

IWADE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 11 September 2019

Present: Cllr. S. Cheeseman – Chair
Cllr. A. Dollimore – Vice-Chair
Cllr. R. Langham
Cllr. T. Trower
Cllr. B. Whiting

Cllr. P. Hyde
Cllr. S. Lancashire
Cllr. M. Boniface
Lynda Fisher, Clerk
5 Parishioners

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting; apologies received from Parish Cllr. Clark, County Cllr. Whiting, Borough Cllr. Woodford and Lee Fennell, PCSO.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllr. Cheeseman declared an interest in Item 6.3

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Langham and seconded by Cllr. Trower, the Minutes of the Parish meeting held on the 10 July 2019 were agreed and signed as a true transcript.

4. Visitors/Public Time

1. **Visitors** – A resident referred to the proposal for bollards in The Street, he has been making note of the offenders and the main area is outside The Woolpack.
2. **County and Borough Councillors** – County Cllr. Whiting written report received – he updated on talks with SGN and the gas main replacement along the A2, referred to working with the Police and Swale Borough Council in relation to fly-tipping and advised of a £60m highways repair programme for the next two years.
3. **Community Warden/PCSO** – Community Warden has retired, awaiting a new Warden.

The PCSO advised of damage to the pathway in the new cemetery. Had various reports of speeding, is going to try and get the local patrol team involved. Dealt with nuisance youths around the shopping area and youths on the roof of the School. Fuel stolen, vehicle stolen, and caravan stolen from Featherbed Lane. Windows were smashed at The Woolpack during the night. Received a complaint about bad parking at School time. Lee advised he normally works the hours of 8-6 or 1-11.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

1. **Speeding and Speed Watch** – Cllr. Whiting now has the camera and is liaising with Cllr. Langham.
Action: Cllr. Whiting/Cllr. Langham
2. **Drains, School Lane – County Cllr. M. Whiting/KCC Officer** – Bring back to next meeting.
Action: Clerk
3. **Parish Councillor Vacancies** – Councillors welcomed Michelle Boniface to the Parish Council. The Clerk reported that Richard Mills had resigned. She will advertise the vacancies. ***Action: Clerk***
4. **HIP Committee First Meeting** – Councillors to arrange a date. ***Action: Committee Councillors***

6. Planning

1. **19/503637/FULL:** Erection of single storey rear extension, pitched roof with full hips: 2 Elm Tree Avenue Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8UD – no comments.
2. **19/503916/FULL:** Change of use of land from agricultural to residential garden and erection of a car port with annexe above: Tiptree Bungalow School Lane Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8QE – no comments.
3. **19/503974/HYBRID:** 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: Land East of Iwade Iwade Kent ME9 8ST – agreed to respond as follows:

Whilst the Parish Council realises that this is in Swale Borough Council's Local Plan, which has been approved by the Planning Inspector and thus is set in Stone and cannot be objected to, Councillors have raised the following concerns:

Overcapacity of the Grovehurst Interchange, the A249, Key Street Roundabout and the M2 Junction 5: we understand Highways England has placed a block on any further development until the situation is remedied.

The Grovehurst Interchange is dangerous and desperately needs remodelling sooner rather than later.

At present there are long queues on the Grovehurst Road, vehicles trying to gain access to the A249/Sittingbourne/Isle of Sheppey, the extra housing from Pond Farm and this development will place additional pressure on this junction.

There is a dire need for infrastructure to be in place prior to any housing development, rather than the norm where this is done afterwards.

Concerns over the lack of GPs and the difficulty in recruiting them for this area.

We would ask that Broadband services are built into this development, not added after.

4. **19/502769/FULL:** Culnells Farm School Lane Iwade Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8QJ: Construction of an irrigation reservoir, with associated operational development and landscape enhancements – agreed to respond:

Members were disappointed to see the responses from KCC and the Environment Agency.

In particular the Environment Agency only mentioned pollution; there was no reference to flooding concerns and the impact the extra water will have on the Iwade Stream.

Strangely KCC make no reference to their earlier comment on this application:

“As this proposal will be increasing the volume of surface water to the existing ordinary watercourse, we need to be sure that it is in a condition to take this additional volume. A CCTV survey could be undertaken at detailed design stage.

Please note: Any feature capable of conveying water can be considered to fall under the definition of an ‘ordinary watercourse’ and we would urge the applicant to contact us prior to undertaking any works that may affect any watercourse/ditch/stream or any other feature which has a drainage or water conveyance function. Any works that have the potential to affect the watercourse or ditch’s ability to convey water will require our formal flood defence consent (including culvert removal, access culverts and outfall structures).”

Does this mean that KCC no longer see the need for the applicant to gain their formal flood defence consent? This is very worrying in light of the flooding last year in the village, when the watercourse was unable to cope with the amount of water that entered it. Residents did question whether water

allowed to drain into the stream from the Weinerberger works contributed to this –KCC Officers are aware of this concern.

7. Correspondence

1. **Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy Consultation** – Agreed to respond that like most Parish Councils, Iwade has very real concerns regarding emissions and the pollution/health risks associated with them. The amount of housing in the Swale area is forever increasing and this in turn leads to greater use of our roads, roads which are already at full capacity. Much needs to be done to encourage car sharing and alternative motor fuel such as electric vehicles; this needs to also spread into the commercial sector, e.g. HGVs, etc. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Annual Policing Survey** – Agreed Members to respond individually. **Action: All Councillors**
3. **Swale Landscape Sensitivity Assessment** – Cllr. Langham delegated to respond. **Action: Cllr. Langham**
4. **Draft Kent and Medway Housing Strategy 2019-23** – Agreed to respond that the over capacity of the existing infrastructure should be addressed, and any new infrastructure needs to be in place before any new housing. **Action: Clerk**
5. **KCC Draft Drainage and Planning Policy Statement** – Same response as 7.4. **Action: Clerk**

8. Finance

1. **Tree Lights PAT Testing** – Bring back to next meeting. **Action Cllr. Dollimore/Clerk**
2. **Councillors’ Conference 2019 – Cllr. R. Clark** – Clerk advised that this has been cancelled.
3. **Replacement Shed – Village Hall** – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Langham, agreed £299 for a replacement shed for the village hall.
4. **Model Financial Regulations 2019** – Clerk to modify to Iwade’s specifications and then circulate in readiness for bringing back to the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**
5. **Microsoft 365** - Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Whiting, agreed the installation of Microsoft 365 software, on an annual contract but paying half of the monthly fee, which equates to £4.70p. The other half to be paid by Bobbing Parish Council.
6. **Planters** – Proposed by Cllr. Trower and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire; agreed the extra £160 for topsoil for the original planter and £535 for a second planter and topsoil. **Action: Clerk**
7. **IPPG request for Donation** – Proposed by Cllr. Hyde and seconded by Cllr. Langham, agreed a Section 137 donation of £100. **Action: Clerk**
8. **Accounts and Cheques raised at this meeting** – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Lancashire agreed the following cheques and accounts to the 31 August 2019:

Date	Chq.	Details		Amount
11.09.19	2131	Clerk’s Expenses	Tele, Office Use – July and August	£37.32p
11.09.19	2132	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax due for August	£302.77p
11.09.19	2133	Steve Wakeling	Handyman duties July August	£574.00p
11.09.19	2134	B&K Masters	Planter and top soil	£535.00p
11.09.19	2135	Playsafety Limited	ROSPA Inspection Village Hall Garden 2019	£82.20p
11.09.19	2136	Citizens Advice Swale	S.137 Donation	£50.00p
11.09.19	2137	PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit 2018/19	£360.00p
11.09.19	2138	Invicta IT Solutions Ltd	12x365 Mailboxes, call out, set up labour	£879.72p
Eight cheques in total				

Other outgoings:

Staff Wages - August	£1219.54p	Paid by Standing Order
Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting – July	£74.78p	Paid by Direct Debit
Eon: Energy Supply, Street Lighting – August	£74.78p	Paid by Direct Debit
Countrystyle: Hire of 110 Ltr. Envirobin – July	£34.27p	Paid by Direct Debit
Countrystyle: Hire of 110 Ltr. Envirobin – August	£34.27p	Paid by Direct Debit

9. Projects/Project Updates

1. Bollards, The Street – County Cllr. Whiting unable to install a camera to monitor parking and traffic issues in The Street. Agreed to place an article regarding parking in this area in The Iwade Observer and to monitor the situation. Further agreed to take off the Agenda but to bring back if the situation deteriorates. **Action: Clerk**
2. Festive Lights – Proposed by Cllr. Dollimore and seconded by Cllr. Trower, agreed the quotation for 20 festive lights and infrastructure of £12308.60p excluding VAT (reclaimable). **Action: Clerk**
3. Community Flood Plan – The stream walk through did occur but a couple of people did not turn up. Planning to get the Agencies to attend another meeting. **Action: Cllrs. Whiting/Trower**

10. Reports from Representatives

1. Hall – Things going well. Murder Mystery Weekend postponed, now taking place next year. Christmas Grotto Sunday 22 December. Starting work on the Lantern Parade, which will take place with the Lighting up Ceremony on the 1 December.
2. KALC – nothing to report

11. Any Other Matters Arising - None

12. Next Meeting(s)

Wednesday 9 October 2019, commencing at 7.30 pm in Iwade Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.