

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 12th September 2017

2017/126 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr L Hart (Chair)
Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)
Mrs M Bullock
Mrs R Burt
Mr G Mackenzie-Green
Mr I Sherwood
Mr I Welch
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

Mrs P Matravers

In Attendance

PCSO
5 members of the public

The Chairman announced that sadly Mrs Board has resigned due to personal reasons. He thanked Mrs Board for all her many years of service to the Council and to the Youth Club and for her participation in many community events. The Clerk to write to Mrs Board.

ACTION - The Clerk

2017/127 Visitors and Public Voice

- (a) Ms Searon Hill attended the meeting with a view to possibly applying to join the Parish Council.
- (b) The PCSO invited questions from the Council and the public. The finding of needles on some of the footpaths was reported and the PCSO said she would investigate.

There were no other comments.

2017/128 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2017

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

2017/129 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) Defibrillator grant from SSDC - The Clerk is still chasing the VAT receipt from South Western Ambulance Service without which we cannot claim the grant or the VAT.
- (b) Overspill car park - Letters were sent to the Village Hall and the Cricket Club to say that the car park can be used free of charge for the remainder of the summer and that its future would be considered again in October.
- (c) A letter was sent to Gordon Hickton thanking him for removing the graffiti in the Recreation Ground.

2017/130 Highways

- (a) Sign - Caution Children - The Clerk has received no further contact but Mr Dance said he has been informed that the sign has been ordered.
- (b) SID results from Cad Road for June show the 85%ile as 48 mph which is 1 mph above the intervention limit and for July the 85%ile is 47 mph which equates to the intervention level. The results were forwarded to the Police who forwarded them to speed enforcement.
- (c) SID results for Church Road have malfunctioned and recorded one day only.
- (d) SID locations - Councillors requested that a SID be sited along Main Street. It was noted that there had been a SID at this location a few years ago. The Clerk will send a request. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (e) Hedge cutting by the pinch point on Church Road - Highways do not cut hedges which are the responsibility of the land owners. They will inspect and write to the

landowners. This particular hedge will now be the responsibility of the new developers. The Clerk to contact them.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (f) Temporary Closure of Main Street, Ilton - From 11th October for up to 3 days.

2017/131 Brook Green

Trees overhanging the road - The Clerk was asked to obtain advice about the trees at Brook Green.

ACTION - The Clerk

2017/132 Footpaths

- (a) Footpath diversion Ilton Court - A formal consultation letter has been received from SCC re the proposed alteration to footpath CH 15/21. Although Councillors had no objections to the proposed diversion which has been in place de facto for many years, there was some concern about the provision of netting by the Cricket Club for the safety of walkers.

A suggestion was made that if the footpath is being officially moved an alternative route might be to consider re-routing the footpath around the field and bringing it out along the path between the Cricket Club and the Village Hall. This would avoid crossing Cricket Club playing surface and would also remove the need for the steps which are currently at the end of the footpath, thus preventing disabled access. A vote was taken on this proposal: 5 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (b) Responsibility for footpaths - Mrs Bullock agreed to hold the documents for the footpaths. Mr Mackenzie-Green to pass over the maps etc.

ACTION - Mr Mackenzie-Green

2017/133 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Provision of a water stand pipe - The quote from Wessex Water to install water at the Cemetery is £5,508.00 which would be in addition to the Parish Council providing the actual tap. A water butt was suggested but rejected because without a roof structure for the water to run off, rain would not be sufficient to fill it. A second suggestion was to erect a structure somewhere near the bottom of the Cemetery with a covered water butt to catch the rain. After discussion this was rejected as being unworkable and a possible obstruction. There was also concern about a water butt being a danger to children.
- (b) Headstones in Churchyard - Two Councillors conducted a 'wobble' test of the leaning headstones and four headstones were laid down as being potentially unsafe.
- (c) Hedges in Churchyard and Cemetery - The contract with SSDC provides for the hedges to be cut and an email was sent that this is now overdue and requesting that it be done as soon as possible.
- (d) Laurel hedge bordering the School House - A complaint has been received that this hedge is damaging the residents' fence. It is not clear whether this hedge is included in the contract. The Clerk to check and contact SSDC and request that this hedge is also cut.

ACTION - The Clerk

2017/134 Recreation Ground

- (a) Yarlington Lease - The sealed transfer document has been received from Stephens Scown which means that the Parish Council now owns the two footpaths.
- (b) Inspection Reports - show nothing new or urgent.
- (c) Weeds along the two footpaths - The Clerk was asked to arrange for the weeds along the paths to be sprayed.

ACTION - The Clerk

- (d) Renovation of the two footpaths - A quote was received from Play UK to resurface the footpaths but was suspended until ownership had been secured. This can now be considered. The Chairman will bring the quote to the next meeting.

ACTION - The Chairman

(e) Playdays - The two Playdays were very successful but more advertising was needed.

2017/135 Recreational Development / Playing Field

(a) Access into the field

The developers have not responded regarding access through the new development.

(b) Public consultations

There were three public pre-consultations during the summer organised by Mr Welch. Mr Welch was thanked for doing a brilliant job and for tackling a number of difficult issues. SSDC had provided an outline sketch for the field with a few suggestions and to show the scale and size of the area. Visitors were asked to comment and to make their own suggestions. Approximately 70 people attended the three sessions with the majority of people being very positive about the project. 28 people filled in their own plan.

The preliminary results from the 28 plans show that: 24/28 want a MUGA, 19/28 want a main football pitch with a junior pitch inside, 16/28 want a secure dog walking area, 13/28 want an outdoor gym, 18/28 want disabled equipment, 7/28 want an allotment or a community garden area. A revised plan has now been drawn up.

A question was asked about the pond and whether this is a good idea. There will be a pond by the new development. The answer is that the pond was thought to be good for drainage and also for the children. Concerns were expressed about safety and also that there are already good water features at Brook Green.

Some people felt that the proposed site for the MUGA is too near the houses. The siting of the MUGA needs to take into account access to electricity. Lights must be switched off by 9.30 p.m. It was noted that a decision on the MUGA must be made very soon or the money set aside for this will no longer be available. It must be spent in this financial year. With the £35,000 available it will mean there will be £95,000 available for the MUGA.

Councillors were asked to vote on moving the MUGA to where the changing rooms are currently situated. There were 2 in favour of moving it, and 5 against. It was therefore agreed to leave the MUGA where it is currently sited on the plan but possibly bring it in a little further into the field. This proposal will now be put forward to the community for their final comments. It was suggested that to make it easier to visualise, measurements are put in so that people can see that it will not be too close to their houses.

It was agreed to have the junior pitches sited within the senior pitch.

The dog walking area follows more or less the right of way.

SSDC felt that the gym would be better in one area rather than scattered around the field which was one suggestion.

Changing rooms can be considered in more detail in the future.

Shelters for young people were discussed with LED lights.

With regard to allotments, people will need vehicular access as close as possible. The charge per annum is approximately £12. There are grants available towards allotments and Mr Dance will forward the relevant information. **ACTION - Mr Dance**

Mr Dance suggested Councillors look at the recreation ground in South Petherton which was finished 2 years ago and was voted one of the best in Somerset. There are good outdoor gyms in Merriott and Ashill.

Mr Hart to go back to SSDC for a revised layout plan. The revised plan can go out for public consultation. It was agreed to arrange the consultation on Saturday 7th October 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Village Hall Meeting Room. This is the same day as the free defibrillator training which should mean that more people will come. A tick box form was proposed so that people can answer the questions. Mr Hart will produce a leaflet, Mr Welch will draft a questionnaire. **ACTION - Mr Hart / Mr Welch**

(c) Goal Posts

The grant for the goal posts has been approved. We will receive £750 and will need to pay £750. This includes delivery and installation. The goals are 24 x 8 full sized goals on wheels. Mr Welch was thanked for all the work in arranging for the goals.

(d) Grass Cutting

This was done very well.

(e) Somerset Playing Fields Association

The AGM will be on Tuesday 19th September at 7.30 p.m. No one will be available to attend.

(f) Grass Cutting

The local farmer cut 85 bales of hay. The grass needs cutting again. There is no formal agreement with the farmer. Mr Hart will speak to him.

ACTION - Mr Hart

2017/136 New Car Park Hedge

It was agreed to drop the hedge to 4 foot for better visibility and to thin it out, and to tidy up the grass. Although this is still Warren Trust land the maintenance will be the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk to ask Mr T Mico to do the work.

ACTION - The Clerk

2017/137 Planning Applications

(a) App 17/02503/FUL and 17/02504/FUL
Description Change of use, conversion to residential dwelling & erection of extension
Location The Wagon House, Ilford Lane, Ilton
Application approved with conditions

(b) App 17/02375/FUL
Description Remove roof, build first floor on existing extension to form bedroom etc
Location 10 Bradleys, Main Street, Ilton
Application approved with conditions.

(c) Extra planning training to be arranged by SSDC on Thursday 13th October.

2017/138 Grants

A grant was requested by Ilton Friendship Club towards their Christmas meal. It was agreed to give £300 which is the same amount as last year.

2017/139 Correspondence

- (a) Police report for July - There were 148 investigated crimes for Area North with 26 arrests and 31 report of ASB
- (b) Police report for August - There were 133 investigated crimes for Area North with 23 arrests and 31 reports of ASB
- (c) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) (Ageing Well) - information available online
- (d) Somerset Waste Partnership Newsletter for August 2017
- (e) Electoral Review of South Somerset Warding Arrangements - this should not affect Ilton.
- (f) Invitation to RNAS Yeovilton Commanding Officer's reception on 27th September 17.30 - 19.30. No one was available to attend.
- (g) Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter
- (h) Clerks and Councils Direct

2017/140 **Accounts**

- (a) Balances @ 31/7/2017 - Treasurers Account = £59,077.59 / Business Bank Instant = £597.73. (Note that the grass cutting invoice has not yet been received.)
- (b) The following amounts were received: AJ Wakely for an interment - £360.00; from two stone masons for extra inscriptions - £29.00 and £29.00.
- (c) The following cheques are to be drawn:
 - 000971 - £ 27.00 - Macs Printing - leaflets & posters for consultation
 - 000972 - £ 45.00 - Macs Printing - plans for consultation
 - 000973 - £ 207.75 - Salary and admin expenses
 - 000974 - £ 117.60 - HMRC - paye
 - 000975 - £ 240.00 - Grant Thornton - audit
 - 000976 - £ 16.69 - Padlock for overspill car park and extra keys
 - 000977 - £1,246.40 - DRM Groundcare - ditch clearing new field
 - 000978 - £ 75.00 - Macs Printing - Ilton Talking
 - 000979 - £ 300.00 - Ilton Friendship Club - grant for Christmas meal

2017/141 **Matters and items to report**

- (a) AON UK will no longer deal with Parish Council business and have recommended a new insurer, BHIB who will handle the policy from the next renewal.
- (b) An email was received from the Cricket Club that the padlock on the overspill car park is faulty. It has been replaced with a new one and the keys are available for the Cricket Club and Village Hall and any other residents who may require to use the car park for special occasions as authorised by the Parish Council.
- (c) Mr Dance said that the Small Improvement Scheme opens today. Local councils can put forward schemes until the end of October when each county councillor will need to choose two schemes to support. The sorts of issues are traffic calming, speeding, drainage etc. A zebra crossing for example would cost £40,000.
- (d) There is a traffic website - trafficchoices.co.uk/somerset which has a lot of information.
- (e) The Nippy bus will come to Ilton to drop off to Ilminster but its licence does not cover them for village to village journeys because they do not hold a hackney carriage licence.
- (f) A councillor reported that there is a lot of litter in the new car park, a full bag was collected this morning. There is also a lot in the field. Bags of rubbish have been left in the lay-by. This should be reported to SSDC who will clear it up as fly-tipping.
- (g) It was agreed some time ago by SSDC that Ilton could have another rubbish bin and another dog bin which SSDC would empty. It was agreed to order a bin for the new car park. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (h) A Councillor reported that the handles on the dog bins need to be replaced. The Clerk to try to source replacements. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (i) The local plan for 2017 - 2034 is on the website and will go out to an 8 week consultation.
- (j) The Clerk to invite tenders for grass cutting from next year. **ACTION - The Clerk / Agenda Item October.**

2017/142 **Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.25 p.m.

Lee Hart - Chairman