

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 9th September 2014

2014/127 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:	Apologies	In Attendance
Mr D Amor (Chair)	Mr L Hart (Vice Chair)	3 members of the public
Mrs K Board	Mr L Trahar	PSO Elaine Cave
Mrs R Burt	Mr C Le Hardy (County Councillor)	
Mr G Mackenzie-Green		
Mrs P Matravers		
Mr D Mico		
Mr I Sherwood		
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)		
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)		

2014/128 Public Voice

(a) Public Consultation

A resident was concerned that he was not aware until the evening before of the recent public consultation regarding the new recreation field and the proposed housing development. The date of the consultation was published in Ilton Talking which did not reach some residents until the Friday before the weekend of the consultation.

It was explained that the consultation had been arranged at the earliest possible opportunity as soon as the full plans were ready and the publication of Ilton Talking had been brought forward to ensure everyone in the village was aware of the dates. The dates were also published on a number of posters around the village and on the Ilton Facebook page.

It was also explained that plans for the field have been ongoing for several years but that this was the first time that the actual plans had been available, or that the Parish Council had seen the plans. As a courtesy to the village, the plans were made available to the village and the Parish Council before being submitted to the planning authority. This consultation was an advanced preview and every effort was made to ensure that all residents were aware of it.

It was emphasised that the village is lucky to have such dedicated councillors who are trying to secure a new recreation ground for the children and who have given up a lot of their time to negotiate and plan for this. All councillors agreed that thanks are due to those hardworking councillors who have made this possible.

The consultation with the planning authority will start once the plans have been submitted when people living nearby should receive a formal letter and everyone will have an opportunity to comment to the planning authority.

(b) Village Hall

The committee expressed concern about some of the aspects of the plans for the new recreation field. It was explained that the exact layout of the new recreation field is not a planning issue and can be decided by the steering group and approved by the Parish Council. There is a village hall representative on the steering group.

The field will be owned by the Parish Council in trust for the village of Ilton and run by a Recreation Committee.

(c) Policing

PCSO Elaine Cave has taken over from Ian Ross as the PCSO responsible for Ilton. She introduced herself and noted the coffee mornings on Tuesdays from 10.30 to 12 and the Youth Club on Monday evenings. She will arrange to meet with Mrs Steele to walk around the village and possibly visit the school.

2014/129 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 8th July 2014

The minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting were agreed and signed.

2014/130 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken or to be taken

Minute 2014/112 - Wadhams Almshouses bench - there have been no new developments.

2014/131 Highways

Closure of Ilminster Road at The Beacon

Councillors have been kept updated on the status of the road by Ilton District Councillor who was thanked. The latest report is that work should begin in November.

2014/132 Brook Green

(a) Bug Hotel

This was built at Brook Green in the summer. There is a trolley to take everything down to the river. A pumpkin event will be arranged at half term. Councillors were asked to approve a carved wooden bear to be bought and cemented into a bush for a bear hunt. This was agreed by all. There is a story sack for the Bear Hunt. The children had made a thank-you card for Ilton County Councillor and the Parish Council with a photo of the bug hotel.

Two Parish Councillors were at Brook Green for the bug hotel. Thanks were expressed to the Councillor who cut the paths and built the willow dome. It is hoped that the School will visit.

(b) Grass Cutting/Standing Stone Pillar

This has been reported and the pillar should be repositioned very soon.

(c) Bridge over the ditch

One of the planks is rotten and the Council is hoping to get another railway sleeper to replace it. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**

2014/133 Footpaths

(a) The footpath opposite Brook Green was reported to be overgrown and was cut back by one of the Council's Footpath Officers.

(b) There are two stiles which are wobbly and will be reported and a wobbly stile and fence which have already been reported.

2014/134 Cemetery / Churchyard

(a) Cemetery Rates - It was agreed to charge £53 for scattering ashes on top of a family grave. This is in line with other local cemeteries.

- (b) Cemetery Bench by the fence - This repair is in hand. The lady who gave the bench has been informed. In the future the memorial plaque can be moved to a new bench.
ACTION - Brook Green Officer
- (c) Brambles etc - These have intruded into a resident's garden. It was agreed to determine whether the hedge belongs to the Council or to residents. Currently the litter bin has been buried beneath hedge cuttings. It was also agreed to consider further the conifers and whether they should be taken down to allow the laurels to grow.
ACTION - Cemetery Officer
- (d) Memorial in Churchyard - A old memorial stone was found to be leaning and rocking when tested. It was considered in potential danger of falling and was pushed over so that it is now lying flat.
- (e) Path from Frost Lane - This is overgrown. It was thought that this is a public footpath and the Footpaths Officer will contact the Rights of Way Team at SCC.
ACTION - Footpaths Officer

2014/135 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports - these list a number of issues:
- the bushes on the swings needed greasing. This has now been done.
 - garden waste dumped - this was not from gardens but the result of weed killer.
 - peeling paint on goal posts / graffiti on basket ball post - It was agreed that this will be dealt with when the recreation ground is moved / upgraded.
 - barrier opposite village hall removed and fixed in place with a new bolt.
- (b) Registration of land - The two parcels of land have now been registered separately with thanks to SSDC's legal officer. The Land Registry did not agree to amalgamate the title because they did not consider there would be any advantage in doing so. The total due to the Land Registry is £80 which is now repayable to SSDC.
- (c) Broken Glass - Bottles have been smashed along the new entrance from Copse Lane and been cleaned up by one of the Councillors and others. It was agreed to contact Yarlington. It was also agreed that if it is still a problem it will be brought to the attention of the Police during the walk around the village.
ACTION - Chairman / District Councillor
- (d) Dog Mess - this is still a problem.

2014/136 Recreational Development / Playing Field

A public consultation was held on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st August at the Village Hall to display the Warren Trust's full plans, including housing, and the outline plans for the field.

The Vice Chairman reported that most of the comments were very positive, especially about the recreation / sport area. The few negative comments concerned house prices being reduced and an increase in traffic in Church Road. There was a suggestion from some residents that the event was not publicised sufficiently (see minute 2014/128(a) above) but this was felt to be unfounded. The event was publicised in Ilton Talking, some 10 posters around the village, and the Ilton Recreation Facebook page.

Renovation of the existing recreation ground is due to start as soon as possible, after the goal posts have been moved. The new temporary pitch is being fenced. The ground will need to be levelled before it is fenced.

2014/137 Planning Applications

- (a) App No 14/03240/FUL
Proposal: Erection of a roof to provide covered area between two existing agricultural buildings
Location: Land at Frost Farm, Frost Lane, Ilton

Application arrived after the last meeting and the deadline could not be extended until after this meeting. Councillors were emailed with details. There were no objections.

- (b) App No 14/02006/LBC
Proposal: Replacement and repair to windows on all elevations including change of paint colour.
Location: Wayside Cottage, Frost Lane, Ilton

This application has been approved.

- (c) App No 13/04848/FULK
Proposal: Change of use of land to private gypsy caravan site
Location: Lane OS 1074 Crosskeys, Ashill

This application was considered by the Area Committee on 20th August 2014 and subsequently has been refused.

2014/138 New village website

The Parish Council will need access to a website for publication of documents when the new Transparency Code becomes mandatory (see minute 2014/140(f)). It was felt that Ilton Talking does not have a large website capacity but could probably handle the required documents and it was agreed to use Ilton Talking as the website for the time being.

2014/139 Planters

The Councillor responsible for planting and maintaining the planters was thanked for all the work. The planters are looking very nice and there have been a lot of very positive comments. The possibility of lettering is still being investigated.

2014/140 Correspondence

- (a) Somerset Waste Partnerships monthly councillor briefing
- (b) SSDC have offered free bulbs to the first 25 responders. The Clerk replied on the same day as the email was received and is waiting to hear if we have been successful. It was suggested that some bulbs could go to the School.
- (c) Policing - the village has two new PCSOs - Elaine Cave and Malissa Thompson who have taken over from Ian Ross.
- (d) A trader would like to set up a mobile convenience store in South Somerset. The Clerk was asked to reply to say that the Parish Council has no objections but cannot offer any premises for the shop. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (e) Notification from SSDC of new pricing structure for printing from 1st August 2014. Charges are now based on a cost recovery basis with no subsidy provided by SSDC. 400 copies of Ilton Talking will now cost £195.85, which is more than double the previous cost. It was agreed to ask for a quote from a local printing company. **ACTION - Chairman**

- (f) SALC have circulated the Government's response to the Consultation on a Transparency Code for Parish Councils. The intention is to lay regulations for making the transparency code mandatory later on this year. This includes the mandatory electronic publication of key financial and governance information such as minutes, agendas, accounts etc. Ilton will need to publish this on a website.
- (g) SALC have circulated the Draft Openness Guide which are regulations to give the public the right to film and report council meetings using digital and social media. NALC will issue formal guidance. Amendments to standing orders may be necessary.
- (h) Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter

2014/141 Accounts

- (a) Balances as at 31/8/14 - 30 day a/c = £38,591.14 / Treasurer's a/c = £13,614.32
- (b) The following amount was received - £53.00 - scattering of ashes at the Cemetery.
- (c) The following cheques are to be drawn:

000797 - CANCELLED
 000798 - £1,315.68 - West Country Fencing - fence for new football pitch
 000799 - £ 80.00 - SSDC - HMLR charges re registration of rec
 000800 - £197.64 - SSDC - printing Ilton Talking
 000801 - £ 10.36 - Admin expenses
 000802 - £146.78 - Salary
 000803 - £100.20 - HMRC - PAYE
 000804 - £ 24.00 - Merryfield Hall - hire for consultation re playing field

2014/142 Matters and items to report

- (a) BBC Somerset telephoned to request a spokesperson for a report that afternoon on the refusal of the application for the gypsy caravan site. No-one was available from Ashill. An interview with Ric Pallister (SSDC) went out on Thurs 21 August at 4.30 pm on the Charlie Taylor show. It was agreed that it is not in Ilton Parish and Ilton Parish Council does not wish to become involved in radio interviews about this matter.
- (b) The Playdays went very well with a lot of people and children attending. In total the SSDC Playdays had over 3,000 children participating.
- (c) A resident who backs onto the Copse Lane land approached the Council to ask if it would consider selling part of the land to extend their garden. Councillors considered the request but agreed that at this time they do not wish to sell any of the land.
- (d) There is a problem at the Yarlington bungalows with a street light which is not a highways post and the Chairman spoke to Yarlington. Residents will contact the District Councillor.
- (e) Copse Lane overspill car park - The Village Hall Officer was thanked for cutting the grass.

2014/143 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14th October 2014 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.50 p.m.

Dave Amor - Chairman