

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on
Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 6.30p.m.**

2023/112 Election of Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Kelaart was proposed as Chair by Cllr Pike, seconded by Cllr Sherwood. There were no further nominations. Cllrs voted unanimously in favour of Cllr Kelaart being elected as Chair.

2023/113 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Kelaart read and signed the declaration, witnessed and counter-signed by the Clerk.

2023/114 Attendance and Apologies

Present: Cllrs Kelaart, Pike, Sherwood and Calvert;
Somerset Council Cllr Roundell Green and Mrs Larsson (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Ripley and Somerset Council Cllr Dance

In attendance: 19 members of the public.

2023/115 **Declarations of Interest** There were no declarations of interest.

2023/116 Somerset Council Councillor Report

Cllr Roundell Green gave an update of the potential strike by waste collection operatives, advising that it has been suspended for two weeks while talks are underway.

The Somerset Council budget for the next financial year will continue to be very tight and will be concentrating on provision of statutory services. There are currently no grants available for Parish/Town councils or Local Community Networks.

Lots of works are being carried out filling potholes on the highways, residents should continue to report them on the Somerset Council website reporting tool. The full monthly report from Cllrs Roundell Green and Dance will be published on the parish council website.

2023/117 Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 13th June 2023

Minutes were approved unanimously by councillors and signed by the Chair.

2023/118 Planning Applications

- a) 23/01006/FUL: Wyndham Arms, Main Street, Ilton TA19 9EY – The erection of timber decking and a smoking shelter in the car park of Wyndham Arms (retrospective application)

After discussion, councillors agreed to make no comment on the application

2023/119 Accounts and Financial Information

All reports were circulated to councillors for review in advance of the meeting.

- a) The council approved the financial statement up to 30/6/23
b) The council approved the list payments, which is annexed at the end of the minutes.

2023/120 Provision of Litter and Dog Waste Bins

Following a review of locations, use and condition of existing waste bins by Somerset Council, and their subsequent recommendations the following was agreed:

Purchase of 3 “co-mingle” bins which can be used for general and dog waste at a cost of £758 each, including all installations and relocations. These have a larger capacity and are designed to reduce odours and scavenging by animals, as well as assisting with a smooth and safe collection by waste operatives. These will be located to replace the existing dog bins on the recreation field and to replace the litter bin at the bus stop. One dog waste bin from the recreation field will be moved to Merryfield Lane, replacing one in poor condition, the other will be retained until needed in another location. The waste bin located by the MUGA will be relocated to Brook Green.

2023/121 Green Space Maintenance

Councillors discussed grass cutting and related maintenance in the village and agreed there are currently not enough trained volunteers to manage the requirements. Volunteers have indicated they can continue to manage the village green, cemetery, church yard and land at Copse Lane, but felt that assistance was needed for the recreation field and playpark.

With the launch of Local Community Networks there may be opportunity to pool resource with other parishes, and this will be looked into as LCNs develop. The council would also welcome any new volunteers who could assist for any amount of time in grass cutting or other activities, whether on a regular or ad-hoc basis. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk. In the interim, it was agreed to organise grass cutting for the recreation field and play park with external contractors. The council will continue to use a ranger/lengthsman service for other arboricultural works such as hedge trimming. The Clerk reported that a new volunteer was being trained as part of the Somerset Council volunteer programme. They will be helping to keep rights of way clear throughout the parish.

2023/122 Young Person of the Month No nominations were received.

2023/123 Councillor Updates

Brief updates were provided by councillors on areas of responsibility, with key items of note below. Due to vacancies on the council, not all areas have a dedicated councillor. Councillors will share responsibility for tasks until there are additional members to take these over again.

Recreation Field Development

- Cllr Calvert has been gathering information on the proposal of a skate/bike track. She will organise contractors to visit site to begin gathering cost information for review at the meeting planned for September.
- Regarding an off-lead dog area, the Clerk understands that the Public Space Protection Order in force requires dogs to be on a lead where directed, so should allow for an off-lead area if agreed. Further investigation is needed to space required and insurance.
- It was noted that Ilminster Town Council have recently installed covered seating – the Clerk will contact them for information.

Local Community Networks

- The first meeting of the area LCN took place on 15th June. Discussions were held on common issues and priorities across the area. The next meeting is to be held in September, where the future meeting schedule will be set.

2023/124 Matters for Report None raised.

2023/125 Outstanding Actions not covered in agenda items: Outstanding actions were reviewed and an updated list will be circulated to councillors.

2023/126 Summary of actions from the meeting

- a) Arrange bin installations - SK
- b) Organise contractor site visits for skate/bike track - SC
- c) Contact Ilminster TC re: recreation shelter - Clerk

2023/127 Items for the next meeting None raised.

Councillors should notify the clerk of motions for inclusion at the next meeting at least 7 clear days before the date of the meeting.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th September, at 6.30pm at Merryfield Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

Sean Kelaart, Chairman

Annex 1. Payments Authorised

Ilton Parish Council PAYMENTS (AUTHORISED)

Voucher	Code	Date	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	Total
33	Ranger	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Ranger	Somerset Council	1,056.28
34	Ranger	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Ranger	Somerset Council	845.02
36	Staff Wages	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Salary	Kim Larsson	
36	Administration Expenses	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Salary	Kim Larsson	
37	Subscriptions	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Administration Expenses (Clerk)	Kim Larsson	77.81
35	Sundries	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Drainage Rates	Parrett Internal Drainage Board	12.23
37	Administration Expenses	12/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Administration Expenses (Clerk)	Kim Larsson	54.19
Total							2,650.93

PAYMENTS MADE SINCE LAST MEETING

Voucher	Code	Date	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	Total
41	Village Aesthetics	27/06/2023	3. Specific Projects (Restricted)		Bench	Glasdon Uk Ltd	978.67
42	Training	27/06/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Training	Blake Training Ltd	99.00
38	Grass Cutting	05/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Grass Cutting - Fuel	Cad Green Garage	207.94
39	Grass Cutting	05/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Councillor Expenses Reimbursement	Lorraine Pike	13.74
40	Grass Cutting	05/07/2023	1. General Purpose (Unrestricted)		Councillor Expenses Reimbursement	Ian Sherwood	54.17
Total							1,353.52