

## ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 13th January 2015

#### 2015/01 Attendance and Apologies

##### Those present:

Mr D Amor (Chair)  
Mr L Hart (Vice Chair)  
Mrs K Board  
Mrs R Burt  
Mrs P Matravers  
Mr I Sherwood  
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)  
Mr C Le Hardy (County Councillor)  
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

##### Apologies

Mr G Mackenzie-Green  
Mr D Mico  
Mr L Trahar

##### In Attendance

Ms L Souster, Village Agent  
Mr S Watson (Head Teacher St Mary & St Peter's School)  
PCSO Ceara Sturt

#### 2015/02 Public Voice

##### (a) Defibrillators

Ms Souster briefed councillors about a programme to provide communities in Somerset with a defibrillator which will be free of charge. Information is currently being collected to see who is interested. Ms Souster left the meeting at 7.35 p.m.

##### (b) Headteacher, St Mary & St Peter's School

Mr Watson was welcomed and spoke to councillors about the School and the numbers of children currently enrolled. Councillors felt that the new houses should benefit the School by increasing numbers of pupils. Mr Watson was thanked for coming and encouraged to speak to the Councillor currently a Governor of the School or the Clerk if the Parish Council can help in any way. Mr Watson then left the meeting.

##### (c) Police

PCSO Sturt attending on behalf of PCSO Cave was welcomed to the meeting. The only issue councillors wished to bring to her attention was that of cars still parking on pavements, particularly at weekends. PCSO Sturt was thanked for coming and left the meeting.

#### 2015/03 Report by County Councillor

Some issues reported were the A303 dualling, Somerset Early Learning and the Food for Life programme which works in schools to show children the process from farm to plate. Councillors were encouraged to submit a project for Ilton for the coming year for a Health & Wellbeing grant. The Library consultation is now closed. There is a programme to teach children the dangers of the internet. Information on where the next round of cuts will fall will be available shortly but children and adult social care are being protected although efficiency savings are being sought. Councillors asked a number of questions about management etc.

##### Highways

The road to Ilminster is now open and Highways have done a good job although concern was expressed at the length of time it took to do the work and the lack of official communication with local councils.

Cad Road will be closed from 2nd February for 12 days. Councillors were concerned that with traffic detouring through Ilminster, there is potential for severe congestion along New Road if parking is not restricted. Much of the time it is difficult for one lorry to pass down the road. The detour will bring lorries both ways. The County Councillor was asked to bring this to the attention of Highways.

**ACTION - County Councillor**

#### **2015/04 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2014**

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

#### **2015/05 Matters arising from the minutes**

Minute 2014/180 - Copse Lane one-way system - Highways have said that it would be very expensive and would not necessarily advantage everyone. One-way systems also tend to cause traffic to go faster and therefore speed humps may be necessary. The project would need to be a Small Improvement Scheme (SIS), probably requiring financial support from the Parish. Councillors agreed that the next step is to canvas opinion from residents, and ask which way the one-way should go and also to let residents know that the village would need to pay towards the scheme. The District Councillor offered to ask residents.

**ACTION - District Councillor**

#### **2015/06 Highways**

##### (a) Road Closures

- Hundry Lane & B3168 Hambridge and Westport - from 16th February for 12 days.
- Cad Green, Ashill and Ilton - from 2nd February for 12 days - see minute 2015/03 above regarding the detour along New Road in Ilminster.

##### (b) Depth Gauge - The depth Gauge at the Ford in Frost Lane is leaning at a 45° angle. The Clerk to inform Highways.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

##### (c) Isle Abbots - The two bridges have been closed as an emergency.

#### **2015/07 Brook Green**

##### (a) Dog Bin - This has now been emptied.

##### (b) Bridge - Purchase of the sleeper to repair the bridge is in hand and will cost £20.82.

#### **2015/08 Footpaths**

County Rights of Way are dealing with the issue of the footpath from Penny's Mead and re-instatement of the footpath will be a condition of planning. The rest of the footpath will be dealt with as soon as the main issues of access are solved and a gate will be installed.

#### **2015/09 Cemetery / Churchyard**

##### (a) Brambles and hedge cuttings - The cuttings have been removed.

##### (b) Conifers - This is in hand, waiting for better weather.

**ACTION - Vice Chairman and Brook Green Officer**

##### (c) Two councillors reported that they have visited the Cemetery and Churchyard during the last month and there are no issues.

## 2015/10 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports - These still show the lid of the bin as needing repair. The Recreation Ground Officer reported that it has been broken for some time and is not a danger to the public. The bin will be replaced as part of the refurbishment project.

Litter was also reported as an issue and it was agreed to monitor this.

- (b) Insurance - Cover is arranged for all new equipment with £173.07 extra to pay.
- (c) Interim Grant - The third interim grant is being claimed.
- (d) Goal Posts - These were to be moved across to the new field by the installers of the new equipment but unfortunately there was insufficient time. The fixings have been left in the ground. SSDC will be asked if they can remove the fixings and move the posts. If not it was agreed to formalise the new football pitch in the next round of work. **ACTION - Chairman**
- (e) New Equipment - This has been well used and there have been a lot of positive comments. There were a few issues with the castle tower system regarding the distance between the ropes which younger children could fall through. SSDC have been informed of the problem and Hags SMP are dealing with it and looking at the design and the difference between the one fitted in Ilton and the one fitted in Yeovil which has a closer netting system.
- (f) Nets - Yarlington want to leave the nets in place until phase 2 is done.
- (g) Entrances / gates - The discussion about footpath number 4 is ongoing between Yarlington and the residents. The council have agreed that there is no need for the fourth entrance but residents will need to pay to fence it.
- (h) The Clerk was asked to write to SSDC to express Councillors thanks for all the help and support in getting the new equipment in and ready for Christmas.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

## 2015/11 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Fencing - Extra rails will cost £133.20 and the Highways Officer will arrange collection. The hinges on the gate need to be a matching pair. **ACTION - Highways Officer and Recreation Field Officers**
- (b) Steering Group Meeting - The meeting was very positive and minutes will be available shortly. There are still issues to agree with the Cricket Club and the Vice Chairman will speak to them. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (c) Planning Application - This is ongoing and should go to Committee in February.
- (d) Grants - The Playing Field Association have sent information about new grants of between £10,000 to £65,000 available from Sport England under "Protecting Playing Fields". The closing date is 9/2/15. A further round will follow on 14/9/15.
- (e) Tractor Banger - The cheque to J Spiller, North Bradon Farm, has been returned as the wrong address. The Councillor who arranged the loan has not been available.

## 2015/12 Planning Applications

App No 14/05195/S73  
Description Section 73 application to vary condition 4 (materials)  
Location Land Adjacent Drakes Farm, Church Road, Ilton

The above application has been approved with conditions.

**2015/13 Planters**

Some of the bulbs from SSDC will be used in the planter.

**ACTION - Highways Officer**

**2015/14 Correspondence**

- (a) From Jeremy Greenop, RNAS Yeovilton re the School Santa visit and the Merryfield Open Evening. Councillors were disappointed that the School did not receive the usual visit from Santa which in the past has always been a thank you from RNAS Yeovilton for the disruption caused to the village by the noise of helicopters. Now schools that have not had a visit before get priority.
- (b) RNAS Yeovilton Parish Notice 2015 - on notice board, distributed by email and hard copies given to several councillors.
- (c) Somerset Waste Partnership January briefing.
- (d) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau - thank you for the cheque for £75.00.
- (e) Police Crime Commissioner's Newsletter.
- (f) Clerks and Councils Direct.
- (g) Glasdon products leaflet.

**2015/15 Precept**

The tax base 2015/16 is £280.89 (the tax base 2014/15 was £275.68).

The total income in 2014/15 was £16,600 (£15,000 precept plus £1,600 grant). Councillors felt that this should be increased this year to allow for the extra cost of maintaining the new recreation field. An income of £17,395 will mean a precept of £16,000 plus the grant this year of £1,395. This represents a band D charge of £56.96, a yearly increase per band D property of £2.55 or 4.69%.

Mr Amor proposed that the precept be set at £16,000 this year, seconded by Mr Hart. There were no objections and it was agreed that the precept for 2015/16 be set at £16,000 which with the grant of £1,395 will give a total income of £17,395.

**2015/16 Accounts**

- (a) Balances as at 31/12/14 - 30 day account = £596.97 / Treasurers account = £44,146.50 (+ £6,011.31 VAT refund)
- (b) Amounts received - grant payments from SSDC = £16,396.22 and £5,478.67 / VAT refund = £6,011.31 / Wayleave payment = £23.85
- (c) 2% pay increase for Clerks agreed from 1 January 2015
- (d) The following cheques are to be drawn:
  - 000822 - CANCELLED
  - 000823 - CANCELLED
  - 000824 - CANCELLED

000825	- £ 13,677.74	- Play UK Playgrounds Ltd - installation of new equipment (installed December 2014)
000826	- £ 8,845.20	- Playdale Playgrounds Ltd - new equipment (delivered December 2014)
000827	- £ 173.07	- Aon UK Ltd - increased insurance cover for new equipment (December 2014 - June 2015)
000828	- £ 14.45	- Admin expenses part Dec / January
000829	- £ 149.94	- Salary
000830	- £ 154.02	- G Burt - fencing and railway sleeper to collect from Mole Valley Farmers (January 2015)

#### **2015/17 Matters and items to report**

- (a) The Transparency Code for Parish Councils with an annual turnover not exceeding £25,000 should become mandatory in March 2015. Minutes, agendas and other Council information must be published on a website and must include information about transactions over £100 including the date of supply or order (this is being challenged by NALC who feel the date of payment should be shown not supply). Ilton's turnover this year will exceed £25,000 so an external audit will be needed.
- (b) Grass cutting tenders sent to SSDC and two other companies. The cost of advertising in Chard & Ilminster is £66 + VAT for 5" x 2", or Somerset County Gazette is £126.50 + VAT. It was decided not to advertise because three tenders have been requested.
- (c) The local plan is to be decided on 5th March 2015.
- (d) A councillor reported that dog mess in the village has increased. The Clerk was asked to contact Streetscene. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (e) The District Councillor was thanked for securing a grant of £250 for the Youth Club for a new karaoke machine. It was noted that grants may be available from the Health and Wellbeing fund.
- (f) Councillors were pleased that the Church was full for the Christmas carol service.

#### **2015/18 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

Date of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th February 2015 at Merryfield Hall at 7.30 p.m..

The meeting finished at 10.10 p.m.

Dave Amor (Chairman)