

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

2016/178 Attendance and Apologies

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

2016/179 Visitors and Public Voice

The agent for the planning application for Hill Farm attended the meeting to discuss the application. See minute 2016/189.

2016/180 Report by County Councillor

The County Councillor's report was circulated by email and hard copies were available. There were no comments or questions.

2016/181 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tues 8/11/2016

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

2016/182 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) Vacancy for a Parish Councillor - There has been no response to the advert.
- (b) Christmas Tree - Councillors erected the tree on the Village Green and 1,000 solar lights have been added. The tree is looking lovely and the councillors responsible were thanked for their efforts.
- (c) The Post House - A very smart wall has been erected at the bottom of the bank. The Clerk wrote to thank them for the work.

2016/183 Highways

- (a) SID Results on Cad Road (east bound) - taken between 18th October and 3rd November. The median speed for October was calculated at 41mph which is 1mph above the posted speed limit of 40mph. For November the median speed was calculated at 42mph, which is 2mph above the posted speed limit. The 85%ile speed for both months was calculated as 49mph which is 2mph above the intervention limit of 47mph.

By exceeding the 85%ile intervention level this location meets the current county council policy to be included in the speed indicator device (SID) programme and to receive a SID on a regular basis. This location has been included in the 2017 programme.

- (b) SID locations 2017 - The proposed dates are - Church Road - Weeks Commencing 16th January 2017 and 3rd July 2017 / Cad Road (east bound) – Weeks Commencing 30th January 2017 and 26th June 2017.
- (c) Surface flooding at the Old Railway Bridge - following the very heavy rain on 19th November Councillor Le Hardy reported badly flooded areas to Highways. The

response was that at the old railway bridge the capacity of the pipes is sufficient (2 x 300 mm pipes). The cause will be leaves preventing entry into the gulley which self help will fix. Highways cannot react to the issue of leaves and suggested that as SSDC are the street cleansing authority, the Parish Council should contact them. A Councillor has contacted Highways to say that the Taunton side drains well, and leaves don't seem to cause a problem here, but on the other side it does not drain. This would suggest there is a problem with the drainage. Highways will look at the problem again.

- (d) Flooding at Rapps - the sides of the road have kerb stones which prevents the water escaping. This has been reported previously. Highways will look at the problem.
- (e) Work at Church Road / Cad Green - work has been done to improve standing water.
- (f) A358 upgrade - The Vice Chairman attended the consultation event. It is planned to reduce access points and comments were invited from local communities. Cameras have been located on side roads to gauge usage. There will be another consultation early next year. Work is expected to begin in 2020.

2016/184 Brook Green

Dangerous hole at Brook Green Ford - A Councillor reported a large hole in the Ford at the end of Rod Lane. This was a very large trench over 2ft deep, about 3ft across and running the width of the Ford from hedge to hedge (about 10ft). There was a large spoil heap of earth and stones beside it. It looked as if the trench had been made by a mechanical digger as you could see marks on the clay subsoil. A local farmer reported it to Somerset County Council who confirmed that it is an adopted part of Somerset CC Highways. It is a crossing point in the river for tractors and horse riders and currently in a dangerous condition. Somerset County Council passed it for repair asap and put up warning tape and barriers. The hole seems to have appeared between Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, 8th / 9th November. Somerset Drainage Board confirmed it had not been made by them. The hole has now been filled in.

2016/185 Footpaths

- (a) Footpath from Frost Lane to the Churchyard - there is an issue with the trees alongside the path which are very overgrown. One at the corner of the Churchyard is large and dead. A resident whose garden backs onto the path has contacted the Rights of Way team at County Hall who say that they are not responsible for the trees because they are on the bank. It does not appear that they are the responsibility of the landowners because they are outside their properties, on the boundary of the Churchyard. It is difficult to know who is responsible but the trees need attention and the dead tree is dangerous and needs to come down. It was agreed that although the Parish Council does not accept responsibility for the trees, they will arrange to have the trees pruned and the dead tree removed. The work will be approximately 2 days work for one man. It was agreed to ask Mr Mico snr to do the work.

The Clerk will write a letter to all the residents backing onto the path informing them of the work the Parish Council will do and asking them to please maintain them to a manageable height in the future.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (b) Hedge alongside the footway in Church Road - A resident has complained that this hedge is very overgrown. One of the Brook Green officers will cut it back.

ACTION - Brook Green Officer

2016/186 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Condition - Councillors have walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been reported.
- (b) Cemetery Notice Board - The Rules have been laminated. It was agreed that when the new notice board is ready, Councillors will have a site meeting to decide on its location.

2016/187 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports - There are no outstanding issues on the inspection reports.
- (b) Yarlington lease - a draft transfer document was forwarded by Yarlington's solicitors which still contained the covenant that the paths could only be used as a pedestrian access to the Recreation Ground. The Clerk has written to their solicitor to tell them that Ilton Parish Council cannot accept a transfer which does not give the same right that is currently enjoyed to use the paths with or without vehicles. This right is needed for a number of reasons including grass cutting, maintenance and the play days as well as other things in the future which may be arranged. The solicitors have replied that they will have to go back to their client. They were made aware that we wish to retain this right some time ago and have acknowledged that they had received this request.

2016/188 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Lease - this is still moving ahead. It had been hoped that everything would be finished by Christmas. It is not clear where the hold-up is but all parties are content with the arrangements and it will be completed very soon.
- (b) Access - A transfer document of a small piece of land which was transferred to the Cricket Club has been found and the Warren Trust are willing to lease another piece to the Cricket Club to enable access to the new field. The one problem remaining is access over the lane. A deed of easement has been drafted and sent to the Cricket Club and Village Hall but they will need to prove ownership of the lane before the deed can be finalised.

2016/189 Planning Applications

App No 16/04404/FUL
Proposal Erection of 12 metre shortwave amateur radio mast and antenna
Location 12 Cottage Corner, Ilton

Application has been refused - by reason of its height and scale it would be a predominant, incongruous feature with an overbearing relationship on neighbouring properties.

App No 16/04900/ADV
Proposal Display of a pole mounted on a V Board sign
Location Land OS 1000 Main Street, Ilton

There were no objections to this proposal.

App No 16/04222/FUL
Proposal Erection of extension to existing agricultural building
Location Frost Farm, Frost lane, Ilton

There were no objections to this proposal.

App No 16/04618/FUL
Proposal Demolition of buildings, erection of two dwellings and garaging, erection of ancillary outbuildings (stables store and garage).
Location Hill Farm, Cad Road, Ilton

This is an alternative scheme to one for which approval has already been given. The agent for the applicant attended the meeting to discuss the new application. Councillors had not objected to the original application and had no objections to this one.

App No 16/05203/FUL
Proposal Change of use of existing barn and alterations to include conversion and two single storey extensions for ancillary accommodation to main dwelling.
Location Chappels Farm, Ilford Lane, Ilton

The applicant informed the Clerk by telephone that there will be a covenant so that the barn cannot be sold as a separate property. Subject to that Councillors had no objections to the proposal.

2016/190 Correspondence

- (a) Police Report - For Area North in November there were 155 investigated crimes with 16 arrests and 19 reports of ASB.
- (b) The Somerset Village Agent project is currently being independently evaluated to learn how well the project is doing, where it could be improved, and how it will continue to flourish in the future. **ACTION - Vice Chairman**
- (c) David Warburton MP dates of Advice Surgeries January to June 2017. There will be a surgery in Ilton on Friday 7th April.
- (d) Request to complete a dependent carers survey. **ACTION - Chairman**
- (e) Somerset Waste Partnership monthly briefing November.
- (f) Somerset Rivers Authority November 2016 newsletter.
- (g) Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) from NHS and Somerset County Council.
- (h) Shredding of Christmas Trees - email from SSDC - would Ilton like to participate in scheme. It was agreed to participate and the overspill car park was identified as the best place for trees to be left and shredded. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (i) South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau - appeal to train as an adviser and appeal for grant.
- (j) Consultation on a proposed new Public Space Protection Order for public land across South Somerset to replace 3 Dog Control Orders currently in place (1. dog fouling / 2. dogs on leash within a restricted area / 3. exclusion from a designated area at Ninesprings Park in Yeovil). It was agreed that Ilton Parish Council support the proposed new orders. This should also cover the new field which will be a public space. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (k) Become a County Councillor. Poster on notice board.
- (l) Consultation on Street Trading Policy. Mr Amor declared an interest in this item as a member of the Ilminster Carnival Committee. He said that although street trading does not directly affect the village of Ilton, or most villages because it mainly applies to things such as burger vans, the proposed policy will affect residents who travel to nearby towns to attend functions such as the Carnivals.

Events such as the Carnivals and the Christmas lights switch ons, invite burger vans and sweet van traders for the 2 - 3 hours of the duration of the event. In return for an invitation traders have given the Carnival Committee a donation. SSDC used to charge a street licence of £18 but increased it to £58 last year. This charge covers the whole day but for community events such as Carnival and Christmas Lights, the vans will operate for only a couple of hours. This year at the Ilminster Carnival 3 traders did not come because of the increased charge and 2 who did come did not give a donation. This resulted in a loss to the Carnival Committee of £250.

Mendip Council did the same thing last year but because of representations from local people they made an exemption for charities.

This consultation from SSDC is the first opportunity they have to review their policy. They should be asked if they wish to revise it for local events. The £58 fee is disproportionate for a 2 - 3 hour event. This is now an opportunity to comment. It is important that as many villages as possible comment because residents will be affected if local charitable events close due to lack of income. There is also an issue

with road closures. This used to be £50 and is now £200 and there is talk about passing it to the County Council who will charge £1,000 per closure.

All Councillors agreed to reply to the consultation and suggest that SSDC adopts the same policy as Mendip Council and makes an exemption for charitable events.

ACTION - The Clerk

2016/191 Accounts

- (a) Balances as at 30/11/2016 - Treasurers Account = £43,249.65 / Business Instant = £597.55.
- (b) The following cheques are to be drawn:
 - 000932 - £ 174.88 - Salary and Admin expenses December.
 - 000933 - £ 108.60 - HMRC - Paye
 - 000934 - £ 45.95 - D Amor, Christmas tree lights and batteries

2016/192 Precept

Tax base figures have been received. The Tax Base for 2017/18 = 288.15 as against 280.83 last year. The grant is £480 as against £1,470 last year. Keeping the income the same as last year (ie £18,470) will mean a 3.13% increase or £1.89 per band D property. Putting the budget requirement up to £19,000 results in a 6.16% increase or £3.73 per band D property. The budget shows that we require £18,350 next year. Councillors agreed to keep the income the same and to request a precept of £17,990. This will result in a 3.13% increase (£1.89 per band D property).

2016/193 Matters and items to report

- (a) School Children - A resident is worried that children are dropped off the school bus in the evenings when it is getting dark and are walking along the road.

ACTION - District Councillor
- (b) Roads and Pavements at Penny's Mead - There are large holes at the side of the road and the kerbs have been partially destroyed. It will be reported to Highways.
- (c) Somerset Waste Partnership - are changing the way of collecting. Details to follow in the New Year.

2016/194 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall.

The meeting finished at 9.35 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman