

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

2015/145 Attendance and Apologies

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

2015/146 Visitors and Public Voice

The Church would like to put a Christmas Tree on the village green for a month. The lights will be solar operated. A hole will be dug and re-instated afterwards. Councillors all agreed that this is an excellent idea.

7.40 p.m. The Churchwarden left the meeting.

A Councillor proposed that the Parish Council make a grant towards the tree so that the Church can afford a better one. All Councillors agreed with this proposal in principle. The Chairman will liaise with the Church to discuss and find out the expected cost.

ACTION - Chairman

2015/147 Report by County Councillor

The County Councillor's report was circulated by email and there were some hard copies available. The County Councillor highlighted some points including Outcome Based Commissioning which is bringing together adult social care and health. This follows a national trend and is driven by cost savings. County is looking at inequality in Somerset.

Highspeed broadband - Ilton has had highspeed broadband for two years which does not seem to be reflected on the maps of the area. Other local villages fall into phase 2 and the County Councillor is in touch with BT to find out when they will be connected.

A set of data from Somerset Inform with statistics on many aspects of life in Islemoor was sent to the Clerk and has been passed to the Chairman. The County Councillor would like to discuss more fully the issues which Ilton faces.

County is looking at fairer funding for education. Currently the grant Somerset receives per pupil is lower than in many other areas, falling into the 40 lowest funded authorities, and work is ongoing to correct this imbalance.

The Small Improvement Scheme has re-opened and local Councils can put forward ideas.

The Health & Wellbeing grant of £5,000 per County Councillor is aiming at grants to combat loneliness. Councillors were asked to suggest suitable projects.

Highway improvements will start with the A358 and single lanes of the A303 being upgraded within the next five years. The A303 Ilminster Bypass will be left until later because the Highways Agency maintains that it is not a dangerous road. Statistics show that in the last five years just three people were killed on the Ilminster Bypass. Councillors were unhappy with this report and felt it did not accurately reflect the dangerous nature of the road which is frequently closed due to accidents.

Councillors emphasised one of the most important problems for Ilton is lack of public transport. Cutting the Saturday bus service means that people can no longer get to Ilminster, Taunton or Yeovil on a Saturday which affects older people, poorer people and particularly

young people who would like to get a Saturday job. It was also pointed out that the community transport service covers Ilton on a Thursday which is Ilminster's early closing day when the library is also closed. People being assessed for social care are being asked to visit the hub to be assessed rather than in their own home. A taxi to Ilminster costs approximately £16 return.

It was emphasised that by cutting the N6 service on Saturdays which served the villages and fed the N10, that the N10 service is now underused and is also likely to be cut. Cutting one service has a knock-on effect on other services and the result is increased isolation for rural communities.

The County Councillor said he would like to ensure a basic bus service remains. A pilot scheme with the Nippy bus demand response service was suggested. The County Councillor will take this forward. In order to work it will need to be adequately publicised.

ACTION - County Councillor

The County Councillor emphasised that he wants to ensure that rural communities are not neglected. Councillors will produce a list of Ilton's problems and needs.

ACTION - Chairman, Vice Chairman and Planning Officer

8.15 p.m. The County Councillor left the meeting

2015/148 Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th Sept 2015

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

2015/149 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

There were no matters not covered by agenda items.

2015/150 Highways

Old Railway Line - After the recent heavy rains the area flooded and took at least 3 hours to drain. The Clerk was asked to report this to Highways. **ACTION - The Clerk**

Signpost at the Bradleys/Copse Lane junction - Reported to Highways.

De-icing Material - 20 kg bags are available on 21st November from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SSDC Highways Depot, Yeovil. **ACTION - Brook Green Officer**

Guide to Winter Service - received.

2015/151 Brook Green

Debris in the watercourse opposite Brook Green was reported to the Drainage Board who have replied that they thought all machine work had been done and they will investigate.

Most of the cuttings have been removed and a resident agreed to remove those remaining.

The picnic tables and steel bench from the Rec have been painted and concreted in.

Equipment was lent by a resident which saved the Council a lot of money. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the resident. **ACTION - The Clerk**

A tree stump was set alight on Saturday night, there is a hole in the lattice fencework and a rope of the swing was burnt. Luckily there is little other damage. The damage will be reported to the Police.

Councillors agreed to install a nature watching camera will be installed.

ACTION - Brook Green Officers

2015/152 Footpaths

The paths have been strimmed and cut back. The bridge at the Ilminster by-pass has rotted and SCC have been notified. The airfield path has been walked but there are still outstanding issues at either end.

2015/153 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Councillors have walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been reported. Everything is looking nice.
- (b) Burial at Cemetery - A burial of ashes took place at the Cemetery last week. A Councillor noted that the turf had not been replaced and there is bare mud. The Clerk to contact the undertakers. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2015/154 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspections - The latest reports show a hole in the grass area near the swings and problems with the grass mat under the tyre swing. **ACTION - Chairman**
- (b) Inspection Frequency - Ilminster complete an in-house paper inspection checklist weekly and deal with anything urgent as it arises. They also have an annual inspection by an independent body.
- (c) Fencing and weeds - some of the chestnut fencing is broken. There are a lot of weeds and some of the plants have died. SSDC who did the planting will come and inspect it.
- (d) New benches will cost approximately £500 each to include galvanizing. Quotes have been received and were accepted by Councillors. They will be covered by the grant funding.
- (e) The path from Bradleys - a letter was sent to Yarlington requesting that the path is transferred to the Parish Council for a nominal amount. No response has been received to date.
- (f) BMX track - Efforts are being made to contact the person who originally installed the track to quote to re-instate it. **ACTION - Chairman and Vice Chairman**

2015/156 Recreational Development / Playing Field

A draft of the lease agreement has been received by SSDC which is being scrutinised by their legal team.

2015/157 Planning Applications

App No 15/03411/FUL
Description Removal of Vodafone 17.3m mast housing 3 antennas and replacement with 17.5m mast housing 6 antennas, 1 x 0.3m dish, 2 x 0.6m dishes
Location Land at Burlease Farm, Cad Road, Ilton

This application has been approved with conditions.

App No 15/03970/FUL
Description The erection of an agricultural building
Location Frost Farm, Frost Lane, Ilton

This application has been approved with conditions.

App No 15/03822/FUL
Description Erection of a two storey extension to dwellinghouse
Location Hill Farm, Cad Road, Ilton

This application has been approved with conditions.

App No 15/04064/FUL
Proposal Removal of an existing conservatory. Construction of single storey extension to bungalow.
Location 12 Kings Lear, Ilton

Councillors considered the application and have no objections to the proposal.

App No 15/04037/FUL
Proposal Erection of terrace of 5 dwellings
Location Wyndham Arms, Ilton

Councillors considered the application and made the following comments:

1. A petition is included with the application with only 48 signatures from Ilton.
2. There are concerns about road visibility on the corner where the development is planned.
3. There is no guarantee that the money realised, if planning consent is granted, will be used to refurbish the pub. Planning permission was granted to a previous owner to build 3 houses to the right of the pub (which have been built) with a promise to spend the money realised on the pub. This was not done and the pub occupants sold the pub and left.
4. There is concern about the visual amenity of new houses in what is the historic part of the village.
5. It is questionable whether there is a need for extra housing particularly with the plans for housing which have already been approved.
6. A similar application has already been refused in the past.

Sec 106 Agreement

A letter from SSDC has been received regarding use of any s106 money received if planning consent is granted on the above application, with suggestions for the Parish Council to consider. The Chairman to reply. **ACTION - Chairman**

Gypsy Caravan Site at Ashill - No information has yet been received following the hearing in September.

2015/158 Correspondence

- (a) Police Report - 112 crimes investigated in Area North with 27 arrests and 23 reports of ASB.
- (b) Egress Switch - a new way for SCC to communicate particularly for confidential information, and instructions for accessing it.
- (c) CRISP - Community Resilience in Somerset Project - a collaboration to help communities plan and prepare for an emergency. Communities can develop a community plan or flood plan, set up a local scheme with Flood Wardens or Snow Wardens, set up a store of emergency equipment, train volunteers. Advice on how to do all of this. It was noted that Ilton has already set in place a plan for clearing snow and made contact with a local snow plough owner to clear the roads. The Clerk was asked to contact him to ensure he is willing to do the work if it snows this year. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter.

2015/159 Accounts

- (a) Balances as at 30/09/2015 = Treasurers Account - £33,148.46 / 30 Day Account - £597.20
- (b) The following amounts were received - AJ Wakely & Sons Ltd £180.00 interment / £413.00 interment of ashes and purchase of exclusive right of burial
- (c) The following cheques were drawn before the meeting:
000878 - £ 60.00 - Amanda Parker - mascot at Play Day in August (11/09/2015)
000879 - CANCELLED (15/09/2015)
- (d) The following cheques are to be drawn:
000880 - £ 281.80 - Play UK Ltd (VAT outstanding from invoice 917)
000881 - £ 31.14 - Admin expenses
000882 - £ 155.42 - Salary
000883 - £ 201.09 - WCFS - Wood for benches in Rec

000884 - £ 68.52 - Mr G Mackenzie-Green (materials for installing benches at Brook Green)

2015/160 Matters and items to report

- (a) A Councillor noted that the sign for Copse Lane is half way down the road rather than at the beginning. The Vice Chairman to investigate. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (b) A resident has raised a query about a skip which remains in situ on the drive of a house in Ilton. Enquiries have been made and the Parish Council have no jurisdiction because the skip is on a private drive. The resident was advised to refer the matter to the Environmental Health team. Action can be taken if the rubbish is commercial.
- (c) The Youth Club lock-up has been broken into. Nothing was stolen but new locks are needed. The Police have been informed.
- (c) A large hole has been dug in a field and is being used to bury rubbish such as concrete. **ACTION - Planning Officer**

2015/161 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman