

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024

Present:

Cllr. A. Dollimore – Chair	Cllr. P. Holowczycki	Cllr. D. Waters
Cllr. S. Tolhurst – Vice Chair	Cllr. P. Hyde	Samantha Gray, Clerk
Cllr. S. Fuszard	Cllr. S. Lancashire	1 Resident
Cllr. T. Guest	Cllr. R. Langham	

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllr. Stalley-Moores.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Waters, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 March 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Visitors:** A resident requested the Parish Council to consider leaving an area of vegetation at Fans Lane as a conservation area for the benefit of hedgehogs currently living in this area. The Clerk will look into who maintains this area. **Action: Clerk**

The resident also requested information regarding the Flood Action Group. Council members advised this was not formed because no volunteers came forward.

2. **County and Borough Councillors:** None attended.

3. **Community Warden/Police Constable:** None attended and no reports received.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Highways Improvement Plan (HIP):**

- a) **Date of meeting** – The HIP meeting planned for 20 March was cancelled, this has been rescheduled for Thursday 2 May. **Action: Clerk**

- b) **The Street** - Members agreed to add this area to the HIP form to discuss options to ease congestion with Kent County Council (KCC). **Action: Clerk**

- c) **Bus Stop, Ferry Road junction with School Lane** – To help ease traffic in this area members agreed to request a temporary closure of the bus stop during the A249 improvement works. The Clerk will add this to the HIP form. **Action: Clerk**

2. **Memorial Plaque Policy** – No further updates. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Jackson Civil Donation** – Cllr. Tolhurst advised members that organising the clearance of reedmace in the pond at Woodpecker Park is unlikely to happen by February 2025, due to the lack of resources and the timing constraints due to the protected species living in the pond. Council members will consider other projects Jackson Civil could donate towards. Bring back to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk/All council members**

4. **Bollard, School Lane** – Members reviewed the area at School Lane and agreed that bollards on this pathway would not stop a quad bike from riding on the pavement and grassed area. Members will ask the CCTV control room to monitor footage at certain times when incidents regularly occur. The Clerk

will put a post on social media asking for incidents with quad bikes to be reported to Kent Police by calling 101. **Action: Clerk**

5. School Coaches parking on yellow zig-zags on School Lane – Council members have become aware of Coaches parking outside of Iwade School on the yellow zig-zag lines. Members are concerned about the safety of children crossing the road when the coach is parked up because this creates a blind spot for cars trying to drive around the Coach. Members asked the Clerk to write to the school requesting that future school trips be organised to leave by 8 am or find alternative parking nearby. **Action: Clerk**

6. To consider moving the CCTV camera to the lamppost on the corner of Grovehurst/Ferry Road: Due to the prolonged delay in installing the new camera and as a gesture of goodwill, Swale Borough Council (SBC) are planning to upgrade the current CCTV to 5G cameras. Members are still considering whether to move the camera to the corner of Grovehurst Road and will make a decision when we receive an installation date from SBC.

6. Planning – applications are viewable on Swale: <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications>; KCC: <https://cloud2.atriumsoft.com/KCCePlanningOPS/searchPageLoad.do>

1. 18/505157/OUT: Land North Of Sanderling Way Iwade Kent ME9 8TJ. Outline application with all matters reserved apart from the means of access for residential development of up to 60 dwellings (with an illustrative layout to demonstrate adequacy of emergency and service access together with parking and indicative mix of house types, principles of landscaping ecological enhancement and surface water management) at land north of Sanderling Way, Iwade, Kent.

Members made the following comments:

Members stand by their comments made on this application on 16 February, particularly regarding the remodelling of the road. The new planned roundabout is too close to the junction with The Street.

Members note the report from KCC Ecological Advice Service and ask that Swale Borough Council provide an updated EcIA, and confirm to us that the proposals fully adhere to the agreed approach regarding The Swale Special Protections Area (SPAs) and Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar Site).

Members also note the following comments in the report from Southern Water and agree their infrastructure needs updating: “that we are not able to accommodate any units to connect at manhole TQ89689003 without network reinforcement. Furthermore, I would advise that we are unable to reserve capacity in our network for developments that do not have planning consent. We aim to provide infrastructure within 24 months of planning being granted or provide an alternative method of drainage.”

2. 24/500858/FULL: Change of use of land to equestrian and the erection of stables building (Retrospective). Land Adjacent To Tiptree Bungalow School Lane Iwad Kent ME9 8QE. Members made no comments against this application.

7. Correspondence

1. Instagram – Cllr. Fuszard discussed setting up an Instagram account for posting less formal content and helping reach out to youths. Agreed that Cllr. Fuszard will set up a 30-day campaign to be posted on Social media. **Action: Cllr. Fuszard**

8. Finance

1. Donation Request from Citizens Advice Swale – Members agreed to a £100 S.137 donation, proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire. **Action: RFO**

2. Bank signatories – Cllrs. Tolhurst, Holowczycki and Dollimore all agreed to become bank signatories. **Action: RFO**

3. **SLCC 2024/25 Membership Renewal – Clerk** – Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Langham, members agreed to renew the Clerk’s SLCC membership at a cost of £183.00p. **Action: RFO**
4. **The Dynamic Councillor Training Event – Cllr. Holowczycki** – Proposed by Cllr. Tolhurst and seconded by Cllr. Fuszard, members agreed to the cost of £60.00p including VAT for the training event. **Action: RFO**
5. **Lighting Sheerstone** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Waters, members agreed to the cost of £1,008.25 plus VAT for scaffolding and repair of the lamp column outside number 50, and the cost of £96.25 plus VAT for the lamp column repair outside number 49. **Action: RFO**
6. **Donation Request from Kent and Sussex Air Ambulance** – Members agreed to a S.137 donation of £250, proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire. **Action: RFO**
7. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** - Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Langham, members noted the budget figures and the year-end accounts to 31 March 2024. Cllrs. Lancashire and Langham to log in and authorise the following payments: **Action: Cllrs. Lancashire/Langham**

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
10.04.24	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Telephone, home as office – March	£18.00p
10.04.24	BACs	S. Grey	Expenses – Telephone, home as office, salary underpayment adjustment - March	£54.83p
10.04.24	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax March	£134.78p
10.04.24	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee February	£325.50p
10.04.24	BACs	Newton Newton Flags & Banner	Official D Day Flag of Peace	£34.80p
10.04.24	BACs	Swale Food Bank	Winter Support Grant (received from KALC)	£1000.00p
10.04.24	BACs	Swale Borough Council	Printing Iwade Observer 2023/23	£1500.00p
10.04.24	BACs	Swale Borough Council	Grounds Maintenance 2023/24	£9911.83p
10.04.24	BAC s	Iwade Parent & Toddler Group	Donation 2024/25	£900.00p
10.04.24	BAC s	Streetlights	Repairs to Col o/s 49 Sheerstone	£115.50p
10.04.24	BAC s	Streetlights	Reduce Column and repair column o/s 48b Sheerstone	£1209.90p
01.04.24	SO	Staff Salaries	March	£1463.71p
01.04.24	DD	NEST	Pension contributions March	£63.77p
01.04.24	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
25.04.24	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply December	Awaited
30.04.24	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	Awaited
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
10.04.24	Transfer	Savings Account	Into Current Account – Winter Support Grant (see above)	£1000.00p
10.04.24	Transfer	Savings Account	Into Current Account – monies needed to balance budget	£11,000.00p

9. **Projects – Updates on Current and New**

1. **D-Day 80th Anniversary Beacon Lighting – 6 June 2024** – Unfortunately the Paper Mill Band are unable to play during the Beacon Lighting due to the distance some members need to travel. The RFO has advised council members about a change in insurance regulations regarding lighting bonfires and need to consider how this will affect the planned Beacon Lighting. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk/RFO**
2. **Christmas Event 2024 – Traffic Management** – The Clerk advised KCC will supply a diversion plan to show the signs required, and she will forward this onto Jackson Civil. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Parish Council ‘Tracker’ update** – The tracker has been circulated to all members who have read and noted the updates. Cllr. Tolhurst discussed the village repairs with members and updated the tracker document.
4. **Village Repairs:**
- a) **Pond Management – Clear Reedmace** – Discussed during item 5.3.

b) **Lamp column painting** – Still no update from KCC. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

c) **Any other updates** – nothing to report.

5. **Village Clean-Up Event** – Members agreed a budget of £100 to purchase food and drinks for the Village Clean-Up Event. Cllr. Fuszard will speak to McDonalds about a donation. Cllr. Dollimore confirmed the Village Hall is booked for Sunday 26 May. **Action: Cllr. Dollimore/Cllr. Fuszard**

10. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **Village Hall Committee** – Cllr. Langham reported there has been a reasonable amount of hirers, an increase in hall fees needs to be discussed, and there will be a change to bookings from September - only whole-hour slots can be booked.

2. **KALC Area Representative** – no update.

11. **Any Other Matters Arising** – none.

12. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 8 May 2024, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall.

13. **Closed Session**

1. **Staff Salary Reviews** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to increase the RFO's salary to Scale Point 24 for 20 hours to be worked per month. Agreed to increase the Clerk's salary to SCP 21 for 18 hours to be worked per week. **Action: RFO**

The meeting closed at 08.44 p.m.