

ICKHAM & WELL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Meeting – 21st March 2016 at 7.30pm

Minutes of meeting

Present: Councillors K Tatman (Chair), K Richards, S Hipkin, P Hodges, G Wyant.

Councillor Tatman welcomed the guest speaker, paramedic Jim Brereton.

Public: One member of the public

2015/160: Apologies

Councillors J deGraft-Johnson and L Shouls

Councillors M Northey and S Walker.

2015/161: Declarations of Interest

Councillor Tatman declared an ongoing interest in the mains replacement as his property is at risk.

2015/162: Minutes of the meeting on 15th February 2016

The minutes were signed by Councillor Tatman as a true record.

2015/163: Matters Arising

re 146/03: Further to PCSO Pearce's comments on parking in The Street, Councillor Richards reported that a Jaguar had parked across the exit of the bridle path by Dove Cottage making it nigh on impossible for a horse and rider to negotiate. She suggested that the pub owners were asked to display a notice about blocking pathways. The question of obstructive / potentially dangerous parking at the entrance to Ickham Court farm was also raised. It was agreed to monitor the situation and to add this item to the agenda for April.

re 2015/148/02: Andrew Biggin had repaired the noticeboards at Ickham, Seaton and Bramling at a cost of £239. Councillor Tatman noted that the Bramling board would probably need replacing or a more major renovation undertaken before winter and asked that this matter be raised at a meeting in autumn this year. Mr Biggin had also submitted an estimate of £360 to manufacture a notice board for the village hall and this will be presented to the IVH committee to consider.

re 2015/152/02: Councillor Wyant reported that she had 110 copies of the Emergency Procedures for distribution in early May by the Councillors to their allocated parishioners, together with the invitation to the Annual General Meeting on May 16th

re 2015/153/03: Councillor Tatman reported that estimates for the proposed bus shelter was a work in progress.

re 2015/155/03: The parish clerk was asked to order 2 small, 5 medium, and 5 large high visibility jackets and to ask if they could be stored in the village hall, (where it was subsequently noted that there was one jacket kept).

2015/164: Correspondence

There was none to report.

2015/165: Defibrillators

165/01: This item was called early so that Mr Brereton did not have to stay for the entire meeting unless he wished to do so.

165/02: Having been introduced by Councillor Richards, Mr Brereton explained that he was a specialist paramedic with 28 years' experience in the ambulance service. He stated that there were about 30,000 cardiac arrests in the UK which occurred out of hospital, of which about 80% were at home, and that survival rates were low. Approximately 20% of those affected needed the heart rhythm to be corrected and the chance of survival reduced by 7 – 10% per minute. To be of any use, a defibrillator would need to be in the range of 3-5 minutes of the incident and it was not clear where the machine could be sited to be readily accessible.

165/03: Defibrillators will diagnose the heart condition and check if usage of the defibrillator would be beneficial. The shock from the machine will actually stop the heart and CPR must be administered afterwards. There are clear, visual instructions supplied with the machine.

165/04: The cost is between £1,750 and £2,200, including the box in which to house the machine, batteries which will last for 50 administrations and a stock of pads. The machine has to be serviced regularly but the cost was unknown. Littlebourne had one installed last year and Wickhambreaux is getting one. It was suggested that the British Heart Foundation might provide partial funding in their new year, after April and / or the owners of The Duke be approached.

165/05: The members all recognised the need to have more people trained in administering CPR. The clerk will contact St John's Ambulance Service to ascertain the cost of CPR courses and whether a session could be arranged in the village.

2015/166: Planning

166/01: CA/15/02766 It was reported that the reapplication to create more accommodation within the existing living space at Treasury Barn had been passed by Canterbury CC.

166/02: CA/16/00330 New Place, Ickham – rebuilding / truncation of chimney stack, installation of cast iron rainwater goods. It was noted that this had been part of an application made in 2011 and it was felt that, due to the building's historic significance, (it was built about 1480 and is a Wealden hall-house), the council were not qualified to comment and the matter should be left to the Canterbury CC. The clerk was asked to draft a letter to Canterbury CC asking that they ensure that English Heritage would be consulted.

166/03: CA/16/00530 The Old Rectory, Ickham – there were no objections to the application to erect a new garden store using an existing wall within the grounds.

2015/167: Finance

167/01: Councillor Hipkin reported that there will be an underspend this year mainly due to the current inability to reserve funds for tree surgery. He explained the dilemma of 70% funding under CCF which, if not supplemented by funds from the precept as is currently done, would mean that the following years' awards would rapidly reduce (i.e. 70% of the 70% allocation, if that was all that had been spent, etc.). He will seek permission from Canterbury to hold a reserve fund for the trees under the TPOs imposed on the council but, in view of continuing budget constraints, doubted that Canterbury would allow this.

167/02: Councillor Hipkin confirmed the Council's agreement, (2015/149), not to opt out of the current arrangements for external audits and that there were no cost implications.

2015/168: Highways

168/01: Councillor Tatman reported that the Drill Lane pothole near the sub-station did not meet Highways' intervention criteria.

168/02: The pothole at the junction of School Lane and The Street was reportedly fixed according to Highways' website but the address given was in Eythorne. The Ickham pothole repair has been re-booked.

168/03: The pothole in Bramling Road, allegedly the cause of a serious bike accident, which had been re-booked but was supposedly "resolved with customer". Highways had previously told Councillor Tatman that the pothole was not on Highways' land. Councillor Tatman reported the issue as unresolved and is awaiting a call-back. Bramling Road is scheduled to be closed for two days in about three months' time to fix potholes and repair verges.

168/04: The replacement of the broken sign for Treasury View is a work-in-progress.

168/05: The water mains replacement is approaching Cherville Lane and it seems likely that it will take another 3 months to reach Littlebourne. Some small items of equipment have been stolen but, apart from that, there are no other specific problems reported.

168/06: The current road closure at Bekesbourne is causing a lot of problems with congestion on Bramling Road and cars detouring through Garrington Farm. The road should be re-opened by Wednesday.

168/07: One accident, the previous Saturday by the corner at The Haywain, had been reported since the last meeting.

168/08: Councillor Wyant reported another pothole in Seaton Lane by the fork towards Baye Lane, just round the corner by the walnut tree.

2015/169: River Management

169/01: A parishioner, Lindsay Dixey, had raised a number of points regarding river management / flood prevention which Councillor Wyant had passed to Peter Dowling of the River Stour IDB group to answer.

169/02: It was suggested that this item on future agendas could be more specific and include reference to the agencies involved, i.e. Canterbury CC (CCC); Environment Agency (EA); River Group (RG); Southern Water (SW) and River Stour Internal Drainage Board (IDB) – and this will be done. Although the IDB does not have any designated water courses in the immediate area, they have been involved in re-profiling a short section of the flood relief channel on behalf of the EA and clearing the upper reaches of the Blackhole Dyke.

169/03: Mr Dowling reported by email that he thought that CCC were in the process of designing an inlet structure for the top end of Blackhole Dyke at White Bridge and that the EA were still developing plans to improve the flood relief channel.

169/04: Mr Dowling had not heard of any plans to relocate the pumping station at Drill Lane and only knew of the planned relocation of the electricity sub-station in Wickhambreaux due to risk of flooding which has affected supply in the past.

169/05: The hardboard in the ditch alongside Drill Lane, (not Blackhole Dyke as had been queried), had been installed by EA in order to control flows in the flood relief channel and is thought to be under review for the long term.

169/06: The feeding trough stuck in the watercourse between the flood relief channel and Drill Lane is the responsibility of the landowner.

2015/170: Talk by PCSO Kerry-Anne Pearce.

Kerry-Anne was unable to attend but has been asked if she has any local information to circulate, which will be emailed if received.

2015/171: Councillors' Code of Conduct

Councillor Hodges reported that the Code of Conduct was ready for publication and for placing on the web. She asked that all Councillors read and confirm their acceptance of the Code so it could be made public.

2015/172: Planning for Annual Meetings

172/01: It was confirmed that the meeting on 18th April was for the appointment of officers etc. and that the public meeting was on the 16th May.

172/02: A speaker (s) from the Environment Agency / IDB would be invited to the May meeting and possibly one from St John's Ambulance, (but that would be decided at the April meeting).

172/03: The clerk will prepare invitations to speak at the May meeting to local organisations.

172/04: A draft invitation for the public will also be prepared to be delivered in April, together with the Emergency Plan card, by the Councillors to their designated parishioners.

172/05: Provision of refreshments for the May meeting will be discussed at the April meeting.

2015/173: AOB

173/01: Councillor Wyant reported that Jacque Grimsley was willing to write the Ickham village news that formed part of the Kent Gazette local information and which had previously been done by Nancie File and her son, subject to ratification from the editor.

173/02: The pathway from the field to alongside The Duke was a quagmire and it put people off using this rather than the back entrance to the pub, which was across private land. Councillor Wyant offered to order shingle and ask Gary Bradford to spread it over the affected area so that the pathway became usable. The matter will be further discussed at the April meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

The next parish meeting is on Monday 18th April 2016 at 7.30pm