

**MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF ICKLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
ICKLEFORD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 13TH JUNE 2006**

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

Also present: Cllr N. Brook (HCC), Mrs P. Gibbs (NHDC) and 3 Members of the Public.

Officer present: Katrina Henshaw (Parish Clerk).

21. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

22. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

22.1 Declaration of Office

Cllr Carlyle and Cllr Mrs Palmer signed their forms.

22.2 Any financial or other interests

Cllr Carlyle and Cllr Mrs Palmer completed and signed their forms. All other Cllrs details remain unchanged.

22.3 Interests in matters arising at this meeting

None were declared.

23. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 11TH APRIL 2006.

Following a proposal from Cllr Mrs Crosse, seconded by Cllr Thurstance it was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th April 2006 be approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record of the meeting.

24. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9TH MAY 2006.

Following a proposal from Cllr Chapallaz, seconded by Cllr Maxwell it was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9th May 2006 be approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record of the meeting.

25. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9TH MAY 2006.

Following a proposal from Cllr Mrs Crosse seconded by Cllr Carlyle it was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Meeting held on 9th May 2006 be approved and the Chairman was authorised to sign them as a true record of the meeting.

26 UPDATE ON ONGOING MATTERS

- 26.1 Proposed new Burial Ground
Cllr Crowe reported that he had received photocopies of aerial photographs of Ickleford from the National Monuments Record office in Swindon and there was no charge for these copies. He would send them to Heritage Network for their opinion. **PJC**
- 26.2 Land at Ickleford Sports and Recreation Ground
HCC's officers and consultants to looking at their current policies on land.
- 26.3 Proposed new building for Ickleford Pre-School
Cllr Crowe reported that the photographs he had received for the proposed new burial ground showed the piece of land that has been proposed for the new pre-school building so he would ask Heritage Network for their opinion on this area too. **PJC**
- 26.4 Byelaw regarding parking on footpaths
Yvette Roberts, Legal and Democratic Services at NHDC has advised that the Council's Enforcement section now have a direct link to the DVLA computer which will access vehicle details within a few minutes. Therefore when a vehicle is parked on a grass verge she would like IPC to take a note of the car registration, the location, date and time and email these details to enforcement@north-herts.gov.uk. The enforcement section will then send a standard letter to the registered owner and advise them of the unauthorised use of the grass verge. The letter will advise them that no further action will be taken in this instance, but should a further letter have to be sent out to them for continued use of the grass verge then the Council / Parish Council will take action in order to recover the cost of any damage to the grass verge. This advice does not apply to vehicles obstructing the footpath or public highway as this is a matter for the police.
- 26.7 Village of the Year
The judges for the 'Village of the Year' competition visited Ickleford today and after viewing the new footpath map on Upper Green proceeded to the Church where they heard presentations from representatives of the Church, Pre-School, Sports Club and Village Hall. There was also an update on the Parish Plan, School Travel Plan, the proposed new burial ground and the bridleway through Ickleford. The awards evening is on Thursday 29th June at County Hall.
- 26.8 Parish Plan
Cllr Maxwell reported that thanks to all the volunteers all the data from the questionnaires had been inputted and was being analysed. The next committee meeting is on 27th June where the results will be discussed. Cllr Maxwell agreed to extract the results regarding the Village Green and the Pre-School as a priority. Cllr Maxwell also reported that 124 people had indicated they were interesting in knowing more about the Parish Plan and some of these were keen to get more involved. Cllr Maxwell has written to all these people.

27 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

- 27.1 Hedge on Chambers Lane
Sam Kothari, HH is still chasing Patrick Boyle to cut the hedge back so that it is not overhanging the highway.
- 27.2 Wheelie bins (St Katherine's Cottages)
Yvette Roberts, Legal and Democratic Services at NHDC requested the addresses of the people leaving out the bins which the clerk supplied her on 17th May. As the bins are still being left out the clerk has informed her of this on 9th June.

- 27.3 Turnpike Lane garage area
The footpath to Bedford Road has been cleared at present there is no flytipping in the area. The clerk to ask Marian Simmons, NHH for an update on plans for this area. **CIk**
- 27.4 Mud Patch outside the school
Waiting for the results from the Parish Plan Questionnaire.
- 27.5 Proposed safety works around Ickleford School
HH have consulted the residents in the area. They all support the proposals but have raised the concern of parents obstructing the driveway to 7 and 8 Upper Green. The residents have been asked if they have any suggestions to prevent this but at the moment they do not have any so have agreed to leave and see what happens when the double yellow lines are there.

28 OPEN DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00 pm for an open discussion with residents of Ickleford and re-opened at 8.20 pm. During the closed meeting residents reported that

- 28.1 Residents from 41 and 47 Walnut Way were leaving their wheelie bins on the footpath. The clerk said she would request NHH write to the residents asking them to keep their wheelie bins within their properties.
- 28.2 The overflow car park at ISRC was not being opened for large events and this caused dangerous parking in Chambers Lane. Cllr Crowe said he would advise ISRC's committee.
- 28.3 A pot hole along Old Hale Way had been reported to HH on 23rd May 2006 (Ref 1233535) and it still has not been repaired. Cllr Brook said he would enquire why this had not been repaired.

29 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 29.1 06/00564/1HH 2 Raymond Cottages, Upper Green, Ickleford.
Single storey rear extension.

Following discussions at the May meeting it was

RESOLVED

That IPC would object to this application and send the comments below to NHDC.

From a Parish Council point of view we have no basic objection to the application, but we are aware that the residents of number 1 Raymond Cottages are unhappy about the height of the wall of the proposed extension and on that basis are objecting. The other comment / observation which we have picked up is that other residents of the cottages understand that there is a right of way apparently shown in their deeds) which extends along the backs of all the cottages in the lane – and that this proposal interrupts that line. We would be grateful if this could be checked out.

- 29.2 06/00794/1HH 4 Longmeadow Drive
Single storey rear extension.

The planning application was discussed and it was

RESOLVED

That IPC would make no objections to this application

29.3 06/00619/1 36 Turnpike Lane, Ickleford.

Erection of 3 detached four bedroom dwellings with integral garages following the demolition of existing dwelling. 6 parking spaces, closure of existing access and formation of new vehicular accesses onto Walnut way.

The planning application was discussed and it was

RESOLVED

That IPC would send the comments below to NHDC:-

Whilst the Parish Council has no specific planning objections to the development, we are concerned on the probable increase in traffic volumes and safety issues given the close proximity of the properties to the very busy / dangerous junction with Turnpike Lane. There is potential increase of house owner cars from 6-12, and with parking already a concern at times to existing Walnut Way residents, this increase in traffic is unwelcome. Also the siting of the garage / drive of Plot 3 to the left of that property takes it nearer the Turnpike Lane junction, when compared to the garages of Plots 1 and 2 sited to the right of each property.

Cllr Crowe to write to the Bishop asking if after the sale of these proposed properties the diocese would consider donating some money to the for St Katharine's Church Restoration Fund. **PJC**

29.4 06/00796/1HH 14 Bedford Road

Relocate and replace existing double garage with double garage with room in roof space.

The planning application was discussed and it was

RESOLVED

That IPC would object to this application and send the comments below to NHDC:-

This is an excessive building for its intended functions – in particular the height seems excessive and certainly the fence on the footpath is not a screen for the building. Following from that – is there an ulterior motive to allow for future conversion to a dwelling unit? Also the location seems to sprawl / create a sprawl of buildings across the site and destroys compactness.

30 PLANNING DECISIONS

30.1 06/00324/1 14 Bedford Road, Ickleford.

Two storey extension to side of existing dwelling to provide two 1 bedroom flats with two car parking spaces.

NHDC granted conditional permission on 2nd May 2006

30.2 06/00324/1 Land at 6 Raymond Cottages, Ickleford.

Two storey 3 bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing single storey side extensions to existing dwelling (as amended by drawing nos. 2005/29/SK02 Rev A and PL 001B received 28/03/2006).

NHDC granted conditional permission on 3rd May 2006

30.3 06/00104/1HH 35 Turnpike Lane, Ickleford.

Two storey front and single storey rear extensions and alterations to existing access.

NHDC granted conditional permission on 16th May 2006

31 CORRESPONDENCE

31.1 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

This is to be discussed more fully at the July meeting when it will be decided if IPC will take this forward or not. All Cllrs to read the guidance and regulations for the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 which can be downloaded via the Defra website - <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/localenv/legislation/cnea/> **ALL**

32 FINANCE

32.1 Receipts received since the last meeting.

£179.85 – VAT refund for March 2006.

32.1 Payments for the months of June 2006.

Payments of £2,154.66 were proposed by Cllr Mrs Palmer and seconded by Cllr Mrs Goldie and agreed unanimously.

33 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

33.1 HCC

Cllr Brook reported that Cleveland was challenging the Government on the proposed amalgamations of police forces and HCC are waiting to see the outcome of this. Cllr Brook also advised that the dispute with the Fire Brigade Union (FBU) is caused as they were not honouring the agreement that was made with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) in 2004. They had taken the 16.5% pay increase over the three years but had not kept to all the agreed terms. The Government are firmly behind HCC on this.

33.2 NHDC

Cllr Mrs Gibbs advised that the Rural Conference had been postponed and the new proposed date is 18th September 2006.

34 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

34.1 Parish Paths Partnership

Cllr Mrs Goldie reported that Cllr Mrs Cross was arranging for the grass to be cut on FP7. Cllr Thurstance congratulated Cllr Mrs Goldie on all her work in achieving a safe bridleway from Snailswell Lane to Bedford Road and thought that it was a shame that not all horse riders were taking advantage of this. Cllr Mrs Goldie said that she would write to all who had stables enclosing a map highlighting the bridleway.

34.2 Ickleford School Governors

Cllr Maxwell reported that at the recent Governors meeting, the support given to children with special educational needs was reviewed. The school has an excellent Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) who works two and a half days a week supporting children who need help as well as children with a statement. She also works at The Priory which helps the children when they transfer to secondary school. The decision to offer children this extra support has really benefited them and is a credit to the school.

34.3 Rand's Governors

Cllr Thurstance reported that Cllr Chapallaz was elected as Vice Chairman at the recent meeting. The school facility grants have increased from £20 per head to £25 per capita. Grants for 16-18 year olds continuing education have increased from £100 to £120. Grants for 18-25 year olds continuing education and living at home have increased from £225 to £275. Grants for 18-25 year olds continuing and living away from home have increased from £450 - £550. A further 10% increase from September 2007 has been agreed subject to no fall in income.

34.4 Ickleford Village Hall

Cllr Mrs Palmer reported that the Village Hall committee has appointed a surveyor for the first phase of the project – the roof, windows and toilets. The committee would readdress the problem of darkness of the roof after the new windows have been fitted as this may solve the problem. The committee enquired whether IPC would support the Village Hall or ISRC for their grant application as only one project per village could be successful each year. It was agreed the fairest way would be to invite representatives from both committees to each do a 10 minute presentation at the July meeting. Cllr Mrs Palmer also advised that a Race Night was planned for 18th November 2006.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.

The next meeting of Ickleford Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 11th July 2006 in the small hall at 7.15 pm.