

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 9th June 2015

2015/95 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr I Hart (Chair)
Mrs K Board
Mrs R Burt
Mr G Mackenzie-Green
Mr D Mico
Mr I Sherwood
Mr L Trahar
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)
Mr C L Hardy (County Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)
Mrs P Matravers

In Attendance

PCSO Ben Middleditch
2 members of the public

2015/96 Visitors and Public Voice

(a) Policing

PCSO Middleditch usually covers the Langport and Somerton areas. There are currently 4 PCSOs whereas before there were 11 for the same area. Everyone is very busy and rural crime can be a problem, such as sheep / cattle etc. Councillors were asked if they had any problems or questions. There were none. It is likely to be 3 - 6 months before there is another visit from the Police.

PCSO Middleditch left the meeting at 7.35 p.m.

(b) Public Voice

Two members of the public attended the meeting to ask about the status of last year's petition requesting a 40 mph limit along Cad Road. There has been some progress and this is currently an agenda item which Councillors will be asked to vote on. They were invited to stay at the meeting until the item is discussed.

2015/97 Report by County Councillor

The programme for troubled families has been very successful and has turned around over 800 families. Somerset won two awards for this programme.

Last week was Chard Safety Week to raise awareness of the more than 1,000 children a year who are hospitalised as a result of accidents including poisoning, falls, burns etc.

The Highways Review has been well received at County. There is a new Cabinet Member responsible for Highways.

The Cad Road speed limit reduction has been delayed because all new SIS schemes have been stopped as the programme is already too full. There is an alternative proposal from Highways which Councillors will discuss under the relevant agenda item.

The County Councillor left the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

2015/98 Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th May 2015

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council were agreed and signed.

2015/99 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2015

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were agreed and signed.

2015/100 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

Minute 2015/65(e) - Bus Services - A reply has been received from the County Council explaining that all responses to the consultation were taken into consideration before cuts were decided. Councillors noted that the decision has now been made and is unlikely to be

changed in the near future. However they felt that they would like to make their objections to the cuts put on record and that should any extra funds be available, the County Council will consider restoring bus services. The Clerk was asked to contact other clerks in villages which have been similarly affected to put together a joint response. **ACTION - The Clerk**

Minute 2015/68(c) - Road Closure sign at Rapps - This has now been removed.

2015/101 Highways

Speed Limit Reduction Cad Road - Highways have proposed that because this cannot be an SIS scheme, if the Parish Council will agree to fund 50% of the cost of the project, they will fund the other 50%. The total cost is likely to be around £3,000 which would require the Parish Council to pay £1,500. If Councillors agree to this, the speed limit should be in place by the end of the year, possibly even by September or October. The proposal is that the 40 mph limit will extend from just before the turning into Ilton from the west (just after the Parish boundary) and continue to the T junction at Old Way Gate. It will also include Frost Lane.

A Councillor asked whether Ashill Parish Council should be asked if they wish the 40 mph limit to extend through Ashill to the A358. It was thought that this would only delay the project further. There would be no cost savings in a joint project because the cost is governed mainly by the number of signs needed.

One Councillor thought that the only way to reduce the speed of traffic would be to put in sleeping policemen. It was pointed out that enforcement of a 40 mph limit is stronger than enforcement of a 60 mph limit. A Councillor asked if the SID device can be sited along Cad Road once the 40 mph limit is introduced. If traffic then exceeds the 85% percentile there should be some enforcement from the Police. It was thought that this would be possible. The Clerk was asked to check. **ACTION - The Clerk**

Councillors were asked to vote on the proposal. Mrs Burt proposed the motion that Ilton Parish Council will contribute 50% of the cost of implementing a 40 mph speed limit along the proposed length of Cad Road, Mr Hart seconded the motion. Councillors voted, 5 for the motion, 2 against. The motion was duly carried. It was noted that the two councillors who are absent also support the motion. The Clerk will inform Highways. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2015/102 Brook Green

The grass has been cut and everything is in good order except for the alphabet bridge which has had most of the alphabet removed.

2015/103 Footpaths

The Rights of Way team will look at whether a bristol gate can be installed in the field alongside Cad Road.

Some trimming of footpaths has been done and everything is looking good.

2015/104 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 new bin has arrived and will be collected by one of the Footpath Officers. The Cemetery and Footpath Officers will look at fitting the bin.

ACTION - Footpath and Cemetery Officers

2015/105 Recreation Ground

(a) The latest Inspection Reports show nothing new or urgent. With regard to the monitoring comment, the Inspector explained that this is something to keep an eye on for the future and not something needing immediate attention.

(b) The Inspector rang to say that the grass mat underneath the Mega Swing has been ripped up. As it is a small piece, SSDC will replace it free of charge the next day.

- (c) Two residents have asked if there will be any picnic benches and tables at the recreation ground and if there will be any more seats. Currently there is only one and more are needed to encourage parents to accompany their children. They also asked why one of the seats had been removed as it was OK. The answer is that there will be some more seats and picnic benches. The bench was removed on the advice of SSDC. It may be possible to re-site it elsewhere.
- (d) One of the Playdays has been re-arranged for Saturday 15th August for the grand opening of the refurbished playspace. The other Playday is on Tuesday 25th August. It was agreed to invite a number of people who have been involved with the project. There is a company in the village who provide mascots and it was thought that Olaf from Frozen would be good for the children, also an ice cream / burger wagon. Councillors agreed to pay extra for a bouncy castle with sumo suits (£180) and birds of prey (£140) for the Open Day.
- (e) A Quote for painting the existing play equipment and skate ramps for £1,250 from R.T Services has been received. It was agreed to accept the quote and hopefully get the work done as soon as possible. The back and sides to be painted black, not grey.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (f) The interim grant form has been completed for the recent invoices and will be sent to SSDC once it has been signed.
- (g) There are a few more things to do at the Recreation Ground including a decision on the bike track / skate ramp.
- (h) There are two flags left on the Castle which will be left until they are pulled off when they will be capped off.

2015/106 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Transfer of land - The Warren Trust have put forward a proposal for 299 year lease. This has never been discussed before. Previously the terms discussed have been a 999 year lease or an outright gift. There has been no response so far to the query about the 299 year lease which is not acceptable to SSDC. Until the situation with the lease has been resolved a landscape architect will not be instructed.
- (b) Grass Cutting - Bits have been missed but it is looking nice now.
- (c) Litter Picking - Mr Hart and Mr Sherwood declared a pecuniary interest and left the room. It had previously been agreed that the Parish Council would pay £10 a week for someone to collect the litter at the Recreation Ground. This should take approximately 1 hour a week over two visits. Mr Sherwood and Mrs Hart agreed to share the work. Mrs Hart started on 9th May and Mr Sherwood on 1st April.

The previous agreement for £10 a week was for only the Recreation Ground but it is apparent that now more children are using the new Recreation Field, litter is being dropped constantly. Councillors agreed that this needs to be cleared. Mr Sherwood has been clearing the new Recreation Field once a week which takes about ½ hour as well as ½ hour at the Recreation Ground. Councillors agreed that Mr Sherwood would be paid £10 a week for clearing the Recreation Ground once a week and the Recreation Field once a week and Mrs Hart would be paid £5 a week for clearing the Recreation Ground once a week.

Mr Hart and Mr Sherwood returned to the meeting.

2015/107 Planning Applications

App No	15/02035/FUL
Proposal	Formation of additional car parking for use by existing businesses
Location	Land South of Ilton Business Park, Main Street, Ilton

Ilton Parish Council considered the above application and had no comments or observations.

2015/108 Correspondence

- (a) SSDC are offering free training for Parish Councillors on understanding the planning application process. Two Councillors are interested and will let the Clerk know their preferred dates.
- (b) South Somerset Together AGM on Wednesday 8th July 18.00 - 20.30 at SSDC offices, Yeovil
- (c) Flood Mitigation Fund - grants available for 2015/16. A lot of work has been done around the village clearing ditches and drains and hopefully the houses which have previously flooded should not do so in the future.

The area around the Ford which gets blocked was discussed. Landowners must maintain the ditches adjoining their fields but there is some confusion over who owns the rough land in this area. If there is a watercourse then the land from the watercourse to the road is not the responsibility of the landowner. The Clerk was asked to contact Parrett Drainage Board to enquire who is responsible.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (d) Somerset Playing Fields Association Field of the Year Competition - Entry is free and Copse Lane Recreation Ground has been entered into the competition. Judges will visit during late July with awards to be presented on 1st September.
- (e) Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Plan 2015 - 17.
- (f) Park Life Eco Furniture catalogue.

2015/109 Grants

Ilton Friendship Club have requested a grant towards their Christmas meal. Last year the Parish Council gave a grant of £250 towards the meal. Mr Mico proposed a grant of £250, seconded by Mr Sherwood. All Councillors were in favour.

2015/110 Accounts

- (a) Balances at 31/5/15 - Treasurer's Account = £40,110.92 / 30 Day Account = £597.11
- (b) The following cheques are to be drawn:
 - 000852 - £ 155.42 - Salary
 - 000853 - £ 7.31 - Admin expenses
 - 000854 - CANCELLED
 - 000855 - CANCELLED
 - 000856 - £3,536.40 - Play UK Ltd, Inv 901- supply and install gates (June 2015)
 - 000857 - £7,880.21 - SSDC, landscaping at Recreation Ground (May 2015)
 - 000858 - £ 598.80 - SSDC, new seat for Recreation Ground (May 2015)
 - 000859 - £ 264.00 - Glasdon UK Ltd, new bin for Cemetery (June 2015)
 - 000860 - £ 15.00 - Somerset Playing Fields Association - annual subscription
 - 000861 - £ 16.84 - I Sherwood, reimbursement for litter picking equipment
 - 000862 - £ 111.40 - HM Revenue & Customs, PAYE

2015/111 Matters and items to report

- (a) Youth Club numbers are picking up.
- (b) The Headteacher at the School has asked if the new car park near the Cemetery could be a bit larger than suggested.
- (c) There have been some problems with the grass cutting. The village green daffodil area is ready to be cut in time for the village fete on 27th June. **ACTION - Chairman**

2015/112 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 14th July 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman