

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

COVID - 19 EMERGENCY

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held by remote connection using Zoom on

Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the public were invited to attend the remote meeting using Zoom and to contact the Clerk prior to the meeting with any questions or comments they wished to make. Due to time constraints members of the public were advised that they would not be able to speak at the meeting.

2021/01 Attendance and Apologies

Those present by video link:	Apologies	In Attendance
Mr I Sherwood (Chair)	Mr M Cavill (District Councillor)	2 members of the public
Mrs J Bennett		
Mrs M Bullock		
Mr Guy Danvers		
Mrs J Easterbrook		
Mrs S Hill		
Mr G Mackenzie-Green		
Mr D Mico		
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)		
Mrs S Morley (Clerk)		

Those present by phone:

Mrs R Burt (Vice Chair)

2021/02 **Declarations of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest.

2021/03 **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held by Zoom on Tuesday 8th December 2020.**

The minutes were agreed and will be signed when this is possible.

2021/04 Matters Arising

- (a) ID Badges - The Clerk has made ID cards in clear plastic wallets for all councillors who will need to add a passport size photo to the wallet.
- (b) Christmas Sleigh - The sleigh went around the Village at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve. It was very well received with a great response from residents and the children waving. Councillors look forward to doing it again next Christmas. The Council thanked Mr Mackenzie-Green and Mr Danvers for all their work in making this possible.

2021/05 County Councillor Report

Councillor Dance reported that case numbers in Somerset are getting serious and people must follow the guidance. He reported that SSDC planning department are currently on hold due to the phosphate run-off concerns and there are no committee meetings for the next two months due to the redeployment of staff to the vaccine programme. Also there are staff absent with Covid or self-isolating.

2021/06 Planning Applications

Planning Applications - there were no new planning applications this month.

Application: 19/03505/FUL
Proposal: Erection of 15 dwellings, formation of new access and associated works
Location: Land OS 3875 Part St Peters Close, Ilton

This application is due to be considered by the Area North Committee but has been postponed. We do not have a new date at the moment.

2021/07 Accounts Payments and Receipts

- (a) Cheques - the following cheques were raised this month:
- 001253 - £ 173.16 - SSDC Ranger November
 - 001254 - £ 114.00 - Elite Playgrounds, Inspections
 - 001255 - £ 129.00 - Yarcombe Woodland Products, Christmas Tree
 - 001256 - £ 58.96 - J Easterbrook, Lights & Batteries for Tree
 - 001257 - £ 345.56 - Salary and admin expenses
 - 001258 - £24,950.00 - Bath Building Society, transfer of Playing Field money

- (b) Precept - The tax base for Ilton has gone up from 325.48 last year to 333.22 this year. This means that for a precept set at the same as last year there would be a decrease of 2.32% or £1.57 per band D property. Charges for lower and higher bands are adjusted accordingly. The tax base figure represents the number of properties in the area who pay the council tax charge.

Several councillors did not wish to increase the precept this year given the fact that many people will have lost jobs due to the pandemic. Other councillors felt it should increase slightly in line with inflation. The figures show that by putting the precept up by £500 would mean a decrease of 0.10% or £0.07p per year per band D property.

Mr Sherwood proposed setting the precept at £22,500.00 seconded by Mrs Bullock. All councillors were in agreement.

2021/08 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Perimeter Footpath - Work has halted for the winter. Some of the path has flooded and Mr Mackenzie-Green and Mr Danvers have dug trenches to take the water away.
- (b) Skate Park - There is nothing further to report at the present time.
- (c) Tractor and Grass Cutting - We are still waiting for the documents to register the tax for the tractor. As an agricultural vehicle the tax is £0 but it must still be registered.
- (d) Larkfleet Compound - Larkfleet have assured councillors that the compound will be cleared and the fencing done but there is no-one on site at the moment because of the weather. The ditch which previously fed into the pond appears to have filled in by the spoil and the compound end of the field is now very wet. Larkfleet have said they did not fill in the ditch but will investigate and reinstate it if it was filled in by mistake. Larkfleet have also said that the pond is not on their land, although the map with the lease of the field shows that the pond is not part of the land held under the lease by Ilton Parish Council and appears to be part of the development land. Mr Mackenzie-Green and Mr Danvers are working to move water away from the pond and field to drain into local rivers.
- (e) Community Gardens - The revised Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on behalf of the Community Gardens Group. As soon as it can be countersigned by the Parish Council Chairman and Clerk a copy will be returned to the Group. The new fencing of the Gardens will be done as soon as possible.

2021/09 Cemetery - There was nothing to report in connection with the Cemetery.

2021/10 Churchyard - There was nothing to report in connection with the Churchyard.

2021/11 Recreation Ground Play Park - There was nothing to report.

2021/12 Brook Green

There have been a number of residents complaining about the damage caused by 4 x 4s driving in Brook Green and causing a lot of damage to the river banks. Police have visited the area and are asking residents to keep their eyes open and take down the registration

numbers of any vehicles which may be involved in this activity. A note has been placed on Facebook asking residents for their help.

2021/13 Footpaths

The paths are very muddy at the moment. There have been questions about the footpath from Penny's Mead but it is impassable at the moment.

2021/14 Highways - A number of potholes have been reported.

2021/15 General Maintenance - Ranger Scheme

At the moment the Ranger is working in the Churchyard cutting the hedge.

2021/16 Parish Plan - This is on hold at the moment due to lockdown restrictions.

2021/17 War Memorial

Mr Mackenzie-Green and Mrs Bennett have been working on possible designs and are waiting for some drawings. Once they have these they will present some suggestions to the Parish Council.

2021/18 The Moat

The Council has been contacted by a local historian regarding the stone at the area known as the Moat which he feels should be listed with English Heritage. The stone appears to be missing. It was noted that this is not on a public footpath and is on private property. The area is very overgrown with brambles. The historian has been in contact with English Heritage who are speaking to the owner. As it is not a public area there is little that the Parish Council can do.

2021/19 Issues raised by residents by email - There were no issues raised by residents.

2021/20 Issues councillors wish to raise or to report

- (a) Merryfield Messenger - It was asked if the Parish Council would support another issue of the Merryfield Messenger. The Clerk reminded the Council that councillors had previously agreed at a meeting to support the Messenger for another year. Councillors agreed unanimously to support the newsletter by paying for the printing as for previous editions.
- (b) Bank Accounts - A Councillor asked how many bank accounts the Parish Council currently has. The Clerk said there is the main current account with Lloyds which is used for all day to day transactions, plus a business account with Lloyds which previously earned interest although at the moment the interest is virtually nil. There is also a second current account with Lloyds specifically for the CIL money, which replaced the s106 money previously held by the District Council and passed to Parish Councils by a grant. The Parish Council was required to open a bespoke account when CIL money came direct to the Parish Council and to show this money separately in the accounts. Recently an account has been opened with Bath Building Society to hold Field money.

2021/21 Date of next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of Ilton Parish Council will be on Tuesday 9th February 2021 by Zoom or in the Village Hall according to government advice nearer the time.

The meeting finished at 8.35 p.m.

Ian Sherwood, Chairman