

## ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 13th September 2016

#### 2016/123 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:	Apologies	In Attendance
Mr L Hart (Chair)		
Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)	Mr G Mackenzie-Green	1 member of the public
Mrs K Board	Mr I Sherwood	PCSOs Ceara Sturt and Carole Brown
Mrs R Burt		
Mrs P Matravers		
Mr D Mico		
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)		
Mr C L Hardy (County Councillor)		
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)		

#### 2016/124 Visitors and Public Voice

##### PCSOs Sturt and Brown

PCSOs Sturt and Brown are based at Somerton and attended as a courtesy call. There is nothing particular in the area to report but there have been a lot of sheep thefts in rural communities. The Police are working on the problem. There have also been a lot of thefts of Land Rovers. So far they have not traced any of the vehicles and it is possible they are being stolen for spare parts. The most recent theft was in the last month so residents are being advised to be careful.

A request was made by a Councillor for Police to take some action over the congestion at the top of Frost Lane which is caused by cars parked opposite the junction. It is particularly bad in the mornings and is causing difficulties with the lorries using the Business Park. SCC will not deal with it because it is an obstruction which is a Police matter. The Vice Chairman will take some photos to send to the Police and to the County Councillor. The County Councillor will inform Highways. The PCSOs will look into the problem.

**ACTION - County Councillor, Vice Chairman**

The travellers near the A303 have been moved on.

PCSO Carole Brown has regularly been in the village but it is usually very quiet so she may not be seen by residents. There are now so few officers to cover the whole area that Police presence may not be visible. However if there is a serious incident it could be covered by officers from Ilminster or Chard if they are the closest.

The PCSOs were thanked for coming.

##### Whetstones Almshouses

A local resident voiced her concern about Whetstones Almshouses which are now being managed by a Housing Association. There is also a sum of money which was kept to be managed by local trustees. She would like to know who the trustees are because it seems that the money may not be being actively managed. The District Councillor advised contacting the Village Agent who may be able to advise. The Clerk will look at the Charity Commission website.

**ACTION -The Clerk**

## Renovations to the Church

A faculty has been received and finally the planned improvements can go ahead so that the Church can be converted for use as a community space. Questionnaires have been circulated in the village with a 65% response. 200 have been returned so far with only 6 not in favour of the project. The village hall are in favour. People want to keep a Church in the village and are saying they will use it.

The Church needs to prove that the community is in favour of the project and are now asking the Parish Council for their support. Money is needed to install water, a toilet (adapted for disabled use), and a servery for refreshments. Four sets of pews will be removed and a new floor laid over the existing floor. There will be a free-standing porch inside to buffer the wind, and heating. The whole area will be opened up for community use. The cost is approximately £80,000. The first £10,000 has been raised by donation from someone who does not wish to be named.

Councillors were asked to vote on whether they support the project in principle. The vote was 5 in favour, 1 against. In principle the Parish Council supports the project but at this stage cannot pledge any financial support. This can be reviewed when plans are more advanced.

### **2016/125 Report by County Councillor**

Defibrillators - SW Ambulance Trust are mapping the locations of these. Ilton does not have one.

Community Transport - The County Councillor has tried to set up a meeting with local parish councils and a representative from SSCVA but the date is proving to be difficult. He will try to arrange for him to attend the next Ilton Parish Council meeting.

**ACTION - County Councillor**

Roundels in Cad Road - These have now been done.

Pensioner Advice Fair in Yeovil to be hosted by Marcus Fysh MP - Saturday 15th October

Superfast Broadband - The contract for Phase 2 has gone ahead and all areas should be covered by December.

### **2016/126 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tues 12/07/2016**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council were agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman who chaired the last meeting.

### **2016/127 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken**

Vacancy for a Parish Councillor - There has been no response to the advert.

### **2016/128 Highways**

#### (a) SID Results

The latest SID results from Cad Road, west bound, show the median speed at 38mph for August and 39mph for September which are both compliant with the posted speed limit of 40mph. The 85%ile speed for both months was calculated as 45mph which is 2mph below the intervention limit of 47mph. The readings mean that this location does not meet the policy criteria and therefore does not qualify for inclusion in the SID programme or to receive a SID on a regular basis. There has been a Police camera along the road three times and they will come back again. They caught several people. The Clerk to ask if we will still get a SID, east bound, as agreed in October.

**ACTION - The Clerk**

(b) Road Closure

Stocklinch Road from Whitelackington will be closed from 3/10/16 for 26 days.

(c) Road Works

Work on Backstream River Isle Bridge which carries the B3168 over the A303 will begin on 12th September and last for 7 weeks. Overnight closure of the A303 will take place a total of 6 times.

**2016/129 Brook Green**

Everything is looking very nice. The coping stones on the road bridge on Isle Abbots Road have not been repaired. This has been reported on two occasions and is on the list to be done. The Clerk to request a temporary alert to warn drivers. **ACTION - The Clerk**

**2016/130 Footpaths**

There was nothing to report. All footpaths are in good order.

**2016/131 Cemetery / Churchyard**

- (a) Condition - Councillors have walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been reported. Everything is looking nice.
- (b) Levelling of the ground - The ground has not been left in a level condition which is fit to drive a grass cutter over. The Chairman will chase the officer at SSDC and request a site visit. **ACTION - The Chairman**
- (c) Hedges - These need cutting. The Clerk to request quotes. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Cemetery Inspection Workshop - A workshop is being run by ICCM at Sherborne Town Council and is open to other authorities. It was agreed to wait to see if the Cemetery/Churchyard Councillor is interested in the workshop. **ACTION - The Clerk**

**2016/132 Recreation Ground**

- (a) Inspection Reports highlight damaged and missing mats. Councillors cannot identify the problem. The Chairman to contact SSDC. **ACTION - The Chairman**
- (b) Playdays - There were a lot of people on both days with lots of interest on Facebook. Some of the feedback was that not all the events publicised on the poster were there. The birds of prey and bouncy castle were both there.
- (c) Yarlington lease - There has been no progress. The Vice Chairman to chase their solicitors. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (d) BBQ Facility - A resident has suggested this would be a good addition to the Rec. Councillors thought it might work on the larger field. However after discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council cannot provide a BBQ for a number of reasons including safety.
- (e) Final Claim - Redevelopment work at the Rec is now finished and the final invoices can be claimed. **ACTION - The Clerk**

### **2016/133 Recreational Development / Playing Field**

Lease - A technical issue linked into the 106 agreement is holding things up. Work is ongoing to resolve this.

Access Road - The route for this is being discussed.

### **2016/134 Hedges in Copse Lane**

All hedges have been cut by Mr Mico Snr. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident on the corner of Copse Lane regarding the soil from their bank which is falling onto the footpath, particularly after rain. **ACTION - The Clerk**

### **2016/135 Planning Applications**

There were no new or agreed applications.

### **2016/136 Resolution Against Hate Crime**

At a meeting of South Somerset District Council on Thursday 21st July 2016, a motion condemning hate crime was carried unanimously. It was the wish of all SSDC Councillors that this resolution be forwarded to all Town and Parish Councils throughout South Somerset with the request that they make the same commitment.

Several Councillors expressed their objection to being told by the District Council what they should do and say. All Councillors have already signed the Code of Conduct which sets out the principles which should govern the behaviour of Councillors. Hate crime is contrary to the Code of Conduct and would not be tolerated. Furthermore it is the law of the land that hate crime is illegal.

Ilton Parish Council passed the following resolution:

This Council unanimously rejects any form of hate crime.

### **2016/137 Christmas Tree**

Councillors agreed to have a tree again this year but only if better lights can be provided. The Parish Council will organise the tree and lights. The Vice Chairman will investigate lighting. The hole will be measured and Councillors and the Clerk will investigate sources for a tree.

**ACTION - Vice Chairman, Councillors, Clerk**

### **2016/138 Grant**

A request was received from Ilton Friendship Club for a grant towards their Christmas Pensioners' Lunch. It was unanimously agreed to make a grant of £250 which is the same as last year.

### **2016/139 Correspondence**

- (a) SALC with a letter from NALC explaining how the sector is changing and developing, the vital role parishes are playing in driving forward neighbourhood planning and a briefing on the content of the Neighbourhood Planning Bill.
- (b) Police Report - 136 investigated crimes for August with 23 arrests and 23 reports of ASB for Area North
- (c) Somerset Waste Partnership monthly briefing August
- (d) New recycling site measures from 3 October for van and trailer permits

- (e) Travel Somerset - SCC have launched a new traffic and travel website
- (f) Somerset Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2016 summary
- (g) Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter
- (h) Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner Survey
- (i) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau Annual Report 2015/16
- (j) Clerks and Councils Direct

**2016/140      Accounts**

- (a) The audit has been successfully concluded.
- (b) Balances as at 30/08/2016 - 30 Day Account = £597.47 / Treasurer's Account = £36,781.38
- (c) The following amount has been received: £8,324.38 VAT refund.
- (d) The following cheques are to be drawn:

000920 - £ 166.28 - Salary and Admin expenses September  
 000921 - £ 108.60 - HMRC - PAYE  
 000922 - £ 240.00 - Grant Thornton - audit  
 000923 - £ 75.00 - Macs Printing - Ilton Talking  
 000924 - £ 250.00 - Ilton Friendship Club - grant Christmas lunch

**2016/141      Matters and items to report**

- (a) Weeds in kerbstones - This was reported to Highways last year and the response was that there is no money to do the work which will have to be done by the local community.
- (b) Youth Club - There have been a couple of enquiries and three more children have joined.
- (c) Parish Council representative on Village Hall Committee - Mrs Matravers said she is the representative on the Committee rather than Mr Mico. Mrs Matravers was not at the meeting in May when responsibilities were agreed. Both Mrs Matravers and Mr Mico said they have had problems being kept informed of the dates of meetings which are held in a private house. No one went to the last meeting because they were not informed.

**2016/142      Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The next ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 11th October at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall.

The meeting finished at 9.45 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman