

INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Adrian Dawson

Clerk: Mr J Milward

Jusanna, the Street, Ingham

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Ingham Parish Council held on 28th November 2017 in St Bartholomew's Church, Ingham

Present: Clr A Dawson (Chair), Clr E Dawson, Clr L Tibbert, Clr J Beedie, Clr Kovacic-Graham, Clr P Scase, Clr Rebecca Hopfensperger, John Milward (Clerk), and 3 members of the public.

Public Question Time Representative from Town and Country Garden Services outlined services which the firm could provide together with the grass cutting. A total of 4 contractors have expressed an interest in submitting a quote for the grass cutting contract. A revised contract will be issued for all interested parties to submit a quote. No other issues raised.

County Councillors' Reports Clr Rebecca Hopfensperger reported on the following:

Update on school transport with regard to parents' choice of school and council's obligation to provide transport to nearest school. Consultation will be ongoing throughout the coming year with implementation of result in 2019.

Proposed budget for the coming year includes a 1.99% rise and also provision of a 3% adult social care precept as recommended by central government. It will be submitted to cabinet in January and full council in February.

Update on Highways reorganisation and the recommendation that all issues be raised through the agency on line. That way a report reference number is issued and should there be any delay in resolving the issue the matter can be referred to Rebecca who can then chase up through the appointed trouble shooter.

There is now a revised funding system and all funding for local issues have to funded through her Highways locality budget or through local council funds or a combination of both. Rebecca receives a budget of £6666 to cover 18 parishes which will preclude major funding from her alone.

Suggested that the council might like to consider that Rebecca carries out a safety review with regard to siting of the proposed pedestrian crossing. The safety review would include a report as to safety on the proposed site and would also do a proper traffic count in that area as well. It would cost in the region of £650 for the safety review and £300 for the speed check and would give an indication as to best way to move forward with proposals for work on that project.

With regard to funding of the proposed pedestrian crossing that would have to be considered separately once all preliminary work had been completed.

Parish Council Agenda

- 1. Apologies** Apologies were offered and accepted in respect of Clr Anslow
- 2. Declaration of Interest** The chairman gave members the opportunity to declare any interest in items on the agenda. None were declared.
- 3. Dispensations** Nil required

Chairman's signature

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th September 2017 Proposed by Clr Tibbert and seconded by Clr E Dawson that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Agreed unanimously.

5. Progress Reports – Clerk’s report

a. Council members had examined the bus shelter and agreed that no further action was required.

b. The brothers who installed the defibrillator had hoped to be in attendance but had had to offer their apologies. Agreed that the brothers should be approached and asked to move the defibrillator in to the telephone kiosk with costs to be covered by the council.

c. The non-operating lights along The Street had been reported but as yet no action taken on 3 of them. Possible that highways are considering LED replacement.

d. The grass cutting contract needs to be revised and issued to prospective contractors and quotes asked for to be introduced in the next financial year. Discussion followed on which areas to be covered on the contract and notice should also be taken by the fact that the playground will be have to be considered in the future. Clerk to write to Rebecca re parts of pedestrian ways overgrown and need trimming back.

e. The aerial in the church has been approved by the diocese and issue of faculty awaited.

f. Proposals for church heating also approved by Diocese.

6. Items for debate and decision

a. Playmeadow Chairman gave an update on the Playmeadow lease with reference to the proposed contract distributed to all. Dogs will not be allowed on the area and the chairman expressed the wish for the council to introduce its own bye law with authority to impose a £100 fine for persons ignoring the “no dog” notice. Clerk to check first with Borough Council to determine whether or not they already have such a law in force. Items still on the site will need to be removed. Borough Council will be asked for funding and also asked for design of the site. Clerk to confirm with insurers amount of public liability. Contract to be passed to Borough Council for perusal prior to signing by council. One point to be noted is that inspection reports by the Borough Council have referred to the need for the barbed wire around some of the perimeter to be removed.

b. Highways VAS now up and running. Readings of traffic along the A134 indicate that it is having the response that was hoped for.. Furthermore the information obtained will be an asset when discussing the pedestrian crossing need and location. General discussion on highways issues and funding followed. Various points were covered especially with regard to the safety review and traffic count since £350 of costs could be discounted because info required is available on the VAS. Whilst money would be available from the Borough Council from Section 106 funds relating to the new building development and later on from the Solar Farm project, funds would have to be found for the Playmeadow. Obviously funding can certainly be found for other projects but main concern at the moment is the Playmeadow.

7. Finance

a. Cheque payments were agreed for HMRC, Clerk’s wages and expenses, Purchase of bulbs, Sue Constable (Plants) and The Old Parsonage (Grass Cutting).

b. Consideration was given to the council’s budget and precept for the year 2018/19. It was agreed that the budget figures for 2018/19 should remain the same as for the current year and that the precept should again be set at £4000 with £250 of that figure being available from reserved funds.

Chairman’s signature

c. Clerk gave detail of problems encountered with Barclays bank. Since all monies can now be transferred in to one account action can be completed to transfer to NatWest.

8. Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting Nil

9. Correspondence for information Letter had been received from Secretary of Culford Village Hall who is attempting to recruit more members on to the village hall committee. Confirmed that Rosemary Boswell as Churchwarden is already an ex-officio member whilst one other Ingham resident is also a member. No further action

10. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

a. Clr Tibbert reported that the Lych Gate needed repair. Clerk to contact Steve Flack for a quote

b. Clr Tibbert asked if we could have an interim working party meeting between normal council meetings. Agreed.

c. Dates for 2018/19 agreed as follows: Normal Council meetings 23 Jan 2018, 27 Mar 2018, 22 May 2018, 24 Jul 2018, 25 Sep 2018 and 27 Nov 2018. First working party meeting 13 Feb 2018.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm. Next meeting 23 January 2018

Chairman's Signature