

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13 December 2023

Present: Cllr. A. Dollimore – Chair Cllr. R. Langham
Cllr. S. Tolhurst Cllr. R. Stalley-Moores
Cllr. B. Whiting Samantha Gray, Clerk
Cllr. S. Lancashire Lynda Ives, RFO
Cllr. S. Fuszard

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllrs. Hyde, Waters and Guest.

2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** – None.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Fuszard, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 November 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. **Visitors/Public Time**

1. **Visitors:** None attended.
2. **County and Borough Councillors:** None attended.
3. **Community Warden/Police Constable:** None attended.

5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

1. **ASB & Crime relating to the PROW between Springvale and Sheerstone** – No update received. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Memorial Plaques – email 29.11** – The Clerk has written a policy and contacted Swale Borough Council for permission to install memorial plaques in the Nature Trail in Woodpecker Park. Currently awaiting response. Keep on the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Signposts re Fly Tipping for Sheppey Way – email 22.11** – Landowner G.H.Deane have requested a license to be granted for a period of up to 3 years and an ability for the Landowner to terminate the arrangement on notice at anytime thereafter. Council members agreed. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Southern Water – Ferry Road Leakage Investigation** – The CCTV survey has been rescheduled for 14 December. If the results show there are no leaks the Parish Council will meet with Southern Water to discuss reinstatement of the area. Council members advised a leak in School Lane is still present - The Clerk will contact Southern Water. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Highway Improvement Plan** – A meeting is booked with KCC highways for 19 December. The Clerk, Cllr. Tolhurst and Cllr. Langham will attend. **Action: Clerk/Cllrs. Tolhurst and Langham**
6. **Update: contacting local businesses regarding litter in the Village Centre** – No update received – Keep on the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**

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

1. 22/504543/FULL. Land At School Lane Iwade Kent ME9 8QE. Extension of existing gypsy/travellers site and siting of 4no. additional mobile homes.

The Parish Council objected to the original application in November 2022 and members stand by their original comments, particularly regarding concerns that again more agricultural land will be lost:

There have been a number of granted applications over several years relating to School Lane and the Parish Council feels that Iwade has more than contributed to Swales need for sites, based on this and other areas within the Parish.

Relating to this site, back in June 2014 the Parish Council advised the following: The adjoining site, Basser Hill Farm, started out the same as this application (see SW/04/1324, SW/05/0164, SW/07/0217, SW/08/0877, SW/08/0976 and SW/11/1552) and has ended up now with a bungalow and farm shop on the site, on an area which was once open agricultural farm land; my Councillors are concerned that the same will happen here.

Concerns that again more agricultural land will be lost.

2. 23/505303/HYBRID: PROPOSAL: Section 73 - Application for variation of conditions 7(country park), 13 (village hall), 26 (surface water drainage scheme), 46 (OLEMP), 47 (habitat creation plan), and 49 (LEMMP for country park) pursuant to 19/503974/HYBRID for - Hybrid application comprising of – Outline application (all matter reserved except for access) for up to 466 dwellings and a community hall. Full planning application for access from Grovehurst Road and The Street and for a country park. ADDRESS: Land East Of Iwade Iwade Kent ME9 8ST.
The Parish Council would like assurance the proposed changes will not prolong the disruption to the village.

7. Correspondence

1. **KALC Community Awards Scheme 2024** – Members discussed the scheme and were advised the deadline to submit nominations is 2 February. Members will consider nominations. Keep on the Agenda. **Action: Clerk**
3. **Parish Councillor Resignation** – Members noted Scott Waters has resigned from his position of Parish Councillor. All members would like to thank Scott for his work and contributions to the Parish Council. The Clerk will advertise the vacancy. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Elect Vice Chair** – Due to the resignation of Scott Waters the Vice Chair position is vacant. Steve Tolhurst was elected and will sign his Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.
5. **Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024-2034: Consultation information** – Council members noted the consultation. Members discussed that they have tried to form a flood action group but unfortunately no residents came forward.
5. **Parish Litter Picking Scheme** – Swale Borough Council confirmed they will supply waste sacks and collect the waste. Members discussed ordering items required for the scheme, advertising, and the logistics of the scheme. **Action: Clerk/Stalley-Moores/Fuszard**
6. **Civil Jackson – A249 Grovehurst Road Construction** – The Parish Council have been advised that in the New Year Civil Jackson will be hosting monthly drop in sessions for stakeholders/residents to attend and ask questions, have an overview of programme drawing/schedules, and discuss the scheme.

Civil Jackson also contacted the Parish Council to find out if they can support activities that will impact residents affected by the works or anything they can support the Parish Council with in providing for the residents. The Clerk will collate a list from members suggestions. **Action: Clerk**

8. Finance

1. **Quote to repair picnic bench in Woodpecker Park** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed the cost of £325.00p to repair the picnic bench. The repair has already been carried out due to health and safety concerns.
2. **Quote to carry out ROSPA inspection repairs** – Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Langham, members agreed the cost of £1,745.00p to carry out repairs in the Village Hall garden. The cost will be split between the Parish Council and The Village Hall trustees. **Action: RFO**
3. **Dynamic Councillor Learning Event – Cllr. Guest** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed the cost of £60.00p incl. VAT for the learning event. **Action: RFO**
4. **To purchase fifth CCTV camera** – Proposed by Cllr. Stalley-Moores and seconded by Cllr. Whiting, members agreed to purchase a fifth CCTV camera for the village. The cost is £2,572.00p, of which £1,673.71 will be funded by grants from County Councillor Mike Baldock and Borough Councillor Roger Clark. £898.29p will be funded by the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr. Tolhurst/ RFO**
5. **Communicating with your Community Learning Event x 2 – Cllr. Tolhurst** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Fuszard, members agreed the cost of £88.00p incl. VAT for the learning events.
6. **Faulty streetlight in Sheerstone - quote to lower lamp column and repair fault** – Quotation not agreed. Cllr. Dollimore asked the RFO to ask for more information regarding the logistics of the repair and equipment required. Keep on the agenda. **Action: RFO/Clerk**
7. **Quotation for 2 x St George flag** – Proposed by Cllr. Langham and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to purchase the flags at a cost of £152.64 incl. VAT. **Action: RFO**
8. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** - Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Tolhurst, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 30 November. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Langham and Lancashire to log in and authorize payments.

Action: Cllrs. Langham and Lancashire

EXPENDITURE				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Payable to	Reason	Amount
13.12.23	BACs	L. Ives	Expenses – Telephone, home as office, Ink– November	£64.49p
13.12.23	BACs	S. Grey	Expenses – Telephone, home as office - November	£44.00p
13.12.23	BACs	H.M.R.C.	Tax November	£416.46p
13.12.23	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee – October	£317.75p
13.12.23	BACs	K.S.M.	Repairs to picnic table, Woodpecker Park	£325.00p
13.12.23	BACs	Viking	Printer Paper	£22.63p
13.12.23	BACs	KALC	Communicating with your Community Pt.1 – Cllr. Tolhurst	£44.40p
13.12.23	BACs	KALC	Communicating with your Community Pt.2 – Cllr. Tolhurst	£44.40p
13.12.23	BACs	London Hearts	Defibrillator and heated external locking cabinet	£1211.00p
13.12.23	BACs	KSM	Works to bollards o/s 44 Ferry Road	£65.00p
13.12.23	BACs	Steve Wakeling	Handyman Fee – November	£201.50p
01.12.23	SO	Staff Salaries	November – includes backdated pay increase	£1921.54p
20.11.23	DD	NEST	Pension contributions November	£56.15p
01.12.23	DD	HugoFox	Website monthly fee	£35.99p
27.11.23	DD	Npower	Electricity Supply November	£174.74p
29.12.23	DD	Countrystyle	Supply of Waste Wheelie Bin	£40.63p
INCOME				
Pay Date	Pay Method	Received from	Reason	Amount
24.11.23	BACs	Swale Borough Council	Defibrillator Grants – Cllrs. Chapman, Baldock and Clark	£1200.00p

9. Projects – Updates on Current and New

1. **Christmas Event 2023 – 3 December:** Parish Council members are very upset that the Switch Event could not go ahead this year. They had to make the difficult decision to cancel the event and allow enough time to notify residents. It is the first time the event has been cancelled and this decision was not made lightly but due to the weather forecast it was not safe to run electricity for the PA system and the lights for the dance performance. It was also unsafe for council members to switch on the Christmas lights, which involves the cover of the lamp columns being removed and members manually switching on lights in each lamp column. Safety is of paramount importance.
2. **D-Day 80th Anniversary Beacon Lighting – 6 June 2024** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Fuszard, members agreed to the cost of £100.00p to book a Buglar for the event. The Clerk will confirm the time the Beacon Lighting should take place. Members also asked the Clerk to invite the Mayor to the event. **Action: Cllr. Whiting/ RFO/Clerk**
3. **Parish Council ‘Tracker’ update** – Cllr. Tolhurst previously circulated the document to members and explained that updates have been covered by the agenda items. Council members agreed to remove the parking in Sheerstone item from the tracker.
4. **Village Repairs:**
 - a) **Lamp column painting** – No update received. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**
 - b) **To agree cost for planting up the Planters** – Members agreed to advertise for volunteers in the New Year to plant and maintain planters, and also ask for existing volunteers to come forward. **Action: Cllr. Fuszard/ Clerk**
 - c) **Any other updates** – Cllr. Tolhurst advised members Swale Borough Council have confirmed that lamp columns which have a CCTV camera installed will also have a CCTV sign installed.

10. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **Village Hall Committee** – Bookings are going well. Costs are increasing due to rising energy costs therefore the Village Hall will review hiring charges.
2. **KALC Area Representative** – Cllr. Langham attended the meeting held 12 December and reported there was a presentation by the inspector; holiday parks have seen an improvement, large decline in knife crime, good reduction in violent crime, beat officers now in Swale is working well. Presentation by CPRE; campaigning for rooftop renewals. Update from planning team: can email planning team anytime but can only accept phone calls on Wednesday morning. There was also a presentation from the Mayor who gave an updated on events attended.
3. **Swale Western Area Committee** – Cllr. Tolhurst attended the meeting held on 30 November and reported Swale Borough Council (SBC) could issue a section 114 notice. SBC are looking at ways to cut costs and are looking at grass cutting. They may offer land to Parish Councils to maintain. Rebecca O’Neil from Brogdale Youth Provision explained KCC are cutting their funding. He advised that three members of staff for 3 hours over 39 weeks of the year costs £7,000.00p. A question has been raised over whether Parish Councils could help the Youth Provision.
4. **Swale West Parishes Meeting** – Cllr. Tolhurst attended the meeting held 21 November at Iwade Village Hall. Members discussed the issue with Property Management Company’s not addressing problems. Residents associations were also discussed and Cllr. Baldock will provide details of how they can be formed.

11. **Any Other Matters Arising** – None raised.

12. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 10 January 2023, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.35p.m.