

ICKHAM & WELL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Planning Meeting – 20th April 2015 at 7.30pm

Minutes of meeting

Present: Councillors B Dwyer, (Chair), J deGraft-Johnson, M Downes, K Richards, K Tatman, Mrs G Wyant, Mrs P Heath (clerk).

Apologies: Councillor R Collins.

Public: 3, including newly elected Councillor Patricia Hodges

2014/115 Declaration of interest

Councillor Wyant, as Church Warden and project manager, declared an interest in the planning application under discussion.

2014/116 Proposed development of St John the Evangelist Church in Ickham

Councillor Wyant showed the Council detailed plans and simulations of the proposed development of the church to install a disabled toilet, (with baby changing facilities), and a servery within the church itself, partially utilising the vestry area and removing the chimney, which currently took up a lot of space; to provide disabled access via a pathway to the West Door and levelled floor within the tower; to install glass doors at both the West and South entrances to replace the wire mesh entry and provide extra light within the church; and to replace the existing ladder to the tower with a 1m spiral staircase.

An application is to be made to Canterbury City Council for the external work (doors, pathway, soakaway) as the church is a Grade 1 listed building. An application to the Diocese for a Faculty is also required for the internal modifications.

Some funding has already been raised, mainly for architectural fees, and more applications are being made, which will include one to Viridor, once planning permission is granted. Friends of Ickham are making a generous donation towards the cost of supplying water within the church.

All Councillors present fully commended the proposed changes.

2014/117 Re-organisation post election and annual meetings

The annual meetings will be held on Monday 18th May, starting at 6.30pm with the normal parish meeting, which will be attended by both the current and newly elected councillors, the former of whom will approve the minutes of the last meeting (15th

March) and the current minutes. This will be followed by the election of the new chairman.

The new councillors will then elect their officers, (Vice-Chairman, Treasurer), and allocate responsibilities, (Footpaths, Publicity, Highways, KALC representative, Little Stour and NG representative, Planning and conservation officer and village hall representative). All matters for the Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM) will then be discussed.

Finally, at 7.30pm, the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held at which the minutes of the previous meeting will be approved by the new members and the Parish Council report will be delivered by Councillor Dwyer. The introductions of the new Councillors and the welcome to the invited guests will be made by the newly elected Chairman who will preside over the meeting.

Various guests will be invited to speak at the APM. Councillor Dwyer has already approached the top two City Councillor candidates and it was planned that the retiring City Councillor, Brian Staley, would be asked to speak for 5 minutes and the newly elected Councillor for about 15 minutes.

Councillor Michael Northey will be asked to speak, as will representatives of Wickhambreaux School, Conservation Society, FOI, St John the Evangelist church, Cricket Club, Scottish Country Dancing, Bramling Charity Trust, Mandy Knight re senior lunches and In Vino Veritas.

Topics to discuss at the APM include the use of the wood from the cedar tree destroyed in the storms and to formally thank Jacque Grimsley for her work in maintaining the village email.

Councillor deGraft-Johnson was nominated to organise the post meeting drinks.

2014/118 AOB

The Councillors agreed to continue the subscription to KALC and to Rural Kent.

Councillor Tatman discussed a questionnaire re potential enforcement of bye laws etc such as parking on yellow lines (there are none in Ickham), fly tipping, dog fouling and littering. The difficulty would be identifying times and places of offences and the only feasible one seemed to be the mess often left by the bin collectors on Thursdays and the fact that the new owners of The Duke left their bins out too early in the week.

The possibility of acquiring the telephone box in the village for £1 and its potential use was discussed. Councillor Downes negated the suggestion to house a defibrillator as such a device would only be useful if utilised within 90 seconds or so of the heart attack. Councillor Dwyer will try to ascertain the actual usage of the 'phone itself and the matter will be raised at the APM.

Councillor Wyant reported that Andy Biggin had repaired the damaged notice board doors and had submitted a quotation to replace the hard wooden backs of the boards,

which made attaching notices difficult, with fibreboard. This will also be discussed at the next meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

Date of next meeting:

The next parish meeting is at 6.30pm on Monday 18th May, followed by the AGM and then the APM at 7.30pm