

## ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 13th November 2018

#### 2018/179 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:	Apologies	In Attendance
Mr D Amor (Chair)	Mrs S Hill	
Mr I Sherwood (Vice Chair)	Mrs P Matravers	
Mrs M Bullock	Mrs S Steele (District Councillor)	
Mrs R Burt		
Mr I Welch		
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)		
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)		

#### 2018/180 Public Voice

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### 2018/181 County Councillor Report

There was no separate report by Mr Dance.

#### 2018/182 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th October 2018

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

#### 2018/183 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) Bus Service - Reply SCC to County Councillor Dance - "Following this feedback [from Mr Amor] we are now looking to amend the timetable to enable the service to serve Spurwells by Christmas."
- (b) Speeding on Cad Road - Councillor Dance contacted Highways to see if there were any measures which could be put in place to reduce drivers' speeds. Highways replied that any speed related issues need to be directed to the Police SEU by the individual concerned. Highways also commented that the signing and lining of the road is sufficient for the speed limit and offering this as an SIS option is unlikely to make any improvements to speeds. Mrs Burt to obtain the figures for speeding from the Police and forward them to Mr Dance. A suggestion was made that it would be a good idea to have a sign to say how many people have been caught and fined for speeding. Mrs Burt to check if this is legal. **ACTION - Mrs Burt**

2018/184 **Parish Council Vacancies** - Two vacancies remain.

#### 2018/185 Highways

- (a) Snow Clearing - GR Farmer & Sons at Buckland St Mary now have the contract to clear snow in the Ilton area. They have agreed that they will come out to Ilton on a private basis immediately if contacted at a cost of £30 per hour. It should involve about two hours work.
- (b) New Development - The Clerk received a call from a resident regarding people working on the new development in Church Road who were parking on the road and causing an obstruction, and also about the unacceptable amount of mud on the road. This was reported to the developers who took immediate action to ensure that workers do not park on the road and also that the road is regularly swept of mud. The Chairman also reported that he had contacted the developers about the problem. Councillors were asked to report any issues to the Clerk or the Chairman. It will also be important to ensure that the pavement and sides of the road are re-instated properly after building is finished.
- (c) Temporary Road Closure - Isle Abbots Road from 20th November for approx 11 days to enable vegetation removal and masonry repairs.

- (d) SID Programme - information received from SCC for councils who wish to purchase and operate their own SID. Councillors had previously decided that the purchase of a SID would be too expensive, especially when the mandatory training of councillors to operate the SID is taken into account, training which is likely to be ongoing. It was pointed out that all Rangers are trained in operating SIDs so if Ilton continued with the Ranger scheme training of Councillors would not be necessary. It was also noted that several local villages have bought their own SID and they feel that it has made a big difference to vehicle speeds. The Clerk was asked to get costs for a SID for December. **ACTION - The Clerk / Agenda Item December**
- (e) Grit - SCC are suggesting using the extra £10m from the Government to continue to provide grit to parishes. No official details have been received from Highways about collection of grit.

**2018/186 Brook Green**

Repairs to the parapet of the bridge at Brook Green will be carried out from 20th November. Work may be delayed because this bridge is a listed building and requires a lime mortar for the rebuild. This can be affected by low temperatures (below 9 degrees) so the work may be affected if the temperature drops. Work may also be affected due to fluctuating water levels or flash flooding.

**2018/187 Footpaths - No issues to report.**

**2018/188 Cemetery / Churchyard**

- (a) Inspections - Councillors have regularly walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems have been recorded.
- (b) Hedges - The Ranger has finished cutting the Cemetery hedges, including the large bush over one of the graves, and both areas are looking very tidy. It was reported that the Churchwardens are very pleased with the work the Ranger is doing.

**2018/189 Recreation Ground Play Park**

- (a) Swings - The new chains and seats have been fitted.
- (b) Skate Ramp (welding) - The protruding piece of metal which was brought to the Council's attention at the last meeting has been removed by Play UK who have suggested that the ramp would benefit from some welding to the joints. The Clerk met Paul Hart at the Play Park who quoted £150 + VAT to weld the seams which are coming loose. As this is a small amount the Clerk has accepted the quote and asked him to go ahead as soon as possible.
- (c) Skate Ramp (edges) - The Annual Report has highlighted the edges of the skate ramp which are lifting. Mr Hart did a similar job in Yeovil several years ago which is holding up well. It involves cutting away the tarmac, fitting brackets onto the inside edges of the ramp and then replacing the tarmac with concrete. This is a much bigger job. The ground surfacing will need to be done by another contractor - Play UK did it at Yeovil. Paul Hart has quoted £500 + VAT for his part in the job. It is therefore likely that the whole job will come in somewhere between £800 to £1,000. Councillors agreed that the work should be done. It has been highlighted in the Annual Report. The skate ramp is in good overall condition and doing the work will ensure it will have a much longer life. Very little money has been spent maintaining this piece of equipment. The Clerk was asked to obtain the necessary quotes and let Councillors know the result. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Plantings - It was agreed that willow trees should never have been planted in the Play Park near to the back of the houses. Mr Sherwood will arrange for the Ranger to remove them. It was also agreed that the bamboo by the BMX track which is a potential danger to children falling on it will be removed. Mrs Burt will research suitable replacement trees. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood / Mrs Burt**

## 2018/190 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Report on Project Group meeting on 24/10/18 - notes sent by email to Councillors and attendees. Hard copies available tonight for those not on email.
- (b) Football Pitch - It was suggested that we ask for quotes from other companies for the football pitch. SSDC has provided some names of suitable companies.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**
- (c) Allotments - A local farmer has offered to rotovate the land so that the gardeners can make a start. It was agreed that they can remove and use some of the post and rail fencing from the temporary football pitch which will be removed as soon as the new one is ready. Terms and conditions for the allotment gardens are being drawn up but the drafts have not been received yet. It was also agreed that the trial period should run until 31st December 2019 as six months is too short a time to grow anything.
- (d) Perimeter Path - The material used for the paths by the MUGA is holding up well now that it has rained. It was agreed to source quotes for the path with a plan to do it next year.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**
- (e) Wildlife Area - It was suggested at the meeting that an ecological survey of the field is carried out and SSDC have provided details of who can do a survey. Councillors felt that it is not necessary to spend money on an ecological survey in order to create a wildlife area.
- (f) Ditches - It was confirmed that the ditch on the other side of the hedge in the adjoining field is higher than the ditch in the Playing Field meaning that water will not drain even if it is pushed through to the next field. It was agreed to put up 4 warning notices evenly spaced along the ditch.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**
- (g) Gym Equipment - It was suggested we approach three companies with options for a spend of £5k, £10k and £15k and see what they can suggest. Mr Welch has approached several companies and received some quotes. The Clerk to approach GB Sports & Leisure.  
**ACTION - Mr Welch / The Clerk**
- (h) Disabled Equipment - No more information on this.
- (i) Notice Board - Mr Sherwood has bought a secondhand notice board very similar to the one by the bus stop for £100. It is large enough and in very good condition. He will arrange to varnish it. It was agreed to site it just back from the path from the car park to the MUGA which Mr Sherwood will also arrange.  
**ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (j) Signs - Councillors considered and approved 3 draft signs - one for the MUGA, one for the car park and one for the ditches. It was agreed to make 2 signs in metal, 24" x 18", for the MUGA, one sign for the car park A4 landscape size in foamex board, and 4 for the ditches half A4 portrait in foamex board.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**
- (k) Lights - these are on from dark until at 9 p.m. and there have been some complaints.
- (l) Larkfleet Compound - Councillors asked the Clerk to confirm the measurements.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**

## 2018/191 General Maintenance

Ranger - Mr Sherwood reported that he is doing a very good job and there are still plenty of jobs left for him to do..

## 2018/192 Planning Applications

App No 18/02718/HOU  
Proposal Construction of concrete supporting base and installation of domestic heating oil tank.  
Location 15 Copse Lane, Ilton, TA19 9HG

Ilton Parish Council considered the above planning application at their recent meeting and have no objections to the proposal.

App No 16/04404/FUL  
Proposal Erection of 12 metre shortwave amateur radio mast and antenna  
Location 12 Cottage Corner, Ilton TA19 9EP

This application was approved subject to a number of conditions, one of which is that the antenna shall be lowered when not in use to the height shown on the approved drawing (which would be generally no higher than 7.2 m from the ground, about the same height as the ridge of the dwelling's roof.) A number of complaints have been received that the antenna is up all the time. The Clerk to write to the resident.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**

#### **2018/193 Tree Planting in Village**

A resident has been given some trees to plant in the village but there are no more details about the type of trees at the moment to consider.

#### **2018/194 Post Office Outreach Visits**

The Post Office at Churchinford rang to say that they are considering offering a one day a week, couple of hours at a time, outreach service. Currently the Post Office Home Service is not working. There are hardly any takers because a minimum spend is necessary before they will come out, and the Post Office is thinking of stopping it and going over to an outreach service. BT will put in a bespoke phone line for internet access at whatever location is chosen. For it to work the village must be behind it and it must be publicised sufficiently. Suitable locations would be the village hall, perfect if it was at the same time as a coffee morning, a Church or a pub. Councillors confirmed that they would support this service. There is a coffee morning once a fortnight in the Village Hall on a Tuesday morning and there is a separate room available with the agreement of the Village Hall committee. The Clerk to contact the Post Office.  
**ACTION - The Clerk**

#### **2018/195 Christmas Tree**

Councillors felt it is too late to arrange for a Christmas Tree this year. The hole on the village green was not deep enough last year and it will need some work to make it safe. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for April / May next year so that a proper re-usable hole, with a cover so that the grass can be mowed, can be prepared for the tree.

**ACTION - Agenda Item April 2019**

#### **2018/196 Correspondence**

- (a) Police Report - On the Avon and Somerset system for Area North, there have been 124 investigated crimes reported for the month of October 2018 with 26 arrests and 18 reports of ASB.
- (b) Somerset Waste Partnership November briefing and revised Christmas and New Year collections
- (c) Somerset Libraries - 19 existing library buildings are recommended to be retained by SCC with the remaining 15 library buildings to be developed as Community Library Partnerships where communities would support this. Of the 19, 7 had been earmarked for change. Ilminster Library and Crewkerne Library are both recommended to remain the same, as are Cheddar, Dulverton, Martock, Shepton Mallet and Wellington - all of which had been earmarked for change.
- (d) County Wide Parking Review - information sheet.

#### **2018/197 Budget**

Accounts to date plus the budget for 2020 were distributed to councillors.

**ACTION - Agenda Item December**

**2018/198      Accounts payments and receipts**

- (a) Balances @ 31/11/18 - Business Account = £2,781.98 / Treasurers Account = £56,807.29
- (b) The following cheques were raised:
- 001068 - CANCELLED
  - 001069 - £ 277.25 - S Morley - Salary and Administration October
  - 001070 - £ 360.00 - PKF Littlejohn - Audit
  - 001071 - £ 94.20 - SSDC Annual Playground Inspection
  - 001072 - £ 423.38 - SSDC Weekly Playground Inspection
  - 001073 - £ 337.44 - Ranger Labour Aug & Sept
  - 001074 - £ 66.24 - Eagle Plant, October container hiring
  - 001075 - £ 61.44 - GB Sports & Leisure - fittings for chains
  - 001076 - £ 100 .00 - I Sherwood, reimbursement for notice board

**2018/199      Matters and items to report**

A letter was received from a resident regarding road safety. The Clerk to let the resident know that the Parish Council is not responsible for Highways. **ACTION - The Clerk**

**2018/200      Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.

Dave Amor - Chairman