

## ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 14th October 2014

#### 2014/144 Attendance and Apologies

##### Those present:

Mr D Amor (Chair)  
Mr L Hart (Vice Chair)  
Mrs K Board  
Mrs R Burt  
Mr G Mackenzie-Green  
Mrs P Matravers  
Mr D Mico  
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)  
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

##### Apologies

Mr I Sherwood  
Mr L Trahar  
Mr C Le Hardy (County Councillor)

##### In Attendance

Ms Lisa Souster  
(Village Agent)

#### 2014/145 Public Voice

(a) Report from Village Agent

Things have been quiet during the summer but are beginning to pick up again now.

(b) Report from District Councillor

PCSO Elaine Cave and the District Councillor attended a recent coffee morning, toured the village and visited the school. The glass in the alleyway to the recreation ground has been noted by the Police.

The future of the library service is currently being discussed at County Hall and there will be a public consultation. Mobile library users are encouraged to reply. Ilton is considered to be within reach of the library at Ilminster but the lack of public transport would be a problem for non-drivers. A suggestion was made that a meeting for the public is held in Ilton to discuss libraries and to actively encourage people to respond to the consultation.

*The District Councillor left the meeting at 7.45 p.m. after her report.*

#### 2014/146 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th September 2014

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

#### 2014/147 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken or to be taken

Minute 2014/140(b) - Bulbs - It has been confirmed that Ilton has been successful in its request for bulbs. These should arrive approximately mid October. Several locations were suggested including Cad Road, Brook Green, and the School.

Minute 2014/140(e) - Printing Costs - Alternative local printers are being priced. It was suggested that an advert could be included for the printer. **ACTION - The Chairman**

#### 2014/148 Highways

(a) Railway Bridge / Flooding

Work should start here in early February 2015.

(b) Cad Road speed restrictions

A two fold plan has been agreed with Highways (a) to reduce the apparent width of the road by putting in "fog lines" on either side of the carriageway to make the road appear narrower, and to remove the centre line and (b) to start the application process to establish a 40 mph limit which will require some sort of community speed watch to ensure it is effective.

The plan was discussed but it was not clear whether this is a two fold plan as reported in an email, or an either (a) or (b) plan. The Clerk was asked to clarify what is being proposed.

Reducing the width of the road was discussed and Councillors asked if there is any evidence that this does slow down traffic. It was reported that a Highways inspector had said it works in Sweden. Councillors asked if it has been tried in the UK. Councillors were also concerned with the road safety aspect, and whether there will be collisions due to heavy lorries using the road. They were also concerned that if pedestrians feel the fog lines provide safety there may be accidents if cars pull in quickly to avoid on-coming vehicles. Councillors agreed that while they support the reduction in the speed limit they have concerns about fog lines and do not feel it is safe to reduce the width of the carriageway along Cad Road or to remove the central white line. They asked what is the evidence that this works in the UK. The Clerk was asked to email Highways and the County Councillor with the Council's concerns.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

It was also noted that the Council is likely to be asked to make a financial contribution towards any road works and they do not wish to make a contribution towards something which may or may not work and which may be dangerous. Reducing the speed limit is the most sensible choice.

(c) SID Results August and September

These are very similar to previous readings and are approaching the intervention levels. The Clerk was asked to forward them to the Police to suggest some monitoring.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

(d) Access road to the Church blocked

A resident has reported that the access road to the Church is blocked on occasion by parked vehicles. Councillors thought this is a public highway and should not be blocked. If the road is blocked other vehicles will need to reverse out of the circle because there is no room to turn. The Clerk was asked to inform PCSO Elaine Cave.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

**2014/149 Brook Green**

(a) 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**

(b) Damage to bridge

A resident reported to the Clerk that on Friday evening / Saturday morning the posts, handrails and guard of the bridge were pulled off and possibly used to try to start a fire. The Brook Green officers to investigate.

**ACTION - Brook Green Officers**

**2014/150 Footpaths**

The Footpaths Officer reported that everything is looking good. A few problems with stiles etc have been reported to the Rights of Way Team. Several residents have requested footpath maps which have been provided.

## 2014/151 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Cemetery Bench by the fence - This repair will be done as soon as possible.  
**ACTION - Brook Green Officer**
- (b) Brambles and hedge cuttings - There are still a lot of hedge cuttings and brambles along the hedge. The Clerk was asked to arrange to have these cleared.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**
- (c) Conifers - The new laurels are growing well between the conifers and the hedge. It has been planned to remove the conifers. The Clerk was asked to obtain a price for removal.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**

## 2014/152 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports

These show that the net on the cone climber is fraying in places. This has been reported previously but on inspection by the Recreation Ground Officer no problem could be seen. The SSDC inspector will be asked to photograph the problem.

**ACTION - Recreation Ground Officer**

- (b) New equipment

- zip wire - several examples were looked at. After discussion it was agreed to order the 30 metre Playdale zip wire;
- a castle tower, a seesaw and a nest swing have been ordered from Hags SMP;
- fitting of the new equipment has gone out to tender;
- the cost of the equipment and the fitting costs will have to be met by the Parish Council until the grant from SSDC comes through. With regard to meeting the extra cost of the VAT, it may be possible to make an arrangement with HMRC. It was agreed to transfer the balance in the 30 day account into the Treasurer's Account in readiness.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

- (c) Temporary storage

It is essential to ensure the safe keeping of the new equipment between delivery and installation, particularly as a local council had equipment stolen from site between delivery and installation. Eagle Plant, who are based locally, agreed to provide a 21 foot container for 4 weeks free of charge including delivery and collection, from mid November onwards. Padlocks will be needed.

## 2014/153 Recreational Development / Playing Field

Progress with the fence has been very slow. Originally it was started in the wrong place and has had to be moved. It was agreed to ask for it to be done in the next week or to find someone else. One Councillor thought that too many posts have been ordered.

**ACTION - Vice Chairman**

The ground has been partially flattened and the farmer will provide some soil to level it. Thanks were expressed to the farmer for his help.

The Warren Trust planning application has now been submitted. Councillors were encouraged to express their support to the planning authority.

## 2014/154 Planning Applications

- (a) App No 14/04158/OUT  
Proposal: Demolition of existing agricultural buildings, change of use to residential and erection of 47 dwellings etc  
Location: Land at Court Farm, Ilton

Ilton Parish Council considered the above application at its meeting last night and are in favour of the proposal and have no objections. The plans were on display during the public consultation weekend and all the comments which were put forward during the public consultation are available to view on the SSDC website.

The Cricket Club have made some comments about the access and the location of the car park. The current application is outline so until it has been approved the location can be moved. The markings for the pitches are also not necessarily where they will be. The car park location is correct but the access may change. Once the application is approved the finer details can be worked out.

- (b) App No 14/04450/FUL  
Proposal: Erection of part single storey, part two storey extensions  
Location: Cross Keys Cottage, Cad Green, Ilton

Ilton Parish Council considered the above application at its meeting last night and has no objections to the proposal.

- (c) App No 14/03990/FUL  
Proposal: Divide existing 4 bedroom house with garage into two dwelling units  
Location: 1 Pennys Mead, Ilton

Ilton Parish Council considered the above application at its meeting last night and while it has no objections to the plans there are concerns about the existing footpath which runs along the edge of the property and which is being shown on the plans as vehicular access.

- (d) App No 14/04220/COU  
Proposal: Change of use to include the sale of motorbikes  
Location: Cornerstones Autos Ltd, Ilton Business Park, Ilton

Ilton Parish Council considered the above application at its meeting last night and has no objections to the proposal.

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

It was noted that caravans have moved onto the site despite the planning application being refused. A 28 notice to move has been issued by SSDC. This will then be followed by an enforcement notice.

## 2014/155 Planters

It was agreed to order a metal plaque with the words "ILTON" followed by "Ilton Parish Council 2014" in smaller letters. Councillors authorised Mrs Burt to buy the plaque and arrange to have it fitted and also to buy more plants for the winter.

**ACTION - Highways Officer**

## **2014/156 Correspondence**

- (a) David Heath surgeries at Langport - 11th October, 8th November, 13th December.
- (b) Somerset Waste Partnership monthly briefing and collection dates.
- (c) Invitation to South Somerset Together Housing Assembly - 23 October 16.30 - 19.30.

## **2014/157 Accounts**

- (a) Balance at bank as at 30/9/14 - 30 day account = £38,593.77 / Treasurer's Account = £11,477.10
- (b) The following cheques are to be drawn:
  - 000805 - £ 4.00 - Admin expenses
  - 000806 - £ 146.78 - Salary

## **2014/158 Matters and items to report**

- (a) The two free children's tickets to the Fleet Air Arm Museum, given as sponsorship for the planter, will be raffled by the Youth Club.
- (b) An updated copy of The Good Councillor's Guide has been received. The Clerk to keep the copy for reference.
- (c) Some leaflets on Healthwatch Somerset, Well Aware and WISH (Warmer Improved Somerset Homes) were passed round and left at the Village Hall.
- (d) An email was sent to PCSO Elaine Cave re parking on the pavement. The vehicle has since been moved.
- (e) The Youth Club are celebrating their 15 year birthday. A coffee morning will be held on Saturday 8th November from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. There will be activities and a raffle, for which prizes are being requested, as well as cakes. Notice will be sent to the Chard & Ilminster News. A Halloween evening will be held next Monday.
- (f) Parking will be a problem at the witches and wizards event to be held at Brook Green. It may be possible to open the gate from the Business Park and it was suggested that the Brook Green Officer speak to the Managing Director there.

**ACTION - Brook Green Officer**
- (g) Items were stolen from a front garden in Copse Lane. This should be reported to the Police.
- (h) Rubbish was cleared from the layby but there are 4 heaps of rubbish there again.
- (i) The transport website being developed by one of the Councillors is progressing with a meeting arranged with South Somerset Together.

## **2014/159 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 11th November 2014  
7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 10.00 p.m.

Dave Amor - Chairman