

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 9th February 2016

2016/18 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr L Hart (Chair)
Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)
Mrs R Burt
Mr G Mackenzie-Green
Mrs P Matravers
Mr D Mico
Mr I Sherwood
Mr L Trahar
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

Mrs K Board
Mr C L Hardy (County Councillor)

In Attendance

Ms A Mansfield (Village Agent)

2016/19 Visitors and Public Voice

Introduction by Audrey Mansfield, Ilton's Village Agent

Village Agents work with the Community Council for Somerset. Ilton's agent took over the Ilton area in October and now covers 23 parishes. She has been working mainly with people affected by flooding on the levels, securing grants and support for them. Her role is to help people with access to services, working mainly with people on low incomes. There are many grants available and there is a grants officer who can help with applications. Village Agents have links with other bodies such as the fire service and can arrange to fit smoke alarms at no charge and run fire and safety checks in the home. It is funded, by amongst others, the Big Lottery and by Taunton Deane. Not all of Somerset is covered by the scheme, but it is hoped to cover the whole county eventually.

Other initiatives are setting up groups for vulnerable people who meet regularly in members' homes and men's sheds which are places where retired men can go to make things and keep their skills alive. One has been set up at Burrowbridge in the Old Willows and Wetlands Centre. They are funded by groups including the Masons, Rotary, County Council etc. It is hoped there will be buses available in the future to bring people to the sheds.

Referrals are made to the Village Agents by such as GPs, Social Services, neighbours, schools, Police, hospital leaving services etc.

Leaflets and posters were left for the Village Hall and notice board.

2016/20 Report by County Councillor

The County Councillor's usual monthly report was circulated by email and there were some hard copies available. An application has been made under the Health and Wellbeing budget on behalf of a number of local rural parishes, including Ilton, to advertise and enhance Community Transport and other parishes not covered by the SSVCA transport.

2016/21 Minutes of meeting of the Parish Council held on Tues 12/01/2016

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

2016/22 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) Minute 2016/02 - Parking obstruction - a letter was sent to the residents. It was confirmed that the vehicle has not been seen obstructing the footway recently.
- (b) Minute 2016/05(b) - Notice Board - this is ready for collection and will be picked up very soon. **ACTION - Village Hall Officer**
- (c) Minute 2016/13(a) - Additional bins - The Clerk had a meeting on site with Streetscene who are happy with new bins by the new football pitch and in the new car

park and also with another dog bin by the new football pitch. The same design as in the cemetery was suggested because SSDC have keys for this type. It was agreed not to order the new bins until the land has been transferred to the Parish Council.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (d) Minute 2016/06(e) - Street Lights in Copse Lane - these have been marked with tape for identification so that they can be repaired. One seems to be working. The Vice Chairman will contact Yarlington again about the other one. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (e) Minute 2016/16(b) - Christmas Tree - The tree will be removed by a local farmer as soon as the ground is dry enough for a tractor.

2016/23 Highways

- (a) Street lights - Any non working lights should be reported to SCC, along with the number of the light which is on the post: Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm on **0845 601 0939** or outside these hours phone **0845 795 9639**.
- (b) Flooding at Old Railway Bridge - Highways have said that these particular gullies are cleansed annually whereas in other areas there is up to 4 years between cleansings. The District Council will carry out road sweeping. Highways have asked if Ilton has a lengths man or working group who can sweep away debris on a more regular basis. Councillors felt that the work on the Ashill side is good and water drains away quickly. On the Ilton side the water does drain away but not so quickly because the drain is too close to the soil at the side of the road which needs to be constantly dug away. Councillors were asked to keep an eye on this area.
- (c) Flooding at Ilford - The jetter and root cutter were booked for this area which has now been cleared and there were no reports of flooding during the recent heavy rain.
- (d) Copse Lane - blocked drain - This has been reported but has not been cleared. It is draining very slowly.
- (e) Ford water gauge - The calibration is believe to not be accurate to the middle of the road. Councillors will check this before the next meeting.
ACTION - Village Hall and Brook Green Officers
- (f) Orchard Close signs - These have still not been fixed. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (g) Cad Road - The 40 mph signs have been erected along Cad Road. It is understood that the Police will monitor the road for the first 3 months.

2016/24 Brook Green

- (a) Bridge Across Road - This has now been damaged at the other end.
- (b) Bridge Across Stream - a couple of the rails are rotten and need to be replaced. It was reported by a member of the public to SCC Rights of Way but it belongs to Ilton Parish Council. It was agreed that the two rails should be replaced by three to make it safer for small children. Mr Mico Snr will be asked to do the work.

2016/25 Footpaths

One of the stiles has been replaced. The second one is awaiting repair.

2016/26 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Condition - Councillors have walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been reported. Everything is looking nice.
- (b) Fir Tree Stumps - These will be checked to see that the work has been completed.
ACTION - The Chairman
- (c) Gate into Cemetery - The post is lose and wobbly and the gate is dragging along the ground. Mr Mico Snr will be asked to repair it.
- (d) Interment - scheduled for next week.
- (e) Memorial - an application for an extra inscription on a memorial has been received and agreed.

2016/27 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports - Grass Mat - An on-site meeting was held with the inspector to examine the reported damage. The damage to the grass mat is at the edge and looks to have been caught by the mower. The grass has grown up through and the damage is no longer visible. It is not dangerous.
- Uprights on Castle - tape has been put around the damage to make it safe.
- Bin - there is no risk and is now easier to empty a bag into. Nothing need be done.
- (b) New Benches - these should arrive by the end of next week. They will then be sent to be galvanised and will be delivered to the Recreation Ground Officer, checked by the person who made them, and fitted in the Recreation Ground. The invoice will be addressed to the Parish Council.
- (c) Chestnut fencing around flower beds - much of this is damaged and broken and is looking very untidy. It is supposed to last between 3 - 5 years and stay in place until the plants are established. It was noted that trees in other places without surrounding fencing have not been damaged. It was agreed that there is little point in repairing the fencing. It will be left in place until the spring and then removed.
- (d) Latest Inspection Reports - Multi Unit - Slight damage to side wood on steps and wooden leg on tunnel slide. The damage to the steps is a nick which will need to be painted. The wooden leg needs a new piece of wood or gluing. It was agreed to leave repairs until dryer weather.
- (e) Statement from Hags SMP re toxic paint levels at playgrounds - following recent publicity about lead levels in paints at playgrounds, Hags SMP have stated "we source our coatings and paints only from Akzo Nobel, the leading global paint manufacturer known for their stringent testing procedures and high quality products and HAGS is an accredited applicator of their products. We only use lead-free coatings and paints. The latest tests carried out by independent certification bodies in 2014 and 2015 have confirmed that our product coatings and paints are lead-free and exceed the requirements of the CPSIA, EU Safety Standards, and relevant laws regarding lead content."
- (f) Yarlington - Two paths into the Rec - The Vice Chairman is arranging a site meeting with a representative from Yarlington to discuss the two paths and what the parish council would like to do. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (g) Yarlington - surplus path into the Rec - It was agreed some time ago that one of the paths owned by Yarlington would be closed off and the residents adjacent to the path would incorporate it into their gardens, doing the work of fencing etc themselves. To date the path has not been closed off. The Vice Chairman will mention this at the site meeting. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**

2016/28 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Lease - Changes have been made to the lease and it is being checked by solicitors.
- (b) Management of Field - The parish council have been asked how they would like to manage the field in the future. The options are: (i) a local group; (ii) a charitable trust; (iii) the Parish Council. This was discussed and it was agreed that the field should continue to be managed directly by the Parish Council with a sub-committee of Councillors reporting back directly to the full Council.

2016/29 Planning Applications

App No 15/04037/FUL
Proposal Erection of a terrace of 4 dwellings
Location Wyndham Arms, Ilton

It was noted that the number of dwellings has been reduced from five to four. Councillors had no further comments.

App No 15/05051/LBC
Description Internal and external alterations
Location Ashford Mill House, Isle Abbots Road, Ilminster

The above application has been granted consent subject to conditions.

App No 15/04905/FUL
Description Formation of car parking area and erection of two commercial buildings etc
Location Land South of Ilton Business Park, Main Street, Ilton

The above application has been granted permission subject to conditions.

2016/30 Correspondence

- (a) HM Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations - a guide from NALC
- (b) South Somerset Together - an invitation from the Local Strategic Partnership to an Assembly on Thursday 17th March 9.30 a.m. - 13.00 to better understand the changes to the welfare system.
- (c) A303/A358 - Highways England are planning several public information events. Venues - Amesbury / 19th Feb; Podimore at The Podimore Inn / 22nd Feb; Ilminster at Monks Yard / 25th Feb; Taunton at Creative Innovation Centre, Tesco Supermarket / 26th Feb. Events open to the public from 13.00 to 20.00. Two Councillors would like to attend the morning briefing session. The Clerk to book.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (d) Somerset Waste Partnership - January and February monthly briefings
- (e) Police Report - In Area North there have been 97 investigated crimes with 29 arrests and 23 reports of ASB.
- (f) From a resident re the Orchard Close signs and the mess caused to the area between the Village Hall and the Cricket Club by people parking their cars.
- (g) Post Office introducing a Home Service to the area being provided by Churchingford branch - notice and leaflets left in Village Hall.

2016/31 Accounts

- (a) Balances as at 31/01/16 - 30 Day Account = £597.30 / Treasurers Account = £32,466.88
- (b) The following was received - £29.00 in respect of an extra inscription at Cemetery
- (c) The following cheques are to be drawn:
000895 - £ 165.90 - Salary & Admin Expenses
000896 - £ 211.69 - SSDC - Playground inspections Q3

2016/32 Matters and items to report

- (a) Ilminster Post Office will be closed from 5th - 16th March for refurbishment. The Clerk to put up a notice on notice board.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (b) Bus Services - SCC put out a Press Release following the public consultation to say that a number of key bus routes in Somerset could be protected following the consultation. This does not include Ilton. The Clerk emailed the Service Manager to say that Ilton had objected to the withdrawal of its Saturday services and also the withdrawal of the N10 on non-college days. The Clerk was asked to write to Ilton's MP to highlight the problems with bus services in Ilton.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (c) Dog mess - A resident reported a lot of dog mess in the village opposite the Village Hall. The Clerk reported this to Streetscene and asked them to come out with some spray and also to put up some more posters so that residents can contact Streetscene directly.

2016/33 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall.

The meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman