

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF ICKLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN ICKLEFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2008

Present: Councillors P J Crowe (Chairman), M Maxwell, C R Thurstance, D Chapallaz, K Goldie, J Carlyle and G Palmer.

Officer present: Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk).

Also present for part of the meeting: PC Matt Jenkins and PCSO Sarah Jeffery

94 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

94.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr T Stephenson (prior engagement), County Cllr Brook (another meeting), District Cllr P Gibbs (another meeting), PCSO Williams and Dr Willoughby.

95 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

95.1 No 'personal' nor 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda were received.

95.2 Councillors were advised to review their respective Register of Interests and update them if necessary.

96 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH NOVEMBER 2008

96.1 Following a proposal from Cllr Carlyle seconded by Cllr Maxwell and agreed unanimously it was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2008 be approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record of the meeting.

97 UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

97.1 PC Jenkins introduced PCSO Sarah Jeffery who will be covering Ickleford and Kimpton whilst PCSO Elaine Cuzzo is on restricted duties. PC Jenkins reported that in the past month there had been 15 recorded crimes which included:-

- 1 criminal damage that looks like it was an attempted burglary.
- 1 burglary.
- 7 domestic related crimes.
- 2 burglaries.
- 3 thefts from outbuildings.
- 1 car stolen from The George car park.

In addition to the above crimes there had been allegations about teenagers carol singing in the village claiming it was for a Cancer Charity research. The police believed this was untrue and urge residents to always check their identification before donating.

The charity box at Pixies was stolen this week. The Police were unaware of this so agreed to visit the shop to find out more details.

PCSO Cuzzo and PCSO Jeffery are currently in the process of sending out questionnaire about neighbourhood watch to all residents in Ickleford to establish who is currently operating the scheme and who would like to participate.

PCSO Williams and PCSO Jeffery have been offering security advice to residents in Cedar Avenue, Greenfield Avenue and Wyatt Close (including in Glebe House).

98 UPDATE ON ONGOING MATTERS INCLUDING AGREEMENTS FOR NEXT ACTIONS.

98.1 Proposed Burial Ground

Cllr Crowe reported that he and Cllr Thurstance had attended a meeting with the other proposed Trustees for the burial ground (Reverend Margaret Holford, Dr Michael Willoughby and Mr Basil Plews). Also present at the meeting was Cllr Carlyle and Mr Frank Pratt. Cllr Crowe told everyone about the history of the project and discussed options for the possible design. Cllr Carlyle is currently looking to draft an initial design of the area.

Cllr Crowe has also met with David Morgan (Solicitor) who has agreed to request that HCC extend the current sports ground lease.

In 2009 IPC will be advised if they have been granted planning permission and have been awarded grants from PACIF and WREN.

Cllr Maxwell congratulated all those who have been involved with the project for achieving everything so far.

98.2 Rural Programme New Travel Plan

In his absence Cllr Stephenson advised that the traffic survey on Arlesey Road near mill has been completed but there were no results yet. He thanked Cllr Brook for providing his support to highways. Also he has received the following notes from Ian Thompson.

- **Rights of Way:**

- **Snailswell Lane** - It will not be possible to use funding from the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) on this road, as it is maintenance rather than improvements.

- **Chambers Lane** - ROW & Highways are having a meeting on site next week to move this project forward before the end of March 2009. Ian will take along cemetery plans to the meeting. More info to follow once known.

- **Highway Maintenance**

- Walnut Way re-surfacing has been put into the 2009-10 programme.

- **Surveys "One house, one vote"**

- This task is now complete and there is not much difference between the residents and "one household, one vote" data.

98.3 Garage area and Little Park behind Turnpike Lane.

Cllr Crowe reported that he still has not yet had a response from NHDC Planning Department about this area. He has however sent an email to Nicola Pearson, The Community Development Officer at NHH for Ickleford to find out how and when IPC can move forward with creating allotments in this area.

98.4 Annual Parish Meeting.

It was agreed that the APM would be held on Thursday 26th March 2009. The format will be discussed at the January meeting.

99 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

99.1 Gardening Contract.

William Crosse has quoted £3,691.44 pa and will hold the price for 2009 and 2010. This price has increased as several items have been added to the contract. Following a discussion and a proposal from Cllr Thurstance, seconded by Cllr Chapallaz and agreed unanimously it was

RESOLVED

That the contract will be awarded to William Crosse.

REASON

The price quoted was fair and competitive.

IPC have always been satisfied with William Crosse's work.

99.2 Lower Green Contract.

Richard Nicholls has quoted £55 per cut and £15 per strim and will hold the price for 2009 and 2010. Following a discussion and a proposal from Cllr Maxwell, seconded by Cllr Palmer, and agreed unanimously it was

RESOLVED

That the contract will be awarded to Richard Nicholls.

REASON

The price quoted was fair and competitive.

IPC has been satisfied with Richard Nicholl's work this year.

99.3 Village Green.

As a result of a car driving onto the Village Green and damaging the recently laid turf, it was agreed that the damaged area should be fenced off to allow the grass to recover. The clerk to request William Crosse arranges this as soon as possible. **Clk**

100 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

100.1 08/02233/1 Ickleford Motor Company, 98 Arlesey Road.

Development of four 4-bedroom detached dwellings with associated parking and provision of vehicular access to plots 3 & 4 from River Court.

This planning application has recently been withdrawn so IPC are no longer required to respond.

101 PLANNING DECISIONS.

101.1 08/02073/1HH Icknield House. Westmill Lane.

Rear conservatory.

NHDC granted standard conditional permission 25th November 2008

Reason for Decision

The rear conservatory hereby permitted would have no adverse effect on the amenities of the neighbouring residential properties, the visual amenity of the locality and, as such, complies with the relevant provisions of the development plan as summarised below.

Summary of Development Plan Policies and Proposals relevant to the Decision:

North Hertfordshire District Local Plan No 2 with Alterations

Policy 28 - House Extensions

Policy 57 - Residential Guidelines and Standards

1) The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission. **Reason:** To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2) The development hereby permitted shall be carried out wholly in accordance with the details specified in the application and supporting, approved documents and plans, or with minor modifications of those details which have previously been agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority as being not materially different from those thereby permitted. **Reason:** To ensure the development is carried out in accordance with details which form the basis of this grant of permission.

102 CORRESPONDENCE.

Item	From	Title	Deadline for comments	Action
102.1	Mid Beds District Council	Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document: Preferred Options Consultation	7th January 2009	PJC to respond
102.2	HCC	Consultation on Relevant Areas for Hertfordshire for the 2010/11 school year	12th December 2008	PJC to respond
102.3	NHDC	Hitchin Grade Separated Curve - Network presentation 16th December 2008 at 6pm	n/a	PJC/CRT to attend

103 FINANCE.**103.1 Comparison between budget and spend for 2008/09.**

All Councillors were supplied with the following comparison between expenditure and budget for April – November 2008.

Expenditure	Budget 2008/2009	Extra money received / expected	Money spent Apr-Nov	Money allocated Dec-Apr	Expected money remaining
Wages	£9,000.00	£1,350.00	£5,776.16	£4,546.79	£27.05
Admin	£4,600.00	£2,066.95	£4,842.56	£1,823.71	£0.68
Open spaces	£4,850.00	£2,198.06	£3,115.48	£3,029.00	£903.58
Recreation facilities	£1,500.00	£549.75	£986.90	£883.94	£178.91
Improvements / Repairs	£4,900.00	£10,421.54	£650.00	£10,789.00	£3,882.54
Actions from Parish Plan	£2,000.00	£0.00	£271.35	£0.00	£1,728.65
Grants (+ any S137 payments)	£6,000.00	£2,000.00	£6,799.00	£1,200.00	£1.00
Burial Ground fund	£1,000.00	£3,057.50	£341.07	£0.00	£3,716.43
Speed prevention fund	£2,000.00	£4,487.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,487.00
New Community Building fund	£3,500.00	-£3,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
PCSO		£7,195.00	£2,557.61	£4,637.39	£0.00
Vat/Bank interest		£1,927.53	£977.17	£159.52	£790.84
	£39,350.00	£31,753.33	£26,317.30	£27,069.35	£17,716.68

103.2 Budget 2009/10.

All Councillors supplied with forecast of expected expenditure and income for 2009/10.

Expected income 2009/10	
Balance of unallocated money to carry over	£ 17,716.68
Grant from PACIF for burial ground	£ 50,000.00
Grant from WREN for burial ground	£ 8,600.00
Grant from BIFFA for burial ground	£ 9,400.00
P3 Grant	£ 350.00
Total	£ 86,066.68

The expected expenditure was discussed along with existing and new projects and following a proposal from Cllr Goldie, seconded by Cllr Maxwell and agreed unanimously it was

RESOLVED

That money would be allocated as followed

Wages	£12,000.00
Admin	£5,800.00
Open spaces	£6,000.00
Recreation facilities	£2,000.00
Village improvements / repairs	£5,300.00
Proposed new burial ground project	£72,746.00
Actions arising from the parish plan	£1,728.65
Grants to village organisations	£6,000.00
Speed prevention fund	£7,487.00
PCSO	£7,500.00
	£126,561.65

REASONS

- To continue to maintain the village.
- To continue to try to achieve results requested by residents when completing the Parish Plan questionnaire
- To provide a new burial ground as supported by 83% of the residents who completed the burial ground questionnaire.

103.3 IPC's precept for 2009/10.

Following a proposal from Cllr Chapallaz, seconded by Cllr Palmer and agreed unanimously it was

RESOLVED

That the Precept would increase by 3.8% to £40,500

REASON

To meet the proposed expenditure for 2009/10 based on the budget agreed in 103.2 less the expected income as detailed in 103.2.

All Councillors thanked the clerk for providing such detailed reports prior to the meeting that made setting the budget and precept an easier task.

103.4 Notification of receipts received since the last meeting.

To be advised of all receipts since 13th November 2008.

Cllr Gibbs Discretionary Fund (Traffic calming)	£487.00
Vat refund (1/7 - 30/9)	£276.36
Total receipts =	£763.36

103.5 To approve payments for the month of December 2008.

Following a proposal from Cllr Chapallaz, seconded by Cllr Palmer and agreed unanimously the payments of £3,569.42 were approved and the cheques were signed.

104 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING.

104.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 8th January at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm