

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

2017/184 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr L Hart (Chair)
Mr D Amor (Vice Chair)
Mrs M Bullock
Mrs R Burt
Mrs S Hill
Mrs P Matravers
Mr I Sherwood
Mr I Welch
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)
Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

In Attendance

2 members of the public
PCSO

2017/185 Visitors and Public Voice

- (a) Christmas Party - The Parish Council were thanked for their donation towards the seniors' Christmas Party. It was an excellent party with approximately 80 people attending. The food was very good and everyone enjoyed themselves.
- (b) A PCSO attended to ask about any village issues and to ensure the Parish Council are aware of the PACT meeting in February. Items such as crime rates, speed watch and other village issues will be discussed at the meeting. There were no specific outstanding issues currently at Ilton. The PCSO was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

2017/186 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2017

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

2017/187 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) New dog bins - 3 new bins have been ordered at a cost of £107.00 each + £10 for one new post and £41.00 delivery. There is a lead time of 5 - 6 weeks.
- (b) Parish Plan Bank Account - A cheque for the full amount of £2,183.77 in the parish plan bank account has been made payable to the Parish Council. This effectively closes the account since there will now be a £nil balance. The amount will be put towards projects in connection with the new field.
- (c) Parish Council Vacancy - A poster in the proscribed format, which gives residents the opportunity for an election, has been placed on the notice board advertising the vacancy on the Parish Council.
- (d) Nippy Bus - The Slinky Service which has replaced the Nippy Bus is not a good service. Information about a petition was put on the social media site requesting volunteers to deliver a petition asking for a better bus service. Despite being viewed over 100 times no one came forward to take the petition around the village. All Councillors expressed their willingness to sign the petition. Two Councillors and a member of the public present volunteered to walk around the village to get signatures. Some Councillors felt that particularly older people do not use social media.

2017/188 Highways

SID Programme - The current speed indicator device programme will be terminated from 31/3/18 because the County Council's present financial position does not allow for the financial investment required to replace devices. Ilton Church Road is scheduled for installation during the week commencing 1/1/18 and so should still go ahead. Parishes may

wish to consider purchasing and operating their own SIDs. From 1/4/18 the County Council will be operating a revised SID programme for those parish councils who are willing to make a regular financial contribution towards the installation costs. The Clerk was asked to find out the costs of the two options. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2017/189 Brook Green

Maintenance work on overhanging trees - £600 + VAT has been quoted with a chipper at £30 extra with the chippings spread over the area. Councillors agreed that they would prefer to have the cuttings chipped and spread and this has now been agreed.

2017/190 Footpaths

- (a) Footpath Diversion Ilton Court CH 15/21. - Ilton Court are applying to have the footpath run on their side of the boundary and exiting by the old stile and have approached the Parish Council to ask if there are any objections to this. Councillors agreed that they have no objections. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (b) Footpath from Frost Lane to the Churchyard - This is very untidy and overgrown. Councillors felt that the adjacent home owners should keep their own hedges cut and the Parish Council is not responsible. A report on the state of the path to be sent to the Rights of Way team at SCC. **ACTION - Mrs Bullock**

2017/191 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Removal of small cherry tree beside RAF graves - The tree has been removed and the cuttings chipped and spread.
- (b) Condition of Cemetery and Churchyard - The Cemetery and Churchyard have been regularly walked by a Councillor and the 'wobble' test has been done. There are no outstanding issues.

2017/192 Recreation Ground

- (a) Inspection Reports - The Annual Report and Risk Assessment has identified a couple of issues including the aerial swing which is not running well. Play UK have agreed to make the repairs. SSDC to be contacted for an electronic copy of the report. **ACTION - Mr Welch**
- (b) Renovation of the two footpaths - Play UK met with one of the Recreation Ground Officers to discuss the footpath. Play UK hope to have the work done before Christmas.
- (c) Registration of two footpaths with Land Registry - This has not yet been done. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2017/193 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Tenders for MUGA - The tenders received were considered at the special meeting on Tuesday 28th November. One tender was received late because the original request had not been received. After some consideration Mr Hart proposed that the quote from Husson be accepted, seconded by Mr Welch. All Councillors were in favour of accepting Husson's quote. The Clerk to inform the other three companies that they have not been successful. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (b) Meeting with developers - Larkfleet presented the current plans for the new development. Councillors agreed that Welfare facilities can be sited on the parish council's field. The Warren Trust have agreed to this request. Larkfleet will prepare a simple legal agreement. It was agreed to deal with the issue of topsoil at a later date if more topsoil is required.
- (c) Lighting for the MUGA - Only one quote was received, from Kim Prestwood Sports Lighting for £12,650.00 + VAT. Mr Hart proposed that the quote be accepted, seconded by Mr Welch. All Councillors were in favour.

- (d) Floodlighting Groundworks - Mr Hart proposed that the quote from Play UK for £2,484.00 + VAT is accepted, seconded by Mr Welch. All councillors were in favour.
- (e) Power to the MUGA - The Clerk has accepted Western Power's quotation of £1,017.14 to install power and a cheque was raised for this amount.
- (f) Preparation of trench for installation of lighting - A quote from Key Contractors for £350 to prepare the trench was received. Mr Hart proposed that the quote be accepted, seconded by Mr Welch. All Councillors were in favour.
- (g) Warren Trust Legal Fees - Western Power have agreed to pay the Warren Trust's legal fees in connection with installing the power to the field.
- (h) Planning Application - This has been submitted at a cost of £97.50 which is a 50% reduction for parish councils. It was paid by the Project Manager who will add the cost to his invoice. It is hoped that the deadline of the end of February will be achieved. The Warren Trust have been informed of the need for planning consent because of the floodlighting and they have confirmed that they have no objections.
- (i) Sinking Fund for maintenance of MUGA - The Project Manager will prepare an amount to be set aside as a sinking fund as part of his brief.
- (j) Grant for MUGA - SSDC are currently working on the details of a grant for the MUGA which will be sent out very soon. The grant is likely to cover the full cost of the MUGA which the Project Manager has estimated at £93,172.50 including installation. This should mean there is approximately £2,000 remaining for seating, bins and tarmac etc.
- (k) Agronomist - The quotation from GLDM has been accepted. Mr Welch to arrange a meeting. **ACTION - Mr Welch**
- (l) Working Group - To be set up.
- (m) Proposal from the Cricket Club - The Cricket Club have requested use of the overspill car park on the current basis and would like a piece of land directly behind the temporary football pitch for the future construction of practice nets and covers. They do not wish to grant vehicle access but will consider pedestrian access with a single gate into the field. The Parish Council would be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the path; the Cricket Club will fence the land. Councillors felt that the future of the overspill car park cannot be part of any arrangement at the present time and agreed not to consider the proposal at the moment. The Clerk to check with SALC regarding legal arrangements for use of the car park. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2017/194 Playing Field/Cemetery Car Park

Hedges - The hedges have been taken down to a manageable height.

Expansion of Car Park - The car park will be extended to 34m x 18m with 3 gates installed to allow access into the field. A quote was received from Play UK for the Car Park expansion and installation of the gates for £7,437 and two quotes for the supply of barrier gates, £485 and £380 + VAT. Mr Welch proposed that the 3 quotes be accepted, seconded by Mr Hart. All Councillors were in favour - there was one abstention.

The Clerk to inform SSDC and the Project Manager that all the quotes have now been formally accepted. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2017/195 Grass Cutting Tenders from 2018

With the decision to sign up to the Ranger scheme, the hedges have been removed from the grass cutting tender. One has been received from SSDC. There are several others to come back. All tenders to be considered at the meeting in January. **ACTION - Agenda item Jan.**

2017/196 Planning Applications

App No 17/04301/REM

Proposal Erection of 47 dwellings

Location Land Adjoining Court Bungalow, Church Road, Ilton

The application was considered at the meeting on 28/11/17. Councillors had no objections to the proposal.

2017/197 Correspondence

- (a) There have been 175 investigated crimes with 32 arrests and 29 reports of ASB for Area North
- (b) Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing November 2017.
- (c) David Warburton MP surgeries, with nothing scheduled locally.
- (d) PACT meeting (Partner and Community Together) Thursday 15/2/18 at Edgar Hall, Somerton, from 18.30 p.m.

2017/198 Grants

Ilton Toddler Group have requested a grant towards the running costs of the Group. The Parish Council expressed a willingness to help. Mr Sherwood proposed an initial grant of £50, seconded by Mr Hart. All Councillors were in favour. However they do not have a bank account which means the Parish Council cannot write a cheque for a grant. Councillors felt that an offer could be made to pay the cost of hiring the village hall. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**

2017/199 Financial

- (a) Budget/Precept 2018/2019 - Copies of income and expenditure and a proposed budget for 2018/19 were distributed. With the extra expenditure which will be required on the new field and other increases, the budget shows that an income of £19,800 will be required. The Central Government grant will drop from £480 this year to £130 next year. In order to meet income requirements the precept will need to increase. It was proposed by Mr Amor and seconded by Mr Sherwood to increase the precept by 2.99% which will mean an extra £1.87 on a Band D property. This will give an overall income of £19,370. Any shortfall in income is likely to be covered by income from the Cemetery, which was £967 last year. Councillors agreed unanimously.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (b) Account Signatories - All new account signatories need to present their ID to the bank.
ACTION - Mr Welch

2017/200 Accounts

- (a) Balances as at 30/10/17 - Treasurers Account = £53,108.35 (although grass cutting invoice still not received), Business Account = £597.86.
- (b) The following amounts were received: Parish Plan Account - £2,183.77 / AJ Wakely - £413.00
- (c) The following cheques are to be drawn:
 - 000987 - £ 117.60 - HMRC - PAYE
 - 000988 - £1017.14 - Western Power Distribution - power into field
 - 000989 - £ 206.55 - Salary and admin expenses
 - 000990 - £ 555.00 - T Mico - hedges (car park, cemetery, copse lane)
 - 000991 - £ 100.00 - L Hart (reimbursement for Christmas tree)
 - 000992 - CANCELLED

2017/201 Report from County Councillor

The Park and Ride at Taunton will be shutting on a Saturday. This is the only bus which runs to Musgrove Hospital.

2017/202 Matters and items to report

- (a) Hedges - A Councillor raised the matter about hedges which are not being maintained by some landowners. Any hedges which are obstructing the highway should be reported to Highways who can cut them and then charge the landowner.
- (b) Musgrove Hospital has been rated as Overall Good and Outstanding for patient care after the recent inspection.
- (c) Christmas Tree - Mr Chris Matravers collected the tree. The Clerk to write and thank him. Councillors agreed to meet at the weekend to put the lights on the tree.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (d) Plastic recycling is not going ahead at the moment but there are plans to get the collection arranged in the next 18 months.
- (e) Youth Club - A resident is trying to restart the Youth Club.
- (f) The Cricket Club are currently fundraising for a disabled wetroom. Councillors are willing to consider a grant towards the cost but will need figures etc.
- (g) Resignation of Mr Lee Hart - Mr Hart said he is resigning both as Chairperson and Parish Councillor with effect from the end of this evening's meeting. Councillors said how sorry they are to lose Mr Hart with all his knowledge and contacts. Mr Amor thanked Mr Hart for all he has done, particularly in securing the new field which would not have happened without the extraordinary amount of time Mr Hart has spent on the project.

2017/203 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th January 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

David Amor