

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 8 November 2023

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr. A. Dollimore – Chair	Cllr. T. Guest
	Cllr. S. Tolhurst	County Cllr. M. Baldock
	Cllr. P. Hyde	Borough Cllr. R. Clark
	Cllr. S. Lancashire	Samantha Gray, Clerk
	Cllr. S. Fuszard	2 Residents

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllrs. D. Waters, Stalley-Moores, Langham, Whiting, S. Waters and PC Jez Chittim.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations – None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Tolhurst, the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 October 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. Visitors: A resident informed the council that they attended the Grovehurst A249 roadworks meeting and questioned why this was not held in Iwade. The Chair advised that the Iwade Village hall was offered for the meeting to be held at 7pm, however the offer was not taken up. The resident told the council they felt the meeting was poorly attended, and poorly timed.

They also asked for an update on the water leak in Ferry road. The Chair advised that Southern Water are planning to do a CCTV survey of the water main, this has been delayed due to the storm and will be carried out on 16 November. Southern Water have also found redundant pipework which caused confusion during their investigation. The Parish council receive regular updates and we have a direct contact with Southern Water. The Chair also advised that during a meeting with Southern Water they discussed what can be done in the form of compensation for the village, further discussions will be had about this.

2. County and Borough Councillors:

Borough Councillor Roger Clark advised he is working on the following projects:

- Ferry Road water leak.
- Resolve Peach Blossom Drive adoption with KCC.
- Anti-social behaviour.

County Councillor Mike Baldock advised the following:

- Concerned that Southern Water do not know where some of their pipes are laid – leading to missed water leaks such as the A249 sink hole.
- Recently held a Swale West Parishes meeting. Youth provision was discussed with Rebecca from Brogdale, Cllr. Baldock will pay for next summer with his grant fund and proposes Parish Councils to contribute for the year after.
- KCC are looking to make more cuts, this could affect community wardens and grass cutting.
- Cllr. Baldock advised he would like Parish councils to have more control in case the area becomes Unitary.
- Cllr. Baldock agreed to grant the Parish Council £1,500.00p towards the cost of a new CCTV camera and installation for Ridham Dock. **Action: RFO**
- Cllr. Clark agreed to grant the Parish Council £400.00p towards the cost of salt bins. **Action: RFO**

Cllr. Dollimore explained the Parish Council have been notified by Swale Borough Council that our objections to the Dunlin Walk planning application will not be taken to the planning committee. Borough Cllrs. Clark and Chapman advised the council they have called this into the planning committee. Cllr. Baldock will review the comments and call this in if the objections are relevant planning matters.

3. Community Warden/Police Constable:

No report received from the Community Warden. Police Constable Jez Chittim provided the following report:

Crimes of note:

- 29/10/23 - Criminal damage- A resident has had ongoing issues with youths throwing rocks at their property and this has been ongoing for months. Patrols have attended and there is an investigation for the criminal damage which is being explored further. There have been visible patrols in the area, and this has seen a reduction of youth related calls over the month.
- 23/10/23 - Fight- A report of a large disturbance involving multiple people had been reported. Officers attended and arrested two males for affray and drunk and disorderly due to their behaviour and they were both taken to custody. There is no reason for residents to be concerned as this was an isolated incident that involved heightened emotions at a funeral.
- 15/10/23 tp 21/10/23 - Burglary- A report of a burglary on Mansfield Drive in the garage. Some items had been stolen including a remote-controlled car and bicycle. Patrols attended and have taken details for a crime report where ongoing enquiries are being made. It appears to be an isolated incident but where possible it is worth reminding residents to be vigilant and to keep doors, windows and outbuildings locked and secure, particularly when not at home.
- 27/10/23 - Nuisance vehicle - A couple of reports have been made regarding nuisance vehicles including car meets, drifting, racing, and speeding report of a car meet and drifting etc on Sheppey way. Patrols have attended and engaged with the drivers. Most have been engaging and taking note of comments made and dispersed. 30 vehicles dispersed under Section 34 Anti-Social behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Moving CCTV Camera to Ridham Dock** – As discussed in item 4.2, Cllr. Baldock agreed a grant towards the cost of a new camera and installation. **Action: Cllr. Tolhurst/RFO**
2. **Defibrillator – to discuss fitment** – Cllr. Dollimore advised he will obtain a quote for an electrician to fit the defibrillator. **Action: Cllr. Dollimore**
3. **Memorial Plaques – email 20.10.23** – Council members agreed for the Clerk to write a policy to state memorial plaque only, anything else left would be removed. Clerk to ask the Swale Borough Council green spaces manager for terms and conditions. **Action: Clerk**
4. **Signposts re Fly Tipping for Sheppey Way** – The Clerk advised she has sought permission from the owners of the fields on Sheppey Way to install sign posts. Kent County Council will donate the Parish Council 8 signs. **Action: Clerk/Cllrs**
5. **Southern Water – Ferry Road Leakage Investigation** – See above item 4.1. Members agreed the Clerk should contact Southern Water for results of the CCTV survey on Friday 17 November, if the result is inconclusive consider contacting the National Press. Clerk to also request an update on the leak in The Street.
6. **Highway Improvement Plan (HIP)** – Kent Highways have advised the Parish Council they would like a meeting before consultation letters are sent to residents regarding a residents parking scheme. Members

asked the Clerk to invite Highways to a Parish Council meeting and to add the 20mph zone request to the HIP form. **Action: Clerk**

7. ASB & Crime relating to the PROW between Springvale and Sheerstone – PC Jez Chittim has requested a CCTV camera for this area. Swale Borough Council are aware of the request and are waiting for a camera to become available. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

8. Update: contacting local businesses regarding litter in the Village Centre – Members noted the Village Centre is looking better, but there is still an issue with overflowing bins. Cllr. Fuszard will invite the shop owners to a meeting to discuss emptying the bins and providing them with PPE and rubbish bags. **Action: Cllr. Fuszard**

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

1. 23/504056/FULL: Erection of two storey side extension and front porch with pitched roof 26 Springvale Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8RX. No objections.

2. 23/500878/REM: Land South Of Dunlin Walk Iwade Kent ME9 8TG. Approval of Reserved Matters for erection of 20 no. residential dwellings (Appearance, Landscape, Layout and Scale being sought). The Parish Council stand by their previous objections. Borough Councillors Roger Clark and Lloyd Chapman have advised they would like this application called into the planning committee.

7. Correspondence

1. Remembrance Sunday Ex-Military member to lay the Wreath – The Clerk has handed over the wreath to an ex-member of the WRNS to lay on remembrance Sunday. Cllr. Hyde discussed moving some of the lamp post poppies to trees leading up to the Cairn. Cllr. Dollimore will install a Tommy Remembrance statue by the flagpole on Telly Tubby Hill. **Action: Cllrs Hyde/Dollimore**

2. Hedgehog Highway Project – email 01.11.23 – Council members did not agree to purchase the kit and suggested advertising the project in the Observer. **Action: Clerk**

3. CCTV Control Centre Visit – email 27.10.23 – Cllrs. Tolhurst and Fuszard reported they were impressed with the control centre visit. Cllr Tolhurst also reported the following:

- The camera patrol has not captured an incident with a bench at Woodpecker park and has spoken with the control room.
- The 5G mast due to be installed will improve the camera signal.
- The Control Room agreed to send to the Clerk footage of the automatic patrolling of each camera, in order for the members to check that the patrols give appropriate coverage.
- Cllr. Tolhurst will check with the Control Centre on the signage to be provided to state that the area is under CCTV surveillance. **Action: Cllr. Tolhurst**

4. Street Light Faults in Peach Blossom Drive – The streetlights have not been adopted by KCC, Persimmon are responsible for the maintenance and KCC have requested they repair the faults. Cllr. Clark discussed the problems in Peach Blossom and will look into holding a meeting with residents, and possibly forming a residents association.

5. KALC Training Courses – The next Dynamic Councillor course will be held online, on Tuesday 5 December. Cllr. Fuszard and Cllr. Guest will attend. **Action: Clerk/RFO**

8. Finance

1. Quote to re-install bollards 44 Ferry Road – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to the quotation of £540.00p. **Action: RFO**

2. **Completion of Audit 2022-23** – Members noted the External Auditor reported the AGAR submitted is in accordance with proper practices and there are no causes for concern regarding the Audit for 2022/23. The notice of completion of Audit and associated papers were posted on the Council’s website and noticeboards on 25 September.
3. **Revised quote for installation of a telescopic bollard in Sheerstone** – Members discussed the quotation of £755.00p, and did not agree to replace the bollard. Council members agreed to remove the existing concrete bollard to repair the lamp column in Sheerstone, and look to include the cost to replace the bollard in the budget for next year. **Action: RFO/Clerk**
4. **Unity Bank – internet banking access for the Clerk** – Cllrs. Lancashire and Hyde signed the account management form. **Action: Clerk**
5. **To purchase a Tommy Remembrance Statue** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to purchase a Tommy Remembrance Statue at a cost of £200.00p.
6. **Finance Committee** – Members agreed for Cllr. Dollimore to join the Finance Committee.
7. **Grant request from ‘We are Beams’** – Council members agreed to look at this grant request when setting the budget for next year. **Action: RFO**
8. **Salt bins for Village Hall Car Park** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to the cost of £576.29 to purchase salt bins. Cllr. Baldock agreed to grant £350.00p towards the cost. Cllr. Clark agreed to grant £400.00p, to be split between the cost of salt bins and the CCTV camera discussed in item 4.2. **Action: RFO**
9. **South-East 4x4 Donation** – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Tolhurst, members agreed to a S.137 donation of £250.00p. **Action: RFO**
10. **Grant Request from Kent Community Rail Partnership** – Members agreed to look at this grant request when setting the budget for next year. **Action: RFO**
11. **Dynamic Councillor Learning Event – Cllr Fuszard** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire, members agreed to the cost of £60.00p including VAT for the learning event. **Action: RFO**
12. **Local Government Revised Pay Rates 2023/24** – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Dollimore, members agreed to the revised pay rates for the Clerk on SCP 20 and the RFO on SCP 23. The increase is £1 per hour for 2023/24, to be backdated to April 2023. **Action: RFO**
13. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** – Proposed by Cllr. Lancashire and seconded by Cllr. Guest, members noted the budget figures and the accounts to 31 October. The following payments were agreed, Cllrs. Lancashire and Hyde to log in and authorize payments. **Action: Cllrs. Lancashire/Hyde**

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

1. **Iwade Clean Up Event 22 October:**

- The event was a success, over 30 volunteers helped out with the clean up.
- Council members discussed that two bins are missing, one outside of the Church and one by the bus stop in The Street. This has been reported to Swale Borough Council.
- Council members asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks to SupaSweep for loaning a road sweeper for the event free of charge. **Action: Clerk**

2. **Christmas Event 2023 – 3 December:**

- KCC have advised a signed diversion route needs to be in place for future events. This year can go ahead with the usual local notices.

- The Clerk to advertise the upcoming event. **Action: Clerk**
- Road closure signs need to be arranged. Cllr. Dollimore volunteered to collect them from Swale House. **Action: Cllr. Dollimore**
- Proposed by Cllr. Fuszard and seconded by Cllr. Dollimore, members agreed a budget of £150.00p to purchase food for the event.

3. **D-Day 80th Anniversary Beacon Lighting – 6 June 2024** – Cllr. Fuszard will contact mobile Fish and Chip vans owners. **Action: Cllr. Fuszard**

4. **Parish Council ‘Tracker’ update** – Cllr. Tolhurst discussed the following:

- Flood action group – there has been no interest from residents. Members agreed to keep this item open on the tracker.
- Pond management – the outlets have been cleared. The reedbed needs to be cleared next and a new duck house is needed. Clerk to add this to the January agenda. **Action: Clerk**

5. **Village Repairs:**

a) **Lamp column painting** – No update from KCC. Inspections on lamp posts are due this month. Keep on the agenda. **Action: Clerk**

b) **To agree cost for planting up the Planters** –

- The RFO has contacted a nursery for advice on plants and costs.
- Two planters are rotting, a quotation to replace them has been supplied and members agreed to consider this in the budget for next year. **Action: RFO**
- Cllr. Fuszard has been working on a map of the planters to be added to the Parish Council website with an application form to volunteer to maintain a planter. Members agreed a paper copy of the application form should be made available and terms and conditions need to be written up.

c) **Any other updates** – none.

10. **Reports from Representatives**

1. **Hall** – Cllr. Dollimore reported regular bookings for hire have been received, and he has met with a contractor to discuss the action points from the ROSPA report.
2. **KALC** – Committee member not present.
3. **Swale Western Area Committee** – The next meeting will be held on 30 November
4. **Swale West Parishes** – The next meeting will be held 21 November at Iwade Village Hall.

11. **Any Other Matters Arising**

Cllr. Lancashire thanked Cllr. Dollimore for lowering the flag to half mast in respect of his neighbours funeral.

Cllr. Hyde asked the Clerk to contact our grounds maintenance contractor to report damage to the fence posts around Woodpecker Park caused by strimming. He suggests metal collars should be installed to prevent damage. **Action: Clerk**

Council members asked the Clerk to follow up the report of the grey fence installed in Monins Road.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Fuszard gave a brief report of the Empowering Young Voices training course he attended.

The Clerk reminded council members that training on the Planning and Transportation policy will be held 14 November, 7pm at Iwade Village Hall. Cllr. Guest will confirm attendance. **Action: Cllr. Guest**

12. **Next Meeting(s)**

Wednesday 13 December 2023, 7.30 p.m., in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 09.40p.m.