

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 12th November 2019

2019/174 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

Mr I Sherwood (Chair)
Mrs R Burt (Vice Chair)
Mrs M Bullock
Mrs J Easterbrook
Mr G Fox
Mrs S Hill
Mrs P Matravers
Ms H Wakeford
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)
Mr M Cavill (District Councillor)
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)

Apologies

In Attendance

6 members of the public

2019/175 Visitors and Public Voice

(a) Black Box on Lamp Post

A resident asked what the little black box on the lamp post by St Peter's Close is. It was thought it is a speed monitor.

(b) Proposals for land adjoining St Peter's Close

Residents were told that the developer has reviewed the comments made by those who attended the consultation and as a result has amended the design of the proposed development. He has reduced the overall number of dwellings, removed the two one bed flats and substituted the 3 houses backing onto St Peter's Close with 3 bungalows. The end of the road serving these proposed properties has been closed off. He has negotiated with the land owner to construct a temporary track from the Business Park to the rear of the site to enable heavy vehicles to access the build to avoid using St Peter's Close. A revised plan was sent to the Clerk of the Parish Council and was made available to residents.

(c) Documents referring to a previous planning application for this land

These documents were sent to the Clerk by email but could not be received because the total size of the email was too large. They were also forwarded to the County Councillor and District Councillor on their official email site. Councillor Cavill will forward them individually to the Clerk for forwarding on to Parish Councillors. **ACTION - Councillor Cavill / The Clerk**

2019/176 Parish Council Vacancy

The vacancy was advertised in the prescribed way and confirmation has been received from SSDC that no-one has requested an election and the parish council can now co-opt. Mr Danny Mico has expressed an interest in coming back onto the parish council. Mrs Matravers proposed Mr Mico be co-opted, seconded by Mrs Burt. All Councillors were in favour of co-opting Mr Mico. His appointment to be ratified at the next meeting when the Clerk will provide the required forms. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2019/177 County Councillor Report

Councillor Dance said there is nothing to report because of the election on 12th December the Council has now entered the period of purdah.

The recent Area North meeting was poorly attended by parishes. Two things were highlighted: the Environmental Plan and the 3 weekly rubbish collections which were to start in June but are likely to be delayed.

2019/178 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 8th October 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed. Several residents questioned the omission from the minutes of a request to send the documents referred to in minute

2019/175(c) above. The Clerk had not minuted this request and said that she thought this was because on several occasions residents were talking over each other and over councillors and it was difficult to accurately minute the discussion.

2019/179 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

- (a) Scope textile recycling bin - The Clerk had received details of the size of the bin. Councillors felt that the Playing Field car park is not central enough for a recycling bin. There was also concern about how lorries would manage the height restriction bar. The Village Hall committee do not wish to take up space with a recycling bin in what is already a very small car park. The overspill car park is kept locked at all times when there is not an event in the Village. Councillors agreed that Ilton is not suitable for a Scope bin. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (b) Ilton Good Neighbours Grant - The £500 grant from the County Council to provide funds to get the Group started has been approved. The Chairman thanked Councillor Dance for thinking of Ilton for this grant.

2019/180 Highways

- (a) A358 upgrade - There is another meeting at the end of November. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (b) Maintenance of verge outside the new houses by the Wyndham Arms - It has been confirmed that Highways own the strip of land by two of the new houses by the Wyndham Arms. The Chairman and Clerk met with a Highways representative who said that Highways will cut the grass once a year and respond to requests should weeds obstruct visibility and become a safety issue. The parish council can cut the grass more often if it wishes to do so and Highways will have no objection to this. Councillors agreed that in order to keep the area tidy the Ranger will be asked to cut the verge as necessary.
- (c) Speedwatch - Several people have contacted the Clerk to volunteer to help with Speedwatch. A co-ordinator is needed and one of the residents present at the meeting volunteered. A notice has been put on Facebook to find more volunteers. Once there is a small group of people willing to help the Clerk will contact the Speedwatch co-ordinator to come and help set up the group. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Speed monitoring - Highways have agreed to do some speed monitoring. The monitor will be placed near the junction with St Peter's Close and monitor traffic both ways. Councillors would also like to see some speed monitoring on Cad Road.
- (e) Winter Gritting - the precautionary gritting network has been reviewed in line with the most up-to-date guidance and recommendations contained in the national Code of Practice. Highways have taken on board feedback received last winter and have reassessed all the criteria used to determine which roads will be gritted. This has resulted in an increase in the precautionary gritting network from approximately 720 miles to 900 miles of road which will be treated every time ice or snow is forecast. This is around 21 per cent of the total road network in Somerset – bringing it back to similar levels to 2017/18.
- (f) Grit will no longer be provided free of charge although grit bins will be topped up for no charge. Parishes will have to source and buy their own bags of grit. Mr Sherwood has bought some grit from B & Q which will be placed in various locations.
- (g) Grit Bins - There are currently no grit bins in Ilton. Councillors thought it would be a good idea to have some. Highways will be asked to suggest some suitable locations and Councillors were asked to think about possible locations. The Clerk will email some prices of bins. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (h) Snow Warden Scheme - Highways are setting up a Snow Warden Scheme. Parishes will nominate a Winter Warden who will receive training in responding to winter weather events, co-ordinating local snow clearance such as on footways etc and

acting as a point of contact with Somerset County Council. No one was available to be nominated.

- (i) Road Closure - Isle Abbots Road from 45m north west of the junction with Rod Lane north-westwards for a total of 50 metres to repair a bridge parapet. Order effective on 25 November 2019. Works expected to last for 5 days.
- (j) Road Closure - Ilford Lane from the junction with Isle Abbots Road northwestwards for 30 metres for Wessex Water to install a new valve. Order effective on 4 December 2019. Work expected to last for 3 days.
- (k) School Bus - there is concern about the safety of children walking down Church Road to catch the school bus and residents whose families are affected would like a footway from the pre-school to the crossroads. It seems that the school bus concerned is a private bus running to Huish Academy in Langport. The Wadham school bus comes into the village. It was suggested that the parents affected should request the bus company to come into the village for safety reasons.

2019/181 Brook Green - Some anti-social behaviour has been reported.

2019/182 Footpaths

- (a) Hortmead Lane - A resident reported that the bridge needs repair and the sign is lying beside the path. The Clerk sent an email to SCC and Mrs Bullock will report it on the website. **ACTION - Mrs Bullock**
- (b) Responsibility for footpaths - Mrs Easterbrook has agreed to take over footpaths.

2019/183 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Councillors have regularly walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems had been recorded.
- (b) Tree in Churchyard - The Ranger has looked at two trees in the Churchyard and will ask the expert from SSDC to come and advise. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood**
- (c) Register of Burials - is almost full and the Clerk has ordered a new one from Shaws, after checking to see if there was a cheaper alternative. This Register is official and will have to last more or less forever and must contain all the legally required information. The Clerk found nothing else available that met the requirements and went ahead with Shaws who are the standard provider of official documents.

2019/184 Recreation Ground Play Park

- (a) Weekly Inspection Reports - a slat on the bin is broken which is being repaired.
- (b) Maintenance issues on Annual Inspection Report - the Clerk accepted a quote from Play UK to repair the wetpour for £155 + VAT and at the same time he will compact, free of charge, the path by the MUGA which has been dug up. This work has been completed. The skate ramp cannot be repainted until the spring when the weather is warmer because the recommended paint is water based.
- (c) Fencing at the Play Park has been finished. Most of the cost is covered by the remains of the capital grant for refurbishing the Play Park.

2019/185 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Football Pitch - The construction of the football pitch has been finished but the weather changed before it could be seeded. It will now have to wait until next spring to be finished.
- (b) Outdoor Gym Equipment - Mr Welch handed over the weekly inspections to Mrs Bullock. The Clerk has asked SSDC what it would cost to add the inspections to the weekly inspections at the Play Park.

- (c) Wildflower Meadow - nothing further to report on this. Councillors have visited the recreation ground at Barrington to see how it is done there and taken away ideas. Once the builders have finished with the compound at the end of the field that will be a perfect place for wild flowers. The Clerk to check how long the compound will be needed. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Community Gardens - they are looking very nice.
- (e) Hiring the MUGA - Ilminster Youth Football have hired the MUGA for an hour on Mondays and Wednesdays for training and one Friday evening. As agreed the Clerk has charged them £5 per hour and will invoice monthly. The Clerk drew up a Conditions of Hire and Booking Form which has been signed.
- The lights went off at 6.55 on their first visit last Wednesday and the Clerk waived the fee for that evening. The timer was reset by Mr Easterbrook and the lights are now coming on at 5 p.m. and going off at 9 p.m.
- The Clerk has put a copy of the diary on the notice board and also tied to the MUGA side so that people will be aware that it is hired for those hours.
- (f) Notice Board for MUGA - It was agreed to buy a small A4 size notice board to attach to the side of the entrance so that the current hiring diary can be pinned up inside it rather than tied to the side. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (g) Electricity box keys - Mr Welch has passed these to Mrs Bullock. The meter has been read and a bill received from Green Energy which will be paid by direct debit.
- (h) Tree Planting - It was agreed to call a separate meeting to discuss tree planting and to open this up to residents. Ilminster has a tree planting group with two local experts and contact details were passed to Ms Wakeford. **ACTION - Ms Wakeford**

2019/186 General Maintenance - SSDC Ranger Scheme

It has been agreed to have the Ranger for two days a month.

2019/187 Planning Applications

- (a) St Peter's Close - See minute 2019/175(b) above.

- (b) App No 19/02579/FUL
 Proposal Conversion of existing garage to dwelling
 Location Cross Keys, Cad Green, Ilton

Councillors considered the above application at their meeting this evening and have no objections to the proposal.

- (c) App No 19/02604/HOU
 Proposal Erection of an outbuilding, decking and fencing in rear garden (retrospective)
 Location 7 Hawthorne Road, Ilton

Councillors considered the above application and have no objections to the proposal. It was noted that there has been an objection to the application from a neighbour.

2019/188 Correspondence

- (a) Police Report - There have been 217 investigated crime reported for the month of October for Area North with 27 arrests and 34 reports of ASB.
- (b) VE Day 75 Celebrations 8th - 10th May 2020 - Councillors may wish to consider planning something for Ilton.
- (c) Surviving Winter Appeal - request to donate winter fuel payments to help the elderly.
- (d) Age UK Services on offer and Annual Review
- (e) Clerks & Councils Direct

2019/189 Accounts payments and receipts

- (a) Balance @ 31/10/2019 = £31,197.43
- (b) Received CIL payment - £996.00 to be transferred into the 2nd CIL account
- (c) Received Purchase of exclusive right of burial - £300
- (d) Payment by Direct Debit to Green Energy of £125.21 for MUGA electricity from 1/5/2019.
- (e) The Clerk asked if Councillors would like to use the CIL money to pay for the balance of the fence in the Play Park. CIL money must be used within 5 years of receipt and can only be used for specific projects similar to the way S106 money had to be used. The first payment was received earlier this year and the second payment this month. Replacement of the fencing in the Play Park is an ideal capital project for the use of the CIL money. After discussion Councillors decided not to use the CIL money for the fencing and to consider alternative uses for the money in the future.
- (f) The following cheques were raised:
 - 001147 - £ 8411.76 - Premier Fencing SW Ltd - balance of cost of fence
 - 001148 - £ 337.44 - SSDC - Ranger Labour September
 - 001149 - £ 423.38 - SSDC Playground inspection April - October
 - 001150 - £ 42.00 - The Wider View - printing of Merryfield Messenger
 - 001151 - £ 66.24 - Eagle Plant container October
 - 001152 - £ 1560.00 - Eagle Plant purchase of container
 - 001153 - CANCELLED
 - 001154 - £ 40.43 - S Morley, laminator
 - 001155 - £ 120.00 - Martin Wyatt, Flail hedge cutting
 - 001156 - £ 106.20 - I Sherwood, salt and grit
 - 001157 - £ 304.62 - Salary and admin expenses October
 - 001158 - £ 214.80 - S Morley, payment to Shaws for Register of Burials
 - 001159 - £ 186.00 - Play UK, repairs in Play Park
 - 001160 - £ 50.00 - Clive Rust, removal of wire fencing

2019/190 Matters and items to report

- (a) Christmas Tree Recycling - SSDC are again offering this service - compounds will be installed during the first week of the New Year and collections will begin the following week. Councillors agreed that they would like to take part again this year and agreed that the collection should be the same as last year which was the week beginning approximately the 15th January with the compound in the overspill car park.
ACTION - The Clerk
- (b) Ilton Messenger - Copy Number 4 of the Ilton Messenger has been printed and circulated.
- (c) Christmas Tree - The tree will be delivered the first week in December. Mrs Easterbrook has lights for the tree.
ACTION - Mrs Easterbrook
- (d) Website - Ms Wakeford will look into whether the Parish Council can share a website.
ACTION - Ms Wakeford

2019/191 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th December 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.15 p.m.

Ian Sherwood - Chairman