

## ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 12th May 2015

#### 2015/70 Attendance and Apologies

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

#### Result of uncontested election

There were only eight candidates nominated for the nine vacancies on the Parish Council, all eight being existing councillors, who were therefore re-elected unopposed.

#### 2015/71 Vacancy on the Parish Council

Following the nomination process, one vacancy remained. Mr Trahar did not submit his nomination before the deadline but would like to remain on the Council. No further publicity of the vacancy is required at this time. Mr Hart proposed Mr Trahar, seconded by Mrs Burt. All councillors were in favour and Mr Trahar was duly co-opted onto the Parish Council.

#### 2015/72 Election of the Chair of the Parish Council

Mr Amor indicated that he no longer wished to stand as Chair of the Council. Mr Amor proposed Mr Hart as Chair, seconded by Mrs Board. There were no more nominations and Mr Hart was duly elected Chair of the Parish Council.

Mr Hart paid tribute to Mr Amor for 12 years as Chair of the Council plus many more as a Councillor. As Chair Mr Amor has achieved a great deal for the Parish including the pedestrian footway in Church Road, securing ownership of the land at Copse Lane, and the work on the new Yarlinton houses to mention just a few.

#### 2015/73 Declaration of Acceptance of office by the Chair

Mr Hart signed the Declaration of Acceptance as Chair of the Parish Council.

#### 2015/74 Election of the Vice Chair of the Parish Council

Mr Hart proposed Mr Amor as Vice Chair of the Council, Mrs Board seconded the proposal. There were no more nominations and Mr Amor was duly elected Vice Chair of the Council.

#### 2015/75 Review of individual areas of responsibility

Individual areas of responsibility for Councillors were agreed as follows:

Mr Hart	Chair, Recreation Field, Cemetery Plans
Mr Amor	Vice Chair, Ilton Talking, Website, Housing
Mrs Board	Youth Club, Recreation Field
Mrs Burt	Planning, Highways, Strimmer, Planter
Mr McKenzie-Green	Footpaths, Brook Green
Mrs Matravers	Parish Environmental Warden (PEW), Tree Warden, Cemetery, Churchyard
Mr Mico	Footpaths, Brook Green
Mr Sherwood	Neighbourhood Watch, Recreation Field, Traffic, School, Cemetery, Churchyard
Mr Trahar	Village Hall, Website, Churchyard

**2015/76 Somerset Local Authorities Civil Contingencies Unit**

A request has been made for three or more named people in the parish to act as first point of contact in case of an emergency. Mr Hart, Mrs Burt, Mrs Matravers and Mr Sherwood all agreed to be listed as contacts.

**2015/77 Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations & Statement of Risk.**

No advice has been received that there is any need to make any amendments and no changes were proposed.

**2015/78 Review Inventory of Land and Assets held by the Council**

The value of assets is shown in the notes to the accounts with the current insurance value. Land was given either a nil value or the rateable value. Some amendments were made including the addition of the planter, gates and fences.

**2015/79 Review Insurance Cover**

The new equipment was added to the insurance during the year and two extra premiums were paid. A quote was sourced from another company which quoted a much lower premium. The current insurers agreed to offer a premium slightly below the alternative quote. They have changed underwriters and assets are no longer given with fixed values but fall into an overall price. This will mean that if new equipment is added which does not exceed the overall price, there will be no need to seek an additional premium. Councillors agreed to continue with the existing insurers.

**2015/80 Review membership of other bodies**

Currently the Parish Council subscribes to SALC and Somerset Playing Fields. It was agreed to make no changes.

**2015/81 Dates and times of ordinary Council meetings for the year ahead**

Councillors agreed to continue to meet on the second Tuesday of every month with the exception of August when there will be no meeting. Dates were circulated. Councillors were reminded that they must give notice to the Clerk or the Chair if they cannot attend a meeting.

**2015/82 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th April 2015**

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

**2015/83 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken**

Minute 2015/65(d) - mobile library - The Library Service have agreed that the public can use the stop by the school as soon as the new car park is finished. They have also agreed that there will be an additional stop at Merryfield Lane

Minute 2015/65(e) - Saturday N6 service - Details of the cost of the subsidy and passenger usage of the N6 service show that the average passenger usage for the 4 Saturdays between 28/03 and 18/04 was 27 per Saturday. The total cost of the Saturday subsidy (and therefore the figure saved by withdrawing it) is £15,718.04, which means a spending of approximately £11.41 per passenger trip on the Saturday N6 service. The average rural service would be expected to cost in the region of £5.00 per passenger trip. Councillors expressed disappointment at this response, particularly given that some £0.5 million is spent subsidising the Park and Ride at Taunton which is essentially a subsidy to people who already own a car. The blunt criteria of looking at costs per journey takes no account of existing bus service provision or the social needs of the community.

Minute 2015/68(c) - Road Closure sign at Rapps - The road closure sign is still in place but there is no information on the website and the closure is not listed by Highways. Highways to report back on the reasons for the signs.

**2015/84 Highways**

- (a) SID readings have been received for Church Road for March / April showing the median speed as 31 mph and the 85% percentile as 36 mph.

- (b) Speed Limit Reduction Cad Road - There is still no progress on a speed limit reduction along Cad Road. The County Councillor has indicated that it would have to be an SIS scheme and no new SIS schemes are being discussed at the moment. The Highways Officer will contact Highways. Once a speed restriction is in force, other forms of traffic calming would be possible but cannot be considered all the time the road carries a national speed limit. **ACTION - Highways Officer**
- (c) Highways Review - the upgrading of the A303 / A358 will need to be considered once more information about the changes to the A358 are available, particularly access onto the A358 from Ilton.

**2015/85 Brook Green**

- (a) Dog Bin - The continuing failure to empty the dog bin at Brook Green was reported to Streetscene who did not have it shown on their map. It has now been added and emptied and should continue to be emptied in the future.
- (b) Vandalism - this was reported to the Police. Residents and several councillors cleared up the mess, removed the broken glass and covered over the burnt areas. Everything is looking very nice now.

**2015/86 Footpaths**

- (a) Pennys Mead - The MOD have applied for a diversion to the footpath where it loops in and out of the airfield for about 50 metres. There is a backlog of diversion applications and further applications have been suspended until the backlog is cleared. The Footpath Officers will start the work of clearing the footpath at the Pennys Mead end which will take some time to complete.
- (b) Footpath to Ilminster - the footpath from Cad Road to the A303 could be re-instated with a tunnel under the A303 and go straight to Ilminster. This should be considered as part of the upgrading of the A303.
- (c) Footpath from the Ford to Cad Road - People climb over the gate rather than opening and closing it. It was suggested that the landowners might prefer to have a stile, particularly as they keep horses and need to ensure they cannot get out. A bristol gate was suggested as a better alternative, to which the landowner has no objections. The Footpath Officer to contact the Rights of Way Team to suggest a bristol Gate, especially as this is on a main road. **ACTION - Footpaths Officer**

**2015/87 Cemetery / Churchyard**

- (a) Several Councillors reported they had walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems had been recorded.
- (b) Churchyard - a headstone is loose and leaning and will be laid down flat. **ACTION - Churchyard Officers**
- (c) Rubbish Bin - The Clerk to order a metal guppy bin for the Cemetery. **ACTION - The Clerk**

**2015/88 Recreation Ground**

- (a) The latest inspection reports show nothing new or urgent but there is a list of things which are being recommended to monitor. The Recreation Ground Officers took copies of the reports to check on the items to be monitored. **ACTION - Recreation Ground Officers**
- (b) Replacement of the broken flag on the new multi unit has been quoted at £110 plus VAT and delivery. It is disappointing that the flag lasted only a few months. Play UK have been asked to put end caps on those which have been snapped off. Only 2 flags are remaining and will also be capped off if they are broken. It is too costly to keep replacing the flags which are only decorative.
- (c) The fence has been stapled up and signs put up asking people not to walk on the newly laid grass to give it time to grow.

- (d) One of the Recreation Ground Officers and another resident are sharing the job of litter picking in both the Recreation Ground and the new Playing Field.
- (e) Phase 2 invoices have been received from Play UK for work to the landscaping. An invoice is due from SSDC for planting.

#### **2015/89 Recreational Development / Playing Field**

- (a) The Steering Group held a meeting on 21st April 2015. It was agreed to hire a landscape architect to suggest a layout for the field. This will cost approximately £3 - 4,000 which is around 1% of the budget. It is worth doing to ensure the project is done properly from the start and is recommended by SSDC. It should avoid having problems at a later stage and should ensure that all residents are catered for.
- (b) Transfer of land - The Warren Trust have been asked to reconsider gifting the land to the parish rather than transferring it on a 999 year lease. There appears to be a difference of opinion over the length of the lease. SSDC consider either an outright gift or a 999 year lease crucial to the planning application and this is included on the draft Heads of Terms. Outline planning consent has been agreed subject to the 106 agreement. The Chair to report back to the Parish Council. **ACTION - Chairman**
- (c) Litter - There has been a lot of litter left in the field and there is a need for a rubbish bin. It may be possible to transfer the old bin from Cemetery to the field. The Village Hall Officer will put up some signs asking people to take their rubbish home or put it in a bin. It was agreed to monitor the situation. **ACTION - Village Hall Officer**
- (d) Goal Posts - these are in a worse state than originally thought and have not yet been repainted. **ACTION - Village Hall Officer**

**2015/90 Planning Applications** - There were no planning applications.

#### **2015/91 Correspondence**

- (a) Playdays - Funding is available for 2 Playdays in Ilton - one on Tuesday 11th Aug and one on Tuesday 25th Aug. The Parish Council have been asked if they can help to fund an activity on the day or make a contribution towards an activity; the climbing wall costs £400 to get to an activity, bouncy castles and smaller activities cost approx £150. It was hoped to tie the Playdays into a formal opening of the refurbished recreation ground. The Chairman and District Councillor to speak to SSDC. **ACTION - Chairman / District Councillor**
- (b) Slinky Bus service - From 26 May the demand responsive Slinky bus service will be zoned into smaller areas on set days of the week - Ilton is covered on Thursday.
- (c) Clerks and Councils direct - May 2015 issue no 99.
- (d) South Somerset Together Assembly - Friday 22nd May at Long Sutton Golf Club to discuss good health for all.

#### **2015/92 Accounts**

- (a) The Internal Audit has been carried out and no problems have been reported.
- (b) The precept of £17,395.00 which includes the Council Tax Support Grant, has been received.
- (c) Balances at 30/4/15 - Treasurer's Account = £46,109.00 / 30 Day Account = £597.08
- (d) The following cheques are to be drawn:
  - 000845 - £3,972.96 - Play UK - landscaping at recreation ground April 2015
  - 000846 - £1,180.80 - Play UK - Trim Trail and remove and install benches at recreation ground April 2015
  - 000847 - £ 218.44 - SALC - annual subscription 2015/16
  - 000848 - £ 8.98 - Parrett Internal Drainage Board - agricultural rates
  - 000849 - £ 61.33 - Admin expenses
  - 000850 - £ 174.70 - Salary
  - 000851 - £ 600.30 - Aon UK Ltd - insurance 2015/16

**2015/93      Matters and items to report**

- (a) Fundraising for the playing field was discussed. It was suggested this should start once we have the landscape architect's report. There is a village fete on the last Saturday in June and some ideas were put forward for possible events at the fete.
- (b) It was reported that a number of the lamp posts in the village are faulty. There is a number on each post and any faults should be reported to SCC.
- (c) There was a recent incident with an unlicensed vehicle on the road with two boys inside. The Police attended.
- (d) The Youth Club had 4 attending this week with potential for another 2.
- (e) Lorries carrying scrap cars are dropping glass on the road and pavements. The Police have been informed.

**2015/94      Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th June 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 10.05 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman