

ICKLETON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Wednesday 24 May 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Number Present: The Chairman, Parish Clerk, Cllr Topping (County) and 35 members of the public (including 7 Parish Councillors).

Apologies: Andrew Shepperd, David Whittaker.

1. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Presentation by Alicia Gurney, Head of Masterplanning and Engagement, Imperial War Museum. Alicia commented on the IWM's celebration of Duxford's centenary this year including an exciting new interactive artwork that will enable visitors to discover up to 100 memories from Duxford's past and present. She also talked about IWM's plans to protect its collections, historic buildings and heritage assets. The site to the north of the A505 will be improved, with new storage space which will mirror the size and style of existing buildings and enable more logical arrangement of exhibits. It is hoped to transform IWM Duxford into East Anglia's leading museum and visitor attraction. IWM's art and small object collections will be relocated from London. Other plans include building a hotel to provide a future income stream, changing visitor entrance arrangements to focus on the historic function of the heritage buildings, and relocation of the land warfare exhibits.

Central to IWM Duxford's vision is the retention of the airfield as a living airfield, which enabled the Museum to be unique in that heritage aircraft can be viewed in flight and in the process of restoration, not merely in static displays. Commenting on the very successful air shows (boosting the Museum's funds), she advised that increased restrictions on flying, especially following the Shoreham disaster, were a great concern. The greatest current threat to future air shows however was the MOTO proposal for a motorway service area on the A505 by Junction 10 of the M11. IWM Duxford had met with MOTO to make strong representations.

3. Presentation of the second round of Ickleton Annual Awards to those individuals or organisations nominated by Ickleton residents for having achieved something notable in 2016 or for making a significant contribution to our community during the year or over a longer period. The Chairman explained that the Awards Panel of 3 Parish Councillors and 3 other Ickleton residents had put forward four winners and their choices had been endorsed by the Parish Council. The following winners were announced and presented with their certificates of award by the Chairman. Cheques to the value of £200 would be sent to the Club/Society or Charity connected with each winner or, if this did not apply, £200 vouchers for the Village shop or Ickleton Lion would be issued.

- i. Achievement in Sport-under 18. Awarded to Matthew Burson for his outstanding achievements in trampolining, including becoming National Champion in his Age Group, participating in National League and European competitions and winning the David Hunt Cup.
- ii. Community Contribution which recognises the Village's "unsung volunteers". Nominated by several Ickleton residents for their commitment to running the Medical Car Scheme, and for going the "extra mile" and beyond in providing support and comfort to the patients they transport, the award winners were John and Sue Fowler. In addition Nominators had mentioned their support for Ickleton Church, and John's work for the Ickleton Society had also been highlighted. They have asked that their £200 award be donated to Ickleton United Charities.
- iii Ickleton Club/Society of the Year Awarded to the Ickleton Social Club (£200), for its role in being a significant asset to Ickleton life, with volunteers ensuring it is open 7 nights a week, providing activities for all ages, and to recognise their charitable efforts.

- iv. Non-sporting achievement (over 18) - Chris Collinson for his work on behalf of, and in contributing to, local charities, plus organising charity bike rides, both local and to Europe. His role in supporting Ickleton Cricket Club was also recognised.
4. Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council (including Financial Report): The Chairman's report is available to read on the Village Noticeboard by the shop and also on the Village website.
5. Reports from:
- Duxford Scout Group. Steve Marshall gave a brief presentation.
 - Village Hall Management Committee and
 - Theatre Group. Pam Fearn commented.
 - Froglets. The Clerk commented on a message received from Anne-Marie Hoare.
 - Football Clubs –
 - Ickleton Society – delivered by Rachel Radford
 - Allotment Association – delivered by June Woodward
 - Ickleton Cricket Club –Michael Robinson commented
 - Neighbourhood Watch – submitted by Glynis Hammond
 - Sawston Village College report summarised by the Chairman
 - County Council- presented by Cllr Peter Topping who was congratulated both on his success in the recent local elections as well as his appointment to the 9-man Combined Authority under the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal (which included the first directly elected Mayor for the area). Cllr Topping in turn congratulated the Chairman who had been runner-up in the Parish Councillor of the Year category in the 2017 South Cambridgeshire Community Awards Scheme. This continued Ickleton's outstanding record in having its nominees shortlisted for awards in each of the last five years. In addition to items covered elsewhere in these Minutes or the Chairman's Report, Cllr. Topping remarked on his recent meeting with representatives from Wellcome Genome Campus and Abelio at which they had discussed the possibility of an automated bus service from Whittlesford Parkway to the Campus which might be extended to Ickleton. Mentioned also was CCC's recognition of Ickleton's commitment to traffic control measures.

Copies of all reports received are available upon request from the Parish Clerk.

6. Updates on:

Introduction of 20mph speed limit and traffic management generally The Parish Council had secured the painting of roundels on roads thus reinforcing the 20 mph limit through the Village. Also being considered was a mobile interactive speed camera which could collect data to support future claims for funds for further traffic control measures. Ickleton's previous bid for funds for this had been unsuccessful, mainly because at the time we did not have a Community Speedwatch project to validate data on vehicle speeds subsequent to our introduction of traffic calming and 20mph initiatives. This was now established and 9 people had completed the initial briefing session. We now await further news from our Police Liaison Officer. However, an initial proposal submitted to CCC Highways for a 50 mph speed limit on the unclassified road joining Great Chesterford through Ickleton to Duxford had received a negative response. The Parish Council was also exploring possibilities for introducing traffic flow measures at the underpass of the low railway bridge at Great Chesterford. This would require careful thought.

Wellcome Trust Genome Campus There was little to report apart from Wellcome having appointed a Director of Development. It was not yet known if our concerns about traffic and housing would be addressed.

Agri-tech Hub It is planned to create up to 4,000 jobs on a new business park near Hinxton. They are estimating car usage at 50%, (considerably lower than the present average), but we view this as unrealistic and service vehicles or visitors cars also need to be considered. Increased congestion would be inevitable. SmithsonHill's contribution to address this has been to offer land for a transport hub near to Whittlesford Parkway station, and to hint at other measures without specifying how they would be paid for. As they have portrayed any interaction we had with them as positive community engagement, we are presently maintain a watching brief, aware that the proposal does not feature in the current version of the Local Plan.

Great Chesterford new settlement. This is likely to be included in UDC's shortlist of options in its draft Local Plan, despite representations from neighbouring South Cambs villages and SCDC itself. The proposal could have adverse impacts on traffic infrastructure, landscape, water supply, flooding, and sewage which would impact on our locality. Remedial costs might well fall to be met by us and not Uttlesford. If this and the other proposals go ahead, the fear is the whole stretch from Great Chesterford and along the A1301 through to the Sawston by pass will become urbanised.

Interaction with neighbouring Parish Councils In view of the above items, the Chairman continues to attend frequent meetings with representatives from neighbouring Parish Councils. Close liaison is also being maintained with both our District and County Councillors

7. Open Forum:

In response to a suggestion that some street lights could be switched off, the Chairman explained that the Parish Council has no powers with regard to the streetlights in Frogge or Abbey Streets or Mill Lane, since these are CCC's responsibility. Footway lights were another matter, being owned by the Parish Council. There was a mixed response to the idea of removing these. A household in Frogge Street was experiencing glare from streetlights. The Clerk would find out how to report this.

The Parish Council has been informed that we can "adopt" the telephone kiosk. As we reached this same point previously negotiations, we will wait for title to pass before determining its future use but suggestions received for consideration are:

- converting it to a free lending library
- a managed display of items from the Ickleton Society's archives
- moving the defibrillator there from its present position outside the Village Hall.

A resident requested that the hedge at the far end of the Recreation Field be cut back. The Clerk reported that this was already in hand.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.10pm.

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Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council 24 May 2017

The finances remain sound. In the year to 31 March 2017 we had expenditure of around £26,500, our income exceeded that by almost £8,000, and we had £42,313 in the bank at the year end. Copies of the unaudited financial statements are available this evening (or on request from the Clerk), and we hope to put them on the village website soon. We have more in the bank than we planned for, because some substantial expenses have not come forward as quickly as anticipated and we also had a few windfall receipts. Our strategy is to maintain a solid reserve. We have quite a lot to look after, for a small village: a large Recreation Field and Play Area, and three listed structures (Cemetery Chapel, Churchyard wall and the War Memorial). Not to mention the cemetery, the Churchyard, and Coploe Hill Pit nature reserve.

We are likely to add to our assets if as planned we adopt the telephone kiosk. BT gave notice of closure because it was little used. Adoption for community use has been approved, and we hope to exchange contracts shortly. I hope we can discuss potential roles for the kiosk later.

We have asked SCDC to install a new dog bin on Butchers Hill at the entrance to Tin Alley.

A potential project is the replacement of the old yellow sodium lamps in the Parish Council's 17 footway lights with LED lamps. In the long run, there could be a considerable saving in the energy cost which we pay. SCDC are carrying out a cost/benefit study, and I have asked them to consider assisting Parishes in the District with the conversion (although we would have to fund this ourselves).

Following the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit in Ickleton, we had discussions with County Highways Officers about inadequate signage of the new limit, but they proved immovable on this. We did manage to obtain agreement from them to have roundels painted on the roads to help drivers be more aware of the lower limit. This was actually done last November. Disappointingly, several roundels are wearing away, and we are alerting Highways to this problem. I will give a more detailed update on traffic management later.

On the planning front, the application relating to the late Joe Bibby's plot in Frogge Street eventually went through on appeal. We have seen the Howey's Yard development complete, and the build to the rear of Gurner House in Church Street is progressing. Applications for extensions and other alterations have generally been supported by the Parish Council. Permission to convert Harlequin Barn for residential use was opposed by the Parish Council because it opens up much of the unspoilt part of Back Lane to vehicular traffic, but SCDC gave its approval. There is an emerging feeling that the views of Parish Councils carry much less weight in the planning process than was the case until fairly recently.

The wider planning horizon continues to give much cause for concern and takes up a lot of our thinking time – the three very large developments that we were worrying about a year ago have been joined by new significant proposals. We had the possibility of a new settlement near Great Chesterford, the definite expansion ambitions of the Wellcome Genome Campus, and the prospect of an agri-tech hub off the A1301 opposite Hinxton. To

these we must add a proposal for a motorway service area by J10 of the M11 and an upgrade of the Iconix business park to become Sawston Campus. I will say more about these later on when I will update you as far as I can.

Before I offer my thanks to people who have helped the Parish Council I have to mention someone I can no longer thank in person. Tom Dazey who had become our go-to person for maintenance of equipment, particularly in the Play Area, passed away after a mercifully short illness. It will be very difficult to find someone with his range of skills, and we will miss him greatly.

I thank the other Parish Councillors for the work put in over the year. As ever, Lewis Duke has been a mainstay as Vice-Chairman. I am grateful for the invaluable assistance to the Council and to me as Chairman from Peta Stevens, our Parish Clerk.

I also thank Clare Driver for organising the annual Litter Pick, supported by the Parish Council and the Ickleton Society.

I want to thank all those who support the work of the Parish Council. John Williams for editing *Icene*, and the distribution team led by Hilary Rule. Pam Fearn and Viliami Mila for managing the Village Hall. Our internal auditor Ken Worthing. Andrew Shepperd for the website. Glynis Hammond for running Neighbourhood Watch.

Elaine Statham for welcoming new residents. Gerry Birch for looking after Coploe Hill Pit and the War Memorial. Dilip and Sunita Odedra who help in numerous ways. Charles Frankau and Dominic Pallet our contractors. Albert Pavelin who empties the Recreation Field bins and carries out routine safety checks on play equipment. David Lilley who keeps an eye on the cemetery for us and the headstones in the Churchyard. Jos Flitton for liaising with the police and maintaining the Burial Books. I apologise for any omissions – Thanks are due to all who contribute to our community.

I have tended to end these reports by referring to the success of Ickleton organisations or individuals nominated by the Parish Council in SCDC's Community Awards Scheme. This year to my embarrassment I was nominated as Parish Councillor of the Year in connection with my efforts to do something about traffic through the village. I was surprised and delighted to achieve second place. It set me thinking about Ickleton's track record over the previous four years: the Ickleton Sizzlers, Joint Runners Up; The Car Medical Scheme (Susan and John Fowler again), Joint Third; Jos Flitton Third Place in the Local Hero category; Ickleton Froglets, First Place as an Outstanding Local Service; and the Community Coffee Mornings at the Church second place in the same category.

For a small community to see its nominees enjoy such success in being recognised at the District level is very gratifying – long may Ickleton continue to punch above its weight!

Terry Sadler