

ILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday 8th October 2019

2019/156 Attendance and Apologies

Those present:

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

Apologies

Mrs S Hill
Mrs P Matravers
Ms H Wakeford

In Attendance

15 members of the public

2019/157 Visitors and Public Voice

(a) Planning

A resident asked if the Parish Council had been approached regarding 33 acres of land which is for sale and if there is likely to be a planning application for this land. The Chairman said the Council had not been approached and he had no knowledge of any proposal to build on the land which he believes is farm land.

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

A resident asked if the Parish Council has any information about parking and traffic calming through the village in relation to the development at St Peter's Close. The Council does not have this information.

(c) Questionnaire at Public Consultation regarding St Peter's Close

A resident asked if the Parish Council has the results of the questionnaire which people were asked to complete at the public consultation. The Council does not have this information. It was noted by some residents present at the meeting that the questionnaire asked the wrong questions and did not ask whether people want development or not.

(d) Exit poll of people attending the Public Consultation

A resident said that an exit poll had been conducted of people leaving the public consultation to ask whether they want the development at St Peter's Close to take place. Around 60 people were spoken to of whom more than 80% were not in favour of the development. The resident asked if the Parish Council will support residents and present their views when the planning application is received. The resident said she has evidence that the land beside St Peter's Close is classified as farmland and she has information that an application was refused for this land in the past.

(e) Parish Council response to planning application

It was pointed out that at the moment there is no planning application. It was also noted that you cannot prevent developers putting in an application. When and if an application for this land is made, people who object to the development should put in their objections to the District Council. If they have evidence that planning was refused in the past they should ensure they forward this to the District Council, even if it is a document that came from the District Council, they should ensure they refer to it. They must also have valid reasons for objecting to the development and should put these forward.

The Parish Council cannot put forward the views of individual residents. The Parish Council can say that there are a number of residents of the Village who object to the application and that there appears to be evidence that an application has previously been refused on this land. It will then be up to those people who do object to make their own views known to the District Council.

(f) Affordable housing

Councillor Cavill pointed out that it is planning policy to ask for low cost housing when larger

developments are being considered and the District Council will work with developers to agree the mix of housing.

2019/158 District Councillor Report

Councillor Cavill said that Gigaclear have lost the contract for connecting Devon and Somerset.

2019/159 County Councillor Report

Councillor Dance said he has a £500 grant which Ilton can apply for to be used for a specific project. Councillors felt that the Good Neighbour Scheme which is currently being set up would be a very good recipient for this grant. The application has to be in by the end of November. Councillor Dance will email the criteria and form to the Clerk and to Mrs Gribble who is organising the Scheme.

ACTION - Councillor Dance, The Clerk

2019/160 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed subject to an amendment to minute 2019/154 which read "tended" instead of "tendered".

2019/161 Matters arising from the minutes and any subsequent action taken

Overhanging trees in Old Orchard Close - These have now been cut back.

2019/162 Highways

- (a) A358 upgrade - Mr Sherwood said he is trying to get agreement to keep both roads into Ilton from the A358 open. There are approximately 1,000 vehicle movements a day into Ilton which is too many for just the one road, particularly if there is an accident. Another meeting to discuss the road is scheduled.
- (b) Verge outside the new houses by Wyndham Arms - The Clerk to arrange a meeting with Highways. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (c) Road Closure - Ilford Lane effective from 5th November to last 3 days from 9.30 - 15.30 hrs to enable BT Openreach to carry out D Pole Project works.
- (d) Road Closure - Main Street effective from 9th November to last 2 days from 9.30 - 15.30 to enable Wessex Water to carry out reinstatement works.
- (e) Grit - The Clerk to order grit from County Roads depot. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (f) Speeding - This is a problem on Main Street, particularly in the night with lorries going to the Business Park. It was noted that Barrington have agreed with Highways to set a 20 mph limit in the Village. The Clerk to ask Highways to monitor the speed on Main Street and say that the Parish Council would like a 20 mph limit. Councillor Cavill to check if there are any conditions on times of operation. **ACTION - Councillor Cavill / The Clerk**
- (g) Speedwatch - This needs a minimum of 3 people. Residents attending were asked if they would like to support a speedwatch initiative. If sufficient people come forward the Clerk will contact the Chair of the speedwatch group to help set up a group in Ilton. The Parish Council confirmed that it will support the Group and fund the software necessary. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (h) SIDs - Highways have a new policy to standardise SIDs. Some which are already installed do not meet this new criteria.
- (i) Sign at Copse Lane - It was noted that the missing sign has been taken away but never replaced. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2019/163 Brook Green - There was nothing to report.

2019/164 Footpaths

- (a) Footpath by Cad Green Cottage - The missing post has been placed at the entrance to the footpath.
- (b) Footpath Maintenance - The person responsible for footpaths at SCC is no longer in that post. Mrs Bullock to email an alternative contact. **ACTION - Mrs Bullock**

2019/165 Cemetery / Churchyard

- (a) Councillors have regularly walked around the Cemetery and Churchyard and no problems had been recorded.
- (b) Tree in Churchyard - Mr Sherwood and Mr Fox to inspect the tree. **ACTION - Mr Sherwood / Mr Fox**

2019/166 Recreation Ground Play Park

- (a) Inspection Reports - These are now sent by email. There are issues which need attention including those picked up in the annual inspection. **ACTION - The Clerk.**
- (b) Annual Inspection - The Play Inspection Company has sent a repeat order form. Councillors agreed to request the same company to do the inspection next year. **ACTION - The Clerk**

2019/167 Recreational Development / Playing Field

- (a) Football Pitch - Pitch construction is ongoing and seeding is about to start.
- (b) Outdoor Gym Equipment - Mrs Bullock to take this over after liaising with Mr Welch.
- (c) Wildflower Meadow - A copy of the maintenance plan in a larger format has been received. The Clerk will scan and circulate it. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (d) Hiring the MUGA - The Clerk to amend the notice and take over the bookings. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (e) Tennis nets - Ms Wakeford to be the contact for the tennis nets. The Clerk to amend the notice. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (f) Storage container - Ms Wakeford to keep the key for the lock-up.
- (g) Storage container purchase - It has been suggested that the Parish council should buy the container from Eagle Plant. They will charge £1,300 to buy it outright (it would have been £2,500 if it had been bought initially). The container is 4 years old and has a life expectancy of at least 20 years. At the moment the tennis nets are stored in the container and it can be used for other items, such as the benches when they arrive. Councillors agreed to buy the container. **ACTION - The Clerk**
- (h) Missing Padlock on gate - Mr Sherwood has replaced the missing padlock.

2019/168 General Maintenance - Ranger Scheme

It was agreed to continue with the Ranger twice a month. There is a suggestion that he might be moved to a different job.

2019/169 Planning Applications

App No 19/02263/FUL
 Proposal Erection of wooden outdoor classroom
 Location St Mary and St Peter's Primary School, Copse Lane, Ilton

Councillors considered the above application and have no objections to the proposal.

2019/170 Correspondence

- (a) Police Report - There were 253 investigated crimes reported for the month September 2019 with 25 arrests and 37 reports of ASB for Area North.
- (b) Mrs Gribble thanked the parish council for their donation towards start-up costs for the Good Neighbour Scheme. She was asked to come along to the meeting to give a briefing on the Scheme, but said that at the moment there is nothing to report that was not covered in her recent letter. She is happy to come along in the future when the scheme has been set up and there is more to report.

- (c) Somerset Waste Partnership September briefing.
- (d) Scope would like to find a new location for their textile recycling bank. Councillors felt this is a good idea for Ilton. The Clerk was asked to find out what access they need. Once that is known a suitable location can be decided on.
- (e) Avon and Somerset Police Crime Commissioners Newsletter.

2019/171 Accounts payments and receipts

- (a) Auditing of accounts - there is another 'except for' report this year as follows:

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. Please ensure that any amendments are corrected in the prior year comparatives when completing next year's AGAR:

The smaller authority has not fully addressed the 'except for' matter raised by the external auditor when qualifying the prior year AGAR. In the prior year the matter was raised that fixed assets had been valued at £Nil. While the smaller authority has revalued some of its fixed assets this year, others are still valued at £Nil, including the MUGA that was installed during the year and other play equipment. As previously stated, this policy does not give a reader of the Accounting Statements the ability to draw any meaning from the Box 9 figures stated on the AGAR or to recognise any changes in those assets year to year. The smaller authority should therefore reconsider the valuation policy for all fixed assets and draw up a policy to be approved by the authority and recorded in both the authority's minutes and in the asset register. In addition to this, the smaller authority has not restated the 2017/18 figure when revaluing assets in Section 2, Box 9. Please note that the Practitioners' Guide allows smaller authorities to use any reasonable valuation method, provided that the prior year figure is restated for consistency and comparability.

- (b) Balance @ 30/9/2019 Treasurers Account = £32,955.65
- (c) Received from Barry Gibb in respect of interment - £380.00
- (d) The following cheques were raised:

001140	- £	480.00	-	PKF Littlejohn - audit
001141	- £	60.48	-	Eagle Plant container September
001142	- £	168.72	-	SSDC - Ranger Labour August
001143	- £	439.20	-	Slade Parry, Football pitch project management
001144	- £	302.62	-	Salary and admin expenses September
001145	- £	332.69	-	T Mico - labour and materials for sundry maintenance
001146	- £	26.99	-	I Sherwood, reimbursement padlock and chain

2019/172 Matters and items to report

- (a) Coffee morning to be held in the village hall on Tuesday 15th October at 10.30 a.m. fundraising and publicity for Ilton Good Neighbours.
- (b) Resignation - The Clerk wrote to Mr Welch to thank him for his time and work as a councillor. A notice of the vacancy was put on the notice board in the official formal and forwarded to SSDC for confirmation. The deadline for an election to be called is 14th October.
- (c) Merryfield Messenger newsletter is to be published next week. The Clerk has sent in a short piece of news from the Parish Council with her contact details.
- (d) Break-in - A break-in occurred in Cad Road when thieves broke locks to the outside buildings. All items have since been recovered.

2019/173 Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 12th November 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Merryfield Hall

The meeting finished at 9.05 p.m.

Ian Sherwood - Chairman