

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 11th June 2019

2019/104 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:	Apologies	In Attendance
Mr I Sherwood (Chair)	Mr M Cavill (District Councillor)	25 members of the public
Mrs R Burt (Vice Chair)		
Mrs M Bullock		
Mrs J Easterbrook		
Mr G Fox		
Mrs S Hill		
Mrs P Matravers		
Ms H Wakeford		
Mr I Welch		
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)		
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)		

2019/105 Visitors and Public Voice

(a) Development behind St Peter's Close

A number of members of the public attended to discuss the contact which had been made to the Parish Council by a developer interested in developing a piece of land behind St Peter's Close.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council is not aware that an application for planning consent for this development has been made and that there are currently no detailed plans of what is being considered. The Parish Council was given a copy of an outline sketch which was designed to show the area to be developed but not the layout or number of any buildings. The developer had previously contacted the District Council to see what affordable housing need there is in Ilton and asked if the Parish Council would like the opportunity to have an input on the type of housing that might be considered before plans are prepared. The offer was put to Councillors at the meeting in April and the Clerk was asked to look at arranging a meeting with the developer (see minute 2019/58(g)).

The developer met with some Parish Councillors before the Annual Meeting in May to introduce himself and his company, West of England Developments Ltd. He explained that the company wants to focus on housing need. They would also like to undertake a housing need survey and a public consultation.

The Parish Council highlighted the need for adequate parking provision in any new development. They also indicated that there is a need for smaller homes for people who wish to downsize.

Some of the members of the public attending felt that there is opposition in Ilton to more development. There is a shortage of facilities, no medical or proper transport, no shop. There is concern about whether the sewage system is adequate for more development. There is already too much traffic and concern about the safety of children walking to school, particularly along Church Road to pick up the school bus where there is no pedestrian footway. Parking is difficult, particularly in St Peter's Close.

(b) Thank you to the Parish Council

A resident came to say thank you to the Parish Council for installing the outdoor gym equipment which was installed at the end of May. A lot of people are using it and the training on Saturday mornings is very good.

(c) Overgrown verges

The verges by the new houses on the corner by the Wyndham Arms are very overgrown and visibility is poor. Ms Wakeford to speak to the owners. **ACTION - Ms Wakeford**

(d) Field Lease Agreement

A resident felt that the Parish Council may be in contravention of their lease agreement with the Warren Trust because the grass in the Playing Field is too long and the field is not tidy. He also asked why the football pitch and path around the perimeter has not yet been constructed. The Parish Council has had the field for 2 years and he felt that not enough has been done in that time. The Chairman explained that there have been some issues with the football pitch which has been delayed and the Parish Council are having to re-tender for the work. The revised specifications are almost ready to be sent out. The path was delayed for various reasons and tenders are going out for the work. The grass will be cut at the end of the June, beginning of July.

2019/106 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 14th May 2019

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were agreed and signed.

2019/107 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

Planter for Recreation Area - The cost of a new planter would be £250. It was agreed that it will be better to under-plant the signs on the Playing Field.

2019/108 Highways

A number of pot holes on Frost Lane have been marked with red for repair.

2019/109 Brook Green

Ms Wakeford met with a representative from the Wildlife Trust about biodiversity. The Garden Club are interested in setting up bat boxes. **ACTION - Ms Wakeford**

2019/110 Footpaths

(a) Penny's Mead - SCC have replied that this footpath is on the list but there has not been time to visit yet.

(b) Footpath by Cad Green Cottage - Mrs Burt has the post for this footpath. Mrs Bullock to report it to SCC. **ACTION - Mrs Bullock**

2019/111 Cemetery / Churchyard

Councillors have regularly walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems had been recorded.

2019/112 Recreation Ground Play Park

(a) Inspection Reports - nothing new or urgent.

(b) Fencing - A quote has been received from Colour Fence. The total cost will be £5,678.98 inc VAT for supply and fitting. The fence will be maintenance free with a life of at least 25 years. Councillors agreed to order this fence. The Clerk to see if we can use the money which remained from the refurbishment of the Play Park for this project. **ACTION - The Clerk**

(c) Annual Inspection - This will include the gym equipment and the MUGA.

2019/113 Recreational Development / Playing Field

(a) Football Pitch - The spec is being finalised and should be ready to send out very soon. **ACTION - The Clerk**

(b) Outdoor Gym Equipment - This was installed on schedule on 21st May. An Open Day was held on Saturday 1st June and Freshair Fitness provided everything. The Open Day was well attended and a lot of people are already using the equipment. All the signs are up. Freshair Fitness will provide a personal trainer to do 10 sessions on Saturday mornings from 9.30 to 10.30 from 8th June to 10th August. The table tennis

bats have been broken and the balls squashed so people will have to provide their own bats and balls.

- (c) Gym Equipment maintenance and inspection - As part of the guarantee, the equipment must be inspected weekly. The company have provided a pro-forma inspection form. Mr Welch has the maintenance repair kit and will carry out the weekly inspections. The Clerk to do a form on word. **ACTION - Mr Welch / The Clerk**
- (d) Grass cutting around MUGA and temporary football pitch - The contractors returned and picked up the grass on the temporary football pitch. They have been asked to cut a wider area around the MUGA and to strim around the Gym Equipment. Mr Sherwood and Mr Welch to meet with SSDC to discuss the regular grass cutting and strimming.. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood / Mr Welch**
- (e) Grass cutting and strimming of edges and removal of brambles - The Ranger removed the brambles and cut back the grass behind the residents' gardens. He will be asked to go take more off. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (f) Grass cutting in field - This is due to be cut by Chris Matravers in June or July. Some of the field will be left as wild meadow but not all of it. It was suggested that the Parish Council should buy a tractor and pay someone to cut the grass. Mr Welch cut the grass where the outdoor gym equipment was to go.
- (g) Wildflower Meadow - Mrs Hill would like to create a wildflower meadow beside the gravel path, with mowed paths through the meadow area and benches for people to sit and enjoy. Ms Wakeford has been offered some saplings by the Woodland Trust of many different varieties of trees. It was agreed to plan a separate meeting to look at a plan for planting. **ACTION - Meeting to discuss planting**
- (h) Perimeter Path - The specs for the path are being sent out. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (i) Goal Posts - These have been removed.
- (j) Barred Wire and Scrap metal - Ms Wakeford will remove the wire and scrap metal and leave the rest for a bug hotel and natural feature and will put plants around it. **ACTION - Ms Wakeford**
- (k) Barred Wire Fence - Mr Sherwood will take down the remaining barred wired from the field. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (l) Benches - It was agreed to order 3 benches from the same supplier who was used for the picnic benches in the Play Park to be placed around the MUGA area for people to picnic. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (m) Community Gardens - A request was made to increase the number of Garden Plots by another 5, from 10 plots to 15 plots. All Councillors agreed to this request.
- (n) 5 year maintenance plan - This should be ready by October.

2019/114 General Maintenance - Ranger Scheme

Mr Sherwood reported that the work done by the Ranger is good.

2019/115 Christmas Tree - the hole for the Christmas tree has been completed.

2019/116 Planning Applications - there were no applications this month.

2019/117 Correspondence

- (a) There were 188 investigated crime reported for the month June 2019 with 32 arrests and 29 reports of ASB for Area North.
- (b) Avon and Somerset Police Commissioner Newsletter

2019/118 Accounts payments and receipts

(a) Current Account balance @ 31/5/19 = £51,848.64.

(b) The following cheques were raised:

001114 - £ 66.24 - Eagle Plant container May
001115 - £ 15.00 - Somerset Playing Fields Association Subscription
001116 - £ 9.77 - Parrett IDB Rates

001117 - £ 327.36 - Salary and admin expenses
001118 - £ 206.20 - HMRC - PAYE
001119 - CANCELLED
001120 - £ 239.20 - G Burt, Christmas tree hole

2019/119 County Councillor Report

Mr Dance was welcomed to the meeting. He reported that there has been a lot of training at the District Council and he is now Chair of Area North Planning Committee in his capacity as a District Councillor. Val Keitch is District Council Leader again.

With regard to the County Council, there have been no meetings since the election. Some libraries have been saved. South Petheron Library has been taken over by the Parish Council and will be 100% locally funded. He will continue to push County for improvements to the bus service. At the last full Council meeting another £2 million of cuts were approved.

2019/120 Matters and items to report

- (a) D Day Celebrations at Merryfield - No-one from the village was invited to the recent celebrations at the Airfield. We previously had a lot of communication with the Navy but that has all stopped. Mr Fox will contact local villages to ask for their opinion about the Airfield. **ACTION - Mr Fox**
- (b) Open Spaces Committee - It was suggested that we could have a separate committee exclusively for Open Spaces to meet separately from the main Parish Council meetings.

2019/121 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th July 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.10 p.m.

Ian Sherwood - Chairman