

INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Adrian Dawson
Clerk: Mrs. Michelle Thompson
16 Klondyke Cottages, Bury St Edmunds

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Ingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 23rd July 2019 in St Bartholomew's Church, Ingham

Present: Clr A Dawson (Chair), Clr. F.Stennett, Clr. L Tibbert, Clr P Scase,
Clr. K. Pyke, SCC Rebecca Hopfensperger, Borough Cllr. Susan Glossop
Michelle Thompson (Clerk) two parishioner

Democratic ½ Hour – Public Question Time:- The Owner of 9 Glebe Close addressed the Parish Council to obtain the views of the councillors on the development of their property. They are aware that the Parish Council are strongly against any planning, but as the owner outlined to the Council there is a new process within the Planning Department which allows the applicant to approach the Parish Council to gain information to determine whether there would be any chance of permission being granted. This can be done without submitting plans.

The Parish Council's concerns are that there are not enough details around the plans presented and if planning permission was granted at this stage the village would not know what it's getting. Access is a major problem, with the dwelling being situated at the end of a cul-d-sac and its effect on other residents parking spaces. The subject of poor drainage within the village was also outlined to the owner. The owner was reminded that due to the same application being submitted 4 years ago and refused, it was unlikely that planning would be granted this time around or in the near future. The Owner of the property was advised to go away and have specific plans drawn up and then come back and present them to the Parish Council. The only concern that the owner had was that they did not want the expense of having plans drawn up and then, not being passed or considered. The Council reiterated that until plans had been drawn up, they could not consider the request, as they needed to protect the interest of village.

Suffolk County Council Report - Rebecca Hofensperger- Cllr Hopfensperger informed the Parish Council on a new scheme to enable people who have no central heating and who are struggling financially to apply for a Warmer Homes Grant. Rebecca will send the link to the Clerk which then will be circulated.

Suffolk County Council have cut funding within transport and Rebecca went on to say there has been a Road Transport Study completed on effective routes and unfortunately 16 routes are at risk of being cut unless SCC can see that these routes are valuable to people's livelihoods. This will not affect Ingham Village as yet.

She also went on to tell us of the new Pot Hole system that uses Thermal Patches, where they are cut to the size of the hole and is a more efficient way to repair the road. It has been used near Ipswich and Lowerstoft and is now beginning to be used in the Bury St Edmunds area.

The Chairman asked if Cllr Hopfensperger had heard anything about a date for the installation of the Speed Camera that had been recommended for Ingham and her reply was, hopefully they should be there by Summer, but she will look into it for us.

(See the attached newsletter for further County Council News)

Chairman 's Signature

Borough Councillors Report -Susan Glossop spoke about a new scheme introduced by West Suffolk Council called the “Rural Task Service Fund”. It’s a system that looks at the services it can offer rural areas e.g. transport etc. It is unclear how it’s going to be funded and the Parish Council asked Cllr Glossop how we could find out. Cllr Glossop will look into this.

Due to the effects of climate change Susan reported that the local authorities are now looking into different areas that can be more environmentally friendly e.g. planning etc.

Car parks within the Bury areas always been an issue and the Council are trying to recognize and deal with this by investing in more spaces and free parking.

Cllr Glossop also went onto say that Bury St Edmunds has seen an uplift in housing developments and informed the Parish Council that there are more planned. Examples are Station Hill; where old buildings have been demolished to built the new flats and where the old Burlingham’s Seed Factory remains, planning permission has been granted to renovate them into flats. Even the Rail Head at Bury Station has planning permission and if this was to go ahead Bury would have to find a new rail head.

The Council informed Cllr Glossop that they realized that it was inevitable but are concerned in the growth in the number of houses being built. Both Susan and Cllr Stennett informed the Parish Council that there are not enough houses for people and especially affordable housing. Cllr Glosip informed us that when the Borough builds new houses 30% has to be for social housing, but unfortunately there are occasion where this is not viable but then an explanation will be given.

1. Apologies Cllr. Monika – Kovacic Graham

2. Declaration of Interest Nil

3. Dispensation Nil

4. Minutes of AVM and Parish Meeting held on 7th May 2019 - Proposed by Cllr. A. Dawson and Seconded by Cllr. L. Tibbert that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Agreed unanimously.

5. Reports

Clerks’ Report at our Annual Village Meeting we were in the final consultation stages of purchasing the Play Area Equipment so the Clerk was asked to acquire some quotes. We have decided to go ahead with a quote given by our existing Parish Insurers – Zurich, with an additional £84.00 to pay on top of the existing premium already paid by the Parish Council. Cllr. Dawson proposed and Cllr Stennett seconded.

A peppercorn rent of £1.00 per year is to be paid to the owner of the Play Meadow. So, a Standing Order is to be set up to make an annual payment of £1 each year for the next 25 years.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had taken on an additional role of Parish Clerk to Horringer cum Ickworth Parish Council and hoped that it would be beneficial to all.

Chairman’s Signature

6. Items for debate and decision: -

a. Play Area

The Play Area is almost finished, just waiting on the Roundabout which should be delivered from the manufacturers this coming week.

Unfortunately, there is still some rough ground; the grass has been cut back to the right length but still very lumpy. Sovereign say this is satisfactory but the Parish Council has asked West Suffolk Council Parks representative to inspect to give a second opinion.

All is now looking good with the fencing which will be completed next week, along with the gates. Still outstanding are signs, picnic tables and netting; along with a flat surface for football use, but these can come later. Have requested a quote from West Suffolk Council in regards to refuse, but at the moment not sure whether that would come under the *Self- Help Scheme*, so enquires are being made into that.

The Chairman informed the Council that we have approx. £10,000 left in the funds and the Grand Opening will take place at the end of August.

b. Highways - there were no highway issues to discuss.

c. Lynch Gate - this is in need of some tender loving care and was last repaired in 2013 with Oak for the roof. Cllr Stennett has very kindly offered to look into some quotes.

Village Sign – Unfortunately, this leans towards one side and could do with some restoration. The Clerk has been asked to contact the person who restored the Great Saxham Village Sign as they are both of a similar style.

7. Finance

Bank Reconciliation

Bank Reconciliations for Barclays Parish Council, Lloyds Parish Council and The Playground Account were all agreed

The Financial Officer proposed to the Parish Council that to assist with the smooth transfer of the Parish's money from the Barclays Bank a/c to the new Lloyds a/c a transfer of £5791.00 would be beneficial to the Parish Council. This was agreed unanimously.

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| Cheques were authorized for | Michelle Thompson (Clerk's Salary) | £ 483.61 |
| | Tops Garden Service (May and June Grass Cutting) | £ 600 |
| | SALC – Annual Subscription 2019/20 | £ 179.94 |
| | Trevor Brown (Internal Auditor) | £ 115.75 |
| | Elaine Dawson (Flower Pots for Village) | £ 34.34 |
| | Lloyds Parish Council A/C | |
| | (transfer to new Parish Council a/c) | £ 5791 |

Asset Register 2019/20 - due to some changes within the Parish Council Assets, mainly being the Play Area Equipment the Asset Register will be updated This is be circulated to the Councillors, so they can have an input and then the final version discussed at the Parish Meeting in September

Chairman's Signature

Risk Assessment - with the induction of the new Data Provision within Local Councils we will be updating our Risk Assessment to allow for these laws

Internal Audit Report – Trevor Brown conducted Ingham Parish Council’s Internal Audit on 20th June 2019 completing the relevant documentation for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 which is to be sent to Little-John (External Auditors) for 1st July 2019 The Internal Audit Report is to be circulated to the Council but the Chairman and Clerk reported that Mr. Brown was extremely pleased with how the Financial Officer was undertaking the administration of the Council’s financial affairs and saw that appropriate financial management information was being produced to enable the Council to make well informed decision. All round a very pleasing report.

- 8 Planning Application No DC/19/1273 OUT proposed Dwelling 9 Glebe Close, Ingham Suffolk - Ms Mairead Geaney.** This had already been discussed in the Democratic half an hour Public Question Time with the owner of the property.

9. Clerks Report on Urgent Decisions From Last Meeting:-

Due to the predicted closure of the Barclays Account the clerk had prepared a letter to cancel two standing orders: one for Lark Valley and one for Suffolk Preservation Society.

Also, one to instruct the bank to close the relevant Barclays Parish Council Bank Account due to the fact that we are now banking with Lloyds.

- 10. Correspondence** There was no correspondence read out at the meeting.

11. Councillors’ Reports and Items for Future Agenda

It was felt that if any new Councillors are interested, they could have training, as in previous years there have done group training sessions provided by SALC in Culford Village Hall. This seemed a popular suggestion and further investigation will take place. The Councillors discussed some issues surrounding the overgrown bushes/hedge of the Old Rectory, along with the Teachers House. It was suggested that the clerk writes to the properties and asking them if they could very kindly trim back the foliage.

The Parish Councillors had discussed previously with Rebecca Hopfensperger about the new “Self Help” Scheme that is run by SCC. Ingham is up and running with a Parishioner receiving the training on different areas of maintenance e.g. Street Sign cleaning and trimming of hedges It’s like a Village Husbandry. Cllr. Stennett commented that Fornham Parish Council are also interested in this scheme and inferred that each of the parishes could assist one another. Ingham are particularly interested in the Grass Cutting and Verges project, so the clerk has been asked to contact Suffolk Highways to find out more on how to register.

Due to the resignation of Cllr Tibbett there is a vacancy on Ingham Parish Council and Linda Anslow has expressed an interest.

- 12. Date of Next Meeting:-** Tuesday 24th September 2019.

Chairman’s Signature

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman's Signature