celebrations including sampling Chinese food.

At present all our spaces at Tinkerbells in Iwade are full, but we do still have a few available spaces at Tinkerbells at the Clocktower in Adisham green, Kemsley.

If anyone is looking to put their child's name down for September 2014 in either setting, please feel free to call in at any time to have a look around and pick up a prospectus. *Contact details at tinkerbellspreschool.co.uk Ed*

Iwade Parent and Toddler Group Mel McDonald

The group is on in the village hall on Tuesday mornings from 9-11. It is a great place to bring your preschoolers to play while you enjoy a cuppa and a chat. The cost is just £2 (50p for additional siblings) which includes tea/coffee and a drink and biscuit for the little ones plus a craft activity.

The group is run by volunteers and we are currently looking for some new helpers to take over when our little ones start school in September, so if you can help to keep this successful group running come and have a chat with one of the organisers.

We would also be most grateful for any donations of toys (suitable for preschoolers). Hope to see you soon.



Under New Management

Iwade Garage are under new management with Jamie Dicker and are offering Iwade residents a free winter health check with every MOT for the month of February 2014.

Go on, give them a try. You can call them on 01795 438988 or pop in to 36 Ferry Road Iwade (next to Heaven).

Councillors update



County Councillor Lee Burgess.

I have now been a KCC Cllr for Iwade for the past 7 months, and they have been a very interesting and busy 7 months. I have regularly been attending the parish council meetings and finding out what the people of Iwade need and want. So far I have given the parish council a lighting grant for new lamp columns and I have said that should the village need anything that the PC need only ask. This year I have had a budget of £50,000 half for highways and half for community projects, the conservative administration are looking to slash this in half, so while I am more than happy to help Iwade in the years to come the budget that I can use may mean that projects get left out as it has to be available to the whole of the Swale Central division.

Over the next few months and years the authority will be looking at making huge savings across all areas, I along with my group will scrutinise everything and make sure that the tax payer gets the best value for money and that residents still get the level and quality of service that they expect and pay for.

Since being elected I have also become the shadow cabinet member for Education, dealing with several schools in my division and across the county, as such I have been looking at the Iwade school expansion plans and will work closely with the school, PC and the authority to make it work as well as possible. Should residents have any questions at all I am here for anyone when ever they need help or assistance, my phone is always on and all emails get a reply.

Lee Burgess is one of our two Kent County Council representatives in Iwade, representing the Swale Central division which Iwade is part of. You can contact Lee Burgess by email at lee.burgess@kent.gov.uk, on his mobile by text or phone on 07703 320267 or in writing to 4 School View Tunstall ME9 8DX. Thanks for your support in Iwade Lee, we appreciate it.

County Councillor Roger Truelove

These are challenging times for local authorities like Kent County Council. Local Government is expected to bear a very large share of the need to reduce the country's budget deficit and so KCC has to find savings of over £250 million over the next 3 years. Of course this affects services and will have an impact on all communities including Iwade.

So far there has been a lot of debate around savings which in all truth will only scratch the surface. There has been a very public fight to save Children's Centres in which I am pleased to say the Sittingbourne area was very successful. There is now a debate around the Member Community grants. These are the funds that Lee Burgess and I have been able to use in Iwade this year to help the Parish Council with street lighting. It is proposed to reduce these and likewise the Highways Grants that Councillors can use at their discretion, This could matter to Iwade as it might impact on our wish to introduce a 20 mph speed limit into the village.

Another area of spending that is up for review is the Freedom Bus Pass for young people which has become so vital to many families in meeting home to school transport costs.

However, none of these will really have a major impact on the need to radically reduce Kent County Council spending. In reality the authority is going to go through a massive transformation in the way it provides services with a significant increase in outsourcing of services and an equally significant process of reducing demand.

I don't think the Iwade Observer is the place to comment politically on this trend. You can assume I have a view but I leave you to make your own judgements.



Swale Borough Councillor Ben Stokes

In regard to the flooding in Springvale I have visited Persimmon and made at least three phone calls to developers regarding rainwater run off of their land causing flooding. Their response was, they have already put in some drainage and at a later date more drainage is to be installed across the football pitch and cannot do any more at this time.

A huge incinerator being built at Ridham Dock. There is concern regarding dangerous emissions from the chimney and the bottom ash. This planning application came up before Swale Borough Council Planning Committee of which I am on, I asked if any toxins, dioxins or carcinogen emissions from the chimney would get into the air and if breathed in could cause any health problems, also if any of these emissions fall to the ground and contaminate would it affect farmland, the water supply and get into the food chain?

The Swale Borough Council Planning Committee can approve or refuse this application for the incinerator at Ridham Dock but KCC has the final decision. I contacted the Environment Agency, their reply was that the government has strict guidelines as to the filters in the chimneys to stop or to contain dangerous emissions, but there is no 100 percent guarantee. When this incinerator is up and running, I along with Iwade Parish Council can contact the Environment Agency to closely monitor the area for possible chimney emissions and the disposal of the bottom ash.

Early in 2013 Swale Borough Council decided on a pilot scheme in regard to localism in the Swale area and chose Iwade for this pilot scheme. We have already had four meetings. In attendance were Iwade Parish Councillors, the Clerk of the Parish Council, Street Warden Nick Mayatt, Representatives from Amicus Horizon, Iwade School, Countryside Recycling, Village Hall Committee, Iwade Health Centre Patients Committee, Church Committee, Graeme Tuff, Mike Whiting Cabinet Member for Localism, Cabinet Member Gerry Lewin, James Freeman Head of Development Services, SBC Community Services Officer. There are a number of others, not all of these people came to just one meeting as those that were invited depended on the agenda. These localism meetings have been very informative and helpful to discuss local issues and to implement decisions made at the meetings which in turn will be a benefit to residents and the community of Iwade. I hope to in the near future organise a meeting in the Village Hall for residents to come along to gain more information about localism and have some involvement in the community.

Iwade Village Hall

By Andy Jennings

As of January I have taken responsibility as the Chair of Iwade Village Hall, I intend to push the hall forward in 2014 but need the help of the village to do so. There are currently only two elected members of the hall committee who work alongside representatives of the village. We need to increase the elected members and encourage more residents from the village to assist in the day to day running of the hall and charity events. It is expected that the new village hall will be near completion within a few years, so now is the time to step up and return the hall back into a village hub in full preparation of our new hall. If we can recruit enough members of the village to assist, it is our intention to split the hall committee into two, one part to concentrate on the day to day maintenance and running, the other half to concentrate on village events, such as quiz nights, wine and wisdoms, comedy nights, the list is endless!

The maintenance of the hall will be prioritised to keep the hall running, and we will be looking at giving the interior a good freshen up with a new paint scheme, new outside lighting and refurbished electrics.

Each regular hirer (Nursery, market, beavers etc) of the hall will be contacted and spoken to at length to ensure the hall and hirer are getting the best out of the hall amenities.

On behalf of the committee and current representatives, I would like to thank the previous chair and committee members for their hard work over the past years and wish you all in Iwade a fantastic New Year.

If anyone is interested in joining us to push the hall onward and upwards, then please feel free to contact any member of the hall committee via our website iwadevillagehall.org.uk for further information.

Church

By Graeme Horner

We have recently learnt that the Iwade ride and stride team raised a magnificent total of £542 of which £274 has been paid to the church. We would like to thank Dave Wastall and all who contributed to this great result.

The Church was full to bursting for the seven services held over Christmas and the carol singing as lusty as ever. We were especially delighted with the singing of choirs from Iwade school, Happy Days and Tinkerbells. For the first time for many years we held a midnight communion service which attracted a substantial number. It was a pity that the rain extinguished many of the candles that the congregation at the earlier carol service had brought to illuminate the church path. From the church entrance, surmounted by an arch of yew, decorated with lights bought with a grant from the parish council, an avenue of light from nearly a hundred candles in jam jars lit up the path in a way not seen before and put the carollers in a festive mood even before they entered the beautifully decorated church. The services themselves were added to by very moving and beautifully sung solos and duets. All in all a Christmas to remember.

Plans are unfolding for 2014. A family film night on Valentines day evening has already been announced. We are hoping to hold a display, in late spring, of photographs by amateur photographers of Iwade. This will be mildly competitive and have 'Iwade' as its theme. Dates and details will emerge soon but if you are able to assist or advise us please contact anyone at the church.

Crafting

by Amanda Hurrell

I was asked to write a small interesting piece on a topic of my choice for this month's Observer. Normally I would have chosen gardening but at this time of year there isn't much going on especially if we have snow/ice on the ground. The ground is too frozen to work on and you don't feel like being outside in the cold unless it's to build a snowman! For now I am just jotting down what to grow in my veg patch and choosing seeds from catalogues in the warmth of my kitchen with a hot cup of tea. In the winter months I switch to my other passion, knitting and more recently crochet. Most gardeners split their time between gardening in the warmer months with knitting, sewing and crochet during the winter months. I tend to combine both all year round, but concentrate on knitting and crochet during the winter months. I'm not sure where it all started but my earliest memories are off my grandmother and my granddads cigar box full of odd buttons and helping her wind oddments of wool into neat little balls. My first real jumper was made for my son now 21 and I guess that's when it took over. Sewing and knitting was also something taught in my junior school and the revival is about to start in the UK again this year. These skills follow you in your life and are handy when you need to sew button back on, sew a scout badge on your child's kits or knit a quick scarf for a friend's birthday. There are a lot of talented crafters in Iwade, some with old skills and some who have mastered new skills more recently with the help of a friend or neighbour. It's not just for your grandma; many of us new to knitting/crochet are using this pastime as the antidote to our stressful workaholic lives making it great for your health too!

Thank you Amanda for this article. You can read Amanda's Eight by Six blog online at eightbysix.blogspot.co.uk. Would you like to write an article for the March Iwade Observer?

Email the.iwade.observer@gmail.com



Candle-lit church service



Iwade WI

by Sandra Wilkinson

Another busy year has passed for our group which culminated in members being host to a Christmas carol service for the Newington group of W.I.s. The church was full and looked beautiful lit by candlelight. Then for our last meeting of the year we celebrated together at the Dancing Dog pub. Landlord, Shaun, served an excellent meal and provided live music to entertain us. We exchanged secret Santa gifts and had a free raffle - a big thank you to Costcutter and Lloyds Pharmacy for their generous donation of prizes. We also had the chance to congratulate one of our members, Sally Luck for being a regional finalist for the Great British Care Awards.

The New Year kicks off with yet another celebratory meal, this time its our 82nd birthday party at the Tudor Rose restaurant. We have an interesting and varied programme booked for the coming months so why not come for a visit, further details are available from our Secretary, Glenn on 01795 436515.

Who does what in Iwade by James Hunt

The Parish Council

What is a parish or town council?

There are over 8,700 parish and town councils representing around 16 million people across England. They form the most local level of government and cover many rural and urban areas.

A parish or town council has an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community. Its work falls into three main categories:

- Representing the local community.
- Delivering services to meet local needs.
- Striving to improve quality of life in the parish.

How does it make decisions?

The Parish Council is made up of a number of councillors who meet regularly to make decisions on the work and direction of the council. As an elected body, the Parish Council is an "it" and, through its councillors, is responsible to the people it represents – that's the local community.

Attending a council meeting is the best way to find out what it does.

Where does it get its money from?

Each year a sum of money called a 'precept' is collected through your council tax. This money is used by the parish council to improve facilities and services for local people and run the Council. Parish councils can also apply for grants and loans.

What do parish councillors do?

Councillors have three main areas of work:

1. Decision-making: through attending meetings and committees with other

elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented;

2. Monitoring: councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working;

3. Getting involved locally: as local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their parishioners and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available.

The day-to-day work of a councillor may include:

- Going to meetings of local organisations.
- Going to meetings of bodies that affect the wider community, such as the police, the Highways Authority, schools and colleges.
- Bringing parishioners concerns to the attention of the council.

All parish councillors are volunteers and Iwade parish council has 8 parish councillors and a parish clerk. The Clerk to the Council will be the Proper Officer of the Council and as such is under a statutory duty to carry out all the functions, and in particular to serve or issue all the notifications required by law of a local authority's Proper Officer. The Clerk will be totally responsible for ensuring that the instructions of the Council in connection with its function

as a Local Authority are carried out. The Clerk is expected to advise the Council on, and assist in the formation of, overall policies to be followed in respect of the Authority's activities and in particular to produce all the information required for making effective decisions and to implement constructively all decisions. The person appointed will be accountable to the Council for the effective management of all its resources and will report to them as and when required. The Clerk will be the Responsible Financial Officer in due course and become responsible for all financial records of the Council and the careful administration of its finances.

You can contact Iwade parish council by emailing iwadepc@bluyonder, phoning 01795 477015 (Mon-Sat before 8pm) or writing to P.O. Box 588 Sittingbourne ME10 9ET. The council's details can also be found on the council page on iwadevillage.co.uk

Some other useful details:

To report problems that are down to KCC (Highways, street lighting, grass verges) you can use their website -

<http://www.kent.gov.uk>

[/roads_and_transport/highway_maintenance/fault_reporting.aspx](http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport/highway_maintenance/fault_reporting.aspx)

To report problems that are down to Swale Council (green spaces, play areas, rubbish collections, planning) you can do so by going to their 'Do It Online' page at www.swale.gov.uk, email csc@swale.gov.uk or call 01795 417850

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING Held on Wednesday 11th December, 2013

•Household waste and recycling As of the 16th December waste can be comingled in the blue bin; no need to separate glass. Plastic containers such as margarine tubs, meat trays, ice cream tubs, yoghurt pots and tetra-packs can go into the blue bin. There will be alternate weekly collections of textiles one week and small electrical items the next. Used household batteries can be placed on the top of the green refuse bin in a clear plastic bag on collection day. There will also be a weekly collection of food waste; householders will be given a 5 litre kitchen caddy for indoor use and this can then be transferred into a new 23 litre food bin, kept outdoors. All food waste will be recycled into compost.

•Iwade School Consultation - A resident referred to the school expansion and the proposal to increase from two to three form entry; 420- 630 pupils. He felt that numbers should be fixed to cater for each area within the Borough and not be increased to the extent that schools such as Iwade are taking in pupils from other areas. He was concerned that this would bring more traffic into the village and had fears about safety outside the school.

-Cllr. Rook commented that the school's idea is that they will be able to offer every child in Iwade a place.

-Cllr. Plumb mentioned the proposed development on the A249, comprising of 900 homes, linked to which will be a new primary school and new secondary school.

-Reference was made the figure of 44 children from Iwade who obtained a place in the Reception Classes in 2013; these two classes take a total of 60 pupils.

-Another Parishioner mentioned non-residents coming into the village; she felt that KCC should look at all Schools within the Borough and fix admissions so as not to encourage movement of vehicles throughout Swale.

-A resident stated unless planning has changed KCC are not allowed to build schools before the need is there; that is the planning law for schools. Cllr. Plumb answered that at the public consultation meeting in the school KCC stated that the need is here.

-Another resident thought it was misleading and asked where the funding was coming from? He referred to 2013 and only 43 coming from Iwade; what justification is there for expansion? When there was the Academy meeting the Executive Headteacher, Katrina Ware, stated that it was not right to increase to a three form entry school. The resident felt strongly that there was no evidence that Iwade needs a bigger school.

-Cllr. Plumb mentioned that several parents could not get their children into school last year; but this was mid year.

-Cllr. White understood the need of the concept for extra capacity and asked about a medical room and

changing rooms. Cllr. Plumb responded that this is only at the consultation stage; these items will need to be looked at during the planning stage.

-The Chairman thought that more information is needed on this because of the traffic impact in the village. If it happens it should be for local people, not people having to drive miles into the village. There is also a need to be sure from a community point of view that there is justification for this.

-The Chairman stated that as a Parish Council we should only be looking at Iwade residents; whether this will have an impact on residents, e.g. traffic, because of people from outside driving into the village. KCC at one stage did say there was no need for an expansion; if this is also to cater for pupils from elsewhere in the Borough, why can't it go on a different site? County Cllr. Burgess can try to push for a different site. The Chairman thought the school does need expansion, but not on the same site; if they are building another school in Grovehurst Road it would make sense to build a satellite there. County Cllr. Burgess commented that the Government were giving money for the expansion at Iwade School and elsewhere.

-Residents were generally not against the concept of the school expanding to meet the needs of the children of Iwade; but had concerns regarding available spaces being filled by pupils from elsewhere in the Borough.

-There is a need for a Kitchen at the school, if there is an increase to three form entry Members questioned whether KCC would be able to comply with the statutory requirement to provide a mid-day meal. The system as it is at the moment does not always work and a kitchen would be beneficial to the children when the free school meals come in in 2014.

-Changing rooms are essential, at present children change in front of each other which could be embarrassing for some.

-With one abstention, it was agreed to respond to the consultation stating that Parish Council supports the expansion to three forms entry and the residents understand that there is a need for it, but this is going to cause major issues with traffic in the village and issues around this. The question of a satellite school was raised and we would ask if this has been investigated as this would address these issues and if appropriately located assist areas where there is a shortage of places, such as Kemsley and Bobbing, cutting down on the need for parents to travel some distance to school.

•Persimmon development in school Lane. There are loud noises coming from the site at 7 a.m.. Over the last couple of weeks loud banging can be heard on Sundays due to contractors being on site. Concerns whether wheel washing facilities are on site due to the vast amount of mud being carried onto School

Lane and down as far as Ferry Road. Clerk to e-mail Planning Enforcement again regarding these issues.

•Community Warden (Nick Mayatt)/PCSO –Nick's report has been circulated to Members and contents noted. He referred to the flooding on Thursday - Cllr. Rook has been looking at a flood plan but has not had any volunteers, particularly four-wheel drive owners, come forward to assist. Nick commented that the flood defences are not being maintained and damage is being caused to them by quad and motor bike riders.

•Management Companies – Gordon Henderson, M.P., has written to residents in Sandling Way and the area informing that they need to set up their own Management Company and then they can sack Peverell. Other householders within the village who are having problems with their Management Companies need to come forward.

•Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority's Safety Plan 2014 – The Chairman referred to the plan and commented that the only requirement is for the equipment to attend in a reasonable time. Sittingbourne is already a day manned station (not nights) and therefore cuts to the station, e.g. less staff, is of considerable concern, especially with all the extra building that is going on in this area. It needs a full time station in this area, which is particularly relevant to our village being a distance from the town and to Ridham where wood and hazardous waste is stored. It was agreed that Cllrs. Plumb and Mitchell will draft a letter and the Chairman will place an article on Iwade Does Facebook.

•The Barn –Meeting held this month with Swale Borough Council; they have come up with draft Heads of Terms. It is being proposed that the Parish Council takes it on as Sole Trustee for the Barn Charitable Trust and to seek guidance on this with KALC. A sub-committee will undertake the management of the barn and management of the car park needs to be agreed. It has been recommended by KALC that David Bucket produces a business plan. A report on the proposed leasing to the Parish Council will be going to Swale Borough Council's Cabinet in March, 2014.

-It was proposed by Cllr. Rook and seconded by Cllr. Plumb, all agreed that the Parish Council continues along the above path; takes advice from KALC; enlists the assistance of David Buckett to produce a business plan and seeks the professional services of Solicitors – Jarmans – who have been employed by us previously.

•Preparation for Bad Weather Conditions - The Chairman has a list of volunteers to assist with spreading salt; the salt has arrived and is located at the village hall.

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING Held on Wednesday 13th November, 2013

•School Lane Playing Field and Search for new Temporary Field –A response has now been received from Ward Homes regarding Dunlin Walk stating that 'they do not wish to constrain any of their land holdings at this time whilst all their options are being reviewed and discussed with Swale Council'.

•ROSPA – The Chairman stated that the tree cannot be cut down as it looks as though the Noble Chaffer Beetle could be present. The type of fungus present eats from the inside whilst the outside stays solid so it's unlikely to fall down. However, it was recommended that a fence be put around it. Clerk to ask the Village Handyman to erect a 6 x 6 ft radius Chestnut fence around the affected tree.

•Replacement Parish Lighting – Clerk advised that the new columns should be arriving at the contractors first week in December. A column is

faulty in Coleshall Cottages and needs a new lamp which will cost £500, as the new lighting is imminent it was agreed not to go ahead with this repair. Clerk will advise residents who contact her regarding the faulty column.

•London Southend Airport Consultation – Details noted by Members; Clerk to write asking that assurances are given that the lower height is not reduced even further.

•Village Hall - The Chairman confirmed that this is the Village Hall Committee's project; as Custodian Trustees the Parish Council cannot drive this, only support it. The new Hall Committee is still waiting for a site plan in order to be able to show where the new hall could be located on the proposed site adjacent to the Medical Centre; these details will then be submitted to Swale's Planners, the Green

Spaces Officer and Persimmon.

•Management Companies - Our M.P., Gordon Henderson, is looking into this at the moment and has written to every household in Sandling Way and Mallard Crescent, trying to ascertain why the Management Company is charging when they are not doing anything; he plans to take this forward to Parliament. He would like other people in the village who have Management Companies to write to him to let him know what they are being charged and what they are paying for. An article will be placed in the Observer.

•Fencing in Grovehurst Road damaged by contractors and the water pooling near the entrance gate in the same road. Clerk to contact the Kent County Council regarding these two matters.