

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 10th November 2015

2015/162 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr L Hart (Chair) (arrived at 8 p.m.)
Mrs R Burt
Mr G Mackenzie-Green
Mr D Mico
Mr I Sherwood
Mr L Trahar
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

Mr L Hart (late arrival)
Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)
Mrs K Board
Mrs P Matravers
Mr C L Hardy (County Councillor)

In Attendance

Church representative

Due to apologies from both the Chairman and Vice Chairman, Mr Sherwood chaired the meeting until the Chairman arrived at 8 p.m.

2015/163 Visitors and Public Voice

The proposed 15' Christmas Tree will cost £175.00. Delivery will be an extra £25. With the lights the total cost will be £300. The tree will be set into a metal sleeve which will be concreted in and left in situ for the next year. A Councillor proposed that Ilton Parish Council make a grant of £150 towards the project. All Councillors were in favour. The tree will be ordered tomorrow and go up on 29th November. Three Councillors agreed to assist with the project including assisting with delivery.

7.45 p.m. The Church representative left the meeting.

2015/164 Report by County Councillor

The County Councillor's report was circulated by email and there were some hard copies available.

A Councillor had checked the figures for the numbers killed on the Ilminster Bypass. Highways confirmed that it is 6 in the last five years. The Highways Agency will write to explain how they arrive at these figures which Councillors believe is still too low given that two people were killed on the road recently and there are frequent accidents.

2015/165 Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tues 13th Oct 2015

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

2015/166 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

There were no matters not covered by agenda items.

2015/167 Highways

Old Railway Line - Highways were contacted regarding the recent heavy rain which did not drain away. Highways said this was because the drains were blocked by leaves. As soon as the leaves were cleared the water drained away.

Signpost at corner of Copse Lane - This is still being twisted and was reported again to Highways who have said they will deal with it.

Cad Road speed limit - The notices of the proposed speed restriction along Cad Road appeared in the Western Gazette on 29th October 2015. Objections can be received until 19th November 2015.

Rod Lane - A resident has highlighted vehicles using Rod Lane which she believes is a no-through road. Councillors replied that Rod Lane is a through road which can be used by vehicles although it is only really suitable for 4 x 4s and tractors. Sat navs probably send

vehicles along the road. The Chairman to contact the resident. The Clerk to ask Highways for a 'not suitable' sign. **ACTION - The Clerk**

Old Orchard signs - The two signs have been damaged. This will be reported to SCC. **ACTION - Village Hall Councillor**

Copse Lane sign - The location of this sign was reported.

Penny's Mead sign - This will either be repainted or a new one installed.

Ford sign - A Councillor mentioned that the sign for the Ford in Frost Lane, coming from Cad Road, does not seem to be there. The Village Hall Councillor will check to see if the sign is obscured by the hedge or has been knocked down. He will also check the depth gauge. **ACTION - Village Hall Councillor**

2015/168 Brook Green

Debris in the watercourse opposite Brook Green - The Drainage Board have replied that the channel immediately downstream of the bridge at Cad Brook was not cleaned to the standard expected. This has now been rectified. No more trees should need to be removed at this stage although one or two limbs need to be pruned. The pruning was authorised.

Dog Bin - Since the recent vandalism, one of the Brook Green Officers has visited several times a week. He reported that the dog bin is once again overflowing. **ACTION - The Clerk**

Bridge Across Road - This has been hit and a coping stone is missing. The Village Hall Officer to report to SSDC. **ACTION - Village Hall Councillor**

2015/169 Footpaths

The Ilminster Bypass bridge is very dilapidated and has been reported to SCC. There are a few minor repairs needed to stiles. There has been no movement on the footpath from Pennys Mead.

2015/170 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Councillors have walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been reported. Everything is looking nice.
- (b) Memorial Request - There were no comments regarding the application to erect a memorial at the Cemetery. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (c) Bin at Cemetery - This was not emptied. There is no bag inside. The Clerk to report to SSDC. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Bare Grave - It was noted that a sinking grave had been topped up with sub-soil from the recent burial but not finished with turf or grass seed. The Village Hall Officer to put down some turf. **ACTION - Village Hall Councillor**

2015/171 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspections - The latest reports show nothing new or urgent.
- (b) Seesaw Spring - The Inspector reported that the spring on the seesaw was broken. The seesaw was fenced off with some orange tape. Hags SMP, the supplier of the seesaw, was contacted and supplied a new spring under guarantee. It was fitted by Play UK and paid for by Hags SMP under guarantee.
- (c) BMX track - The people who fitted the BMX track were contacted and quoted £4,500 to re-do it. It was agreed to leave this on hold until the new Playing Field is planned.
- (d) Beech hedging - Some of this has died. The contractor said it is because it was not adequately watered. It is not under guarantee. The quote to sort it out is two plus days work at £328 a day. It should be possible to pay for this out of sec 106 maintenance money.
- (e) Yarlington have asked for confirmation of the location of the footpaths. There are two paths owned by Yarlington which the parish council would like to obtain for a peppercorn. The paths need to be resurfaced. **ACTION - The Clerk**

- (f) Hedge alongside overspill car park - It was suggested that the hedge and tree at the corner are both removed which would give a clearer view. There was concern that the fence could be much easier to vandalise and that a better option may be to lower the hedge. Councillors agreed to meet on site to discuss the options.

ACTION - All Councillors

2015/172 Recreational Development / Playing Field

A draft of the lease agreement has been scrutinised and some amendments made by SSDC. One problem is that the lease refers to the use of the land for sport and no other purposes. This means it could not be used for a village fete or for boot sales etc. Under the current terms if it is not used for sport a notice can be served by the owners. Alternative wording for the use of the land to be considered. Copies of the lease were emailed to all Councillors who were asked for their comments.

ACTION - The Clerk / Chairman

A condition of planning consent is that the field must be transferred and the 106 money paid before building starts.

2015/173 Planning Applications

There were no new applications.

App No 15/04064/FUL
Description Removal of existing conservatory and construction of single storey extension
Location 12 Kings Lear, Ilton

Application approved with conditions.

App No 13/04848/FUL
Location Land at OS 1074 Crosskeys, Ashill

The inspector has allowed the appeal. It was noted that a judicial review is being considered by a neighbouring parish.

Section 106 money - A reply has been received from SSDC re possible uses for any 106 money which the parish council may receive from building projects in the village. The Chairman asked if money could be spent on tarmacing the drive between the village hall and cricket club. This is being checked.

2015/174 Correspondence

- (a) SALC 'Being a Good Councillor' training sessions still available.
(b) Somerset Waste Partnership monthly briefing.
(c) Bus Fares and Concessionary Fares consultation. It was suggested that the parish council should reply formally.

ACTION - Agenda Item December

2015/175 Accounts

- (a) The bank statements to the end of October have not been received to date.
(b) The following amounts were received - £100.00 memorial application / £953.37 SSDC payment 5 of the grant allocation at the Recreation Ground.
(c) The following cheques are to be drawn:
000885 - £ 4.80 - Admin Expenses
000886 - £ 155.42 - Salary
000887 - £ 423.38 - SSDC Inspection reports Q1 & Q2
000888 - £ 150.00 - St Peter's Church for Christmas tree
000889 - £ 21.74 - L Hart - replacement for chq 843 (for Bradfords chipper)
(d) Precept - Tax base and grant figures should be available by the middle of December. The precept is due by 29th January 2016. Figures for expenditure to date and projected expenditure to the end of the year were circulated, plus a proposed budget

for the next year. It was noted that grass cutting has increased significantly for two reasons: (i) the three year quotation received from SSDC, although significantly less than other quotes received, is still much higher than the previous three year quote; and (ii) with the new football area there is more grass to cut. There is also a significant rise in the cost of the audit because of higher income and expenditure caused by the work at the Recreation Ground. It was agreed to consider the precept at the next meeting.

ACTION - Agenda Item December

2015/176 Matters and items to report

- (a) Notice Board - This has been vandalised. The glass and surround have been rescued. The repair will require a carpenter. The District Councillor will let the Clerk have contact details for someone who may be able to do the work.

ACTION - District Councillor / The Clerk

- (b) Bus Shelter - A tile is missing from the bus shelter roof.

The Police have been informed of both incidents. The District Councillor will bring up the situation of a lack of Police presence at a meeting with the Sergeant.

- (c) Mobile Library - The van has not turned up the last two times and people are worried that their books are overdue. They cannot get to Ilminster to renew them. The Clerk was asked to email Library Services and copy in the County Councillor.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (d) Health & Wellbeing Fund - Councillors were asked for ideas for projects. There has been no reply to date from the Coffee Pot and the Friendship Club do not have a suitable project.

- (e) Lights on at Business Park - A resident noted that there was a light on at the far end of the Business Park until midnight and she wondered if people were living there.

- (f) Hedge in Merryfield Lane - A resident has complained that the hedge is coming across the footpath. The Highways Officer to look. **ACTION - Highways Councillor**

- (g) RAF Graves - The School have received the crosses and a service will be held with the Navy tomorrow.

- (h) Saturday bus services - Residents have been advised to contact the County Councillor regarding the loss of the Saturday service.

2015/177 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The Clerk requested that the next ordinary meeting is postponed by one week to Tuesday 15th December instead of 8th December. Councillors had no objections.

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 15th December 2015 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 10.00 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman