

Ipstones Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 7.00pm held at Ipstones Sunday School Room

Present: Councillors Linda Malyon (Chair), Leslie Jackson, Mike Birch, Andrew Stevenson, and Mike Hemsley. Clerk.

Apologies: Councillors Peter Hallam, Heather Morris, and Patrick Stimpson

145/25	Dispensations: Councillor Hallam had a six-month dispensation.
146/25	Declaration of Interests: To be taken if/when arise.
147/25	Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on 25th June, and 2nd July were reviewed it was noted that the minutes stated annual meeting which was incorrect and there were two spelling mistakes in the minutes for the 25th of June, minutes to be amended and approved at next meeting.
148/25	Clerks Report General Safety Training – Councillor Birch proposed asking on social media if a General Safety Awareness session would be beneficial, this was seconded by Councillor Jackson and carried unanimously. Bridle Path – Correspondence noted Foxt Village Hall Trustees – Letter awaited from Chair Cemetery Seat request – Councillor Hemsley proposed a letter to be sent to resident confirming decision not to allow seat due to loss of plots this would cause and setting precedent for further requests, this was seconded by Councillor Stevenson and carried unanimously. Health Bus – Noted UKSPF Grant – Noted
149/25	Public Participation: Member of Public present gave information on the proposed Solar Panel Site near Cauldon Lowe. Consultation information being commenced September. Action group was utilising planning Strategist, which would require substantial financial input. Grants being sought from local parish councils. If successful it was believed that a further two applications would be made for Ipstones Edge and Three Lowes. Councillor Birch noted that the knowledge being gained was important to log. Member of Public noted that currently Solar is 300% over subscribed.

	Significant volumes of Water utilised at Winterton's Fire recently, 45,000 litres lasted around two and a half minutes.																																										
150/25	Accounts for Payment: The following payments were presented and Councillor Hemsley proposed accepting them for payment, this was seconded by Councillor Stevenson and carried unanimously. <table><tr><th>Payee and Details</th><th>£</th><th>£</th></tr><tr><td>Lengthsman's Gross Pay July 2025</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Lengthsman's Expenses 30 miles @45p £13.50 plus fuel for Strimmer £11.56 = £25.06</td><td></td><td>£ 25.06</td></tr><tr><td>JW Clerk's Salary (Gross) £ Less pension contribution £</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Clerk's expenses of £55.37</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Baker Street Belles – Last Night of Proms deposit</td><td></td><td>£ 89.05</td></tr><tr><td>Staffordshire Farm Supplies Post and Strimmer parts for Lengthsman</td><td></td><td>£ 60.59</td></tr><tr><td>The Nursery at Old Hall Summer planting</td><td></td><td>£ 460.00</td></tr><tr><td>M Birch Lawnmower repairs for Foxt</td><td></td><td>£ 58.53</td></tr><tr><td>Ipstones Sunday School Room Use</td><td></td><td>£ 30.00</td></tr><tr><td>James Perry Grass Cutting</td><td></td><td>£ 733.00</td></tr><tr><td>Donation to Ipstones Agricultural Show see Minute 157/25</td><td></td><td>£ 500.00</td></tr><tr><td>Contribution to Education Trip for Threapwood Guides (Ipstones parish residents) see Minute 157/25</td><td></td><td>£ 300.00</td></tr><tr><td>Ipstones Christmas Market Contribution see Minute 157/25</td><td></td><td>£ 500.00</td></tr></table>	Payee and Details	£	£	Lengthsman's Gross Pay July 2025			Lengthsman's Expenses 30 miles @45p £13.50 plus fuel for Strimmer £11.56 = £25.06		£ 25.06	JW Clerk's Salary (Gross) £ Less pension contribution £			Clerk's expenses of £55.37			Baker Street Belles – Last Night of Proms deposit		£ 89.05	Staffordshire Farm Supplies Post and Strimmer parts for Lengthsman		£ 60.59	The Nursery at Old Hall Summer planting		£ 460.00	M Birch Lawnmower repairs for Foxt		£ 58.53	Ipstones Sunday School Room Use		£ 30.00	James Perry Grass Cutting		£ 733.00	Donation to Ipstones Agricultural Show see Minute 157/25		£ 500.00	Contribution to Education Trip for Threapwood Guides (Ipstones parish residents) see Minute 157/25		£ 300.00	Ipstones Christmas Market Contribution see Minute 157/25		£ 500.00
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151/25	Financial Procedure Policy: Deferred until next meeting																																										
152/25	Quarterly Review: Financial quarterly review was presented by the clerk, Councillor Hemsley proposed accepting the figures as presented, this was seconded by Councillor Jackson and carried unanimously.																																										

153/25	Planning: APPLICATION NUMBER SMD/2025/0329 LOCATION 15 Belmont Road Ipstones PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT Outline planning permission with some matters reserved for a single new dwelling within the garden curtilage of 15 Belmont Road Following a full discussion regarding the above application Councillor Birch proposed there was no objection to the development, this was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously. APPLICATION NUMBER SMD/2025/0207 LOCATION 25 Brookfields Road Ipstones PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT Expanding the lean to at the side of the existing rear extension. Bringing it out to form the boundary with the garden of number 23. Also making the kitchen window at the rear of the property into a door, giving the access to the garden Following a full discussion regarding the above application including noting that a precedence of extensions had been set by previous permitted developments. It as also noted that a Health and Wellbeing need supported the approval of the extension. Councillor Stevenson proposed this was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously.
154/25	Correspondence: Lime Tree Inspection at Cemetery – quotes had been received from relevant providers of Tree Surgery and inspection services. Following a review of costs and service Councillor Stevenson proposed accepting the quote of £390 plus VAT, this was established as the quote from Hamps Valley Trees Ltd. This was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously. Clerk to follow up and ask for clarification on the decay monitoring testing mentioned in the quote. Eric Whitehead – Land Registry documentation now available for collection. Community Garden – Response noted, Councillor Stevenson proposed replying requesting the sign be removed, this was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously. Additional Correspondence received was noted
155/25	Councillor Vacancy: Two applications had been received; interviews were arranged for Tuesday 12th August. Councillor Malyon offered to seek suitable interview questions from District Council.

156/25	Survey responses: Surveys had been returned in reasonable numbers from the residents, Clerk to work on summarising the responses.
157/25	Grants Requests received: Agricultural Show – Following a full discussion Councillor Jackson proposed a grant of £500 be given to the Agricultural Society for the running of the show, this was seconded by Councillor Birch and carried unanimously Guide Trip – A request had been received to contribute to an educational trip to Croatia and HMS Belfast being undertaken by a number of guides from the parish, following a discussion Councillor Stevenson proposed providing a contribution of £300 towards the costs, this was seconded by Councillor Jackson and carried unanimously. Christmas Market – A request to provide support to the running costs of the annual Christmas Market, following a discussion Councillor Hemsley proposed providing £500 this was seconded by Councillor Jackson and carried unanimously. CVAG – Request from member of public present to support the Action Group opposing Solar Site. Following a discussion Councillor Jackson proposed that the clerk check the financial position and current forecast and also review the survey results regarding the level of opposition in the parish to Solar sites. Survey results to be shared with CVAG. Support would be given but what support would be guided by the fiscal position and the survey responses. This was seconded by Councillor Birch and carried unanimously.
158/25	Defibs on Fire Vehicles: Following further discussion on this topic Councillor Jackson proposed writing to MR A Marsh of WMAS asking for consideration of the use of Fire Vehicles and personnel being used to respond to Cardiac incidents in the rural areas to improve response times. This was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously.
159/25	Working group: The date for the next working group meeting was arranged for 11th August, Councillor Malyon thanked Councillor Hemsley and Jackson for the continued work being undertaken by them in watering the trees in the community orchard to ensure their survival in the current dry period.
160/25	Phone Box: BT had requested photos of the Phone Box, clerk to provide and follow up if paint could be provided for Lengthsman to undertake painting.

161/25	Foxt Play Area: Quotes for replacing and repairing fencing were being sought
162/25	Fire Station Agreement: Updated agreement was signed by Councillor Malyon
163/25	Highways and Lengthsman's Report: Councillor Malyon noted that pavements sweepers had been through the village and had reported that the pavements were in an extremely poor condition and as such many were a trip hazard. It was agreed that a letter advising of the condition of the pavements be sent to the leader of the Council, Martin Solace and Charlotte Kelly. Lengthsman report was reviewed and accepted. It was noted that there were a number of areas where overhanging hedges were causing an issue to footpaths, Lengthsman had reported one near the canal bridge in Froghall.
164/25	Cemetery Regulations Review: Following requests from individuals who have not worked or lived in the parish to have plots reserved based on having relatives already interred in the cemetery it was agreed to review the Cemetery regulations and requirements for purchasing a plot. Councillors would review the wording prior to the next meeting in order to decide on any amendments.
165/25	Any other Business Deemed urgent Flags required replacing on all three buildings, councillor Birch proposed these should be purchased, this was seconded by Councillor Hemsley and carried unanimously – clerk to obtain prices etc.
The Next meeting was set for Wednesday 20th August 2025 at 7.00pm at Ipstones Sunday School Room	