

**Minutes of the Ilchester Parish Council meeting held on Thursday July 12th 2018
at the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30pm.**

Present: Mrs. H. Panter, Chairman, Mr. J. Edmondson, Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. A. MacGregor, Mr. S. McAllister, Mr. G. Pope, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. C. Williams, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. N. Bloomfield, County Councillor, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor, Rev. B. Faulkner and Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.
Eleven members of the public attended.

42. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr. R. Graydon, CRO, PC. Stefan Edwards & PCSO John Winfield.

43. The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were signed as correct.

44. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

45. Open Session – with RNAS, County & District Councillors' reports.

Mr. B. Masters highlighted blocked storm gullies at The Mead that need clearing. It was noted that these will be reported, adding the drains at the Northover lay by, to County Highways for their attention.

Mr. G. Hill reported that there has been a 60% return in replies to the forms out from the SRA asking residents in the area for their details of any landownership.

Mr. Hopkins of the Dolphin Inn, drew attention to a car at the end of West Street, in which there is a person sleeping. It was agreed that this needs to be brought to the attention of SSDC, once the registration number of the vehicle is taken.

There was a report of a person carrying a gun, seen leaving the Sports field in the early hours, on one day of last week. It was agreed that Mr. H. Williams will raise this at the next meeting of the Town Trust, with the Clerk Emailing the issue to Mrs. Louise Davis, Clerk to ITT.

Mr. Westlake highlighted again the speeding issue by some vehicles taking children to the Scout hut at the Mead. This was noted.

There was a complaint raised concerning bottles in the brook by the Bridge in Limington road.

Mr. & Mrs. Coulter highlighted speeding vehicles and the volume of traffic through Church Street, and produced figures & times when this had occurred. Early mornings – 4.30am – was particularly busy. It was agreed that these figures are to be Emailed to the Clerk, to forward onto the Police. It was agreed to ask for the Police to monitor with a speed gun. Mrs. McGee stated that a quieter tarmac surface in Church Street would help.

The Council considered an Email raising the issues of having bonfires. After discussion, as there are no specific by laws, as to hours, it is not illegal to have a bonfire, provided the material is not toxic and it does not adversely affect the neighbours, it was agreed that it is a matter for neighbours to be reasonable.

It was noted that there had been a complaint from a resident concerning anti social behaviour arising from one of the World Football games. Mr. H. Williams stated that the issue had been dealt with.

Mr. & Mrs. Percival stated that they have had an issue with a vehicle not giving way to them, as pedestrians when walking in Pillbridge Lane. This was noted

Mr. Capozzoli, District Councillor reported that the traffic management for the RNAS Air Day had been very well done and there had been no problems in Ilchester.

Mr. Capozzoli produced copies of leaflets giving details for promoting Retail Support Initiative for businesses at Castle Cary & Bruton. These were noted.

The Council noted the Email sent from SSDC reference less contact being available with the Planning Department, as the hours are being limited for staff being available by telephone. Mr. Capozzoli stated that there have been redundancies and Agency staff are being taken on. Rev. Faulkner asked if some planning decisions will be devolved to Parish Councils, to which Mr. Capozzoli replied that this would never happen.

Mr. Bloomfield, County County Councillor reported that the Somerset County Council are massively overspent on Adult & Children's services, this being a major issue.

Mr. Bloomfield was updated by the Chairman reference the traffic issues through Church Street. Mr. Bloomfield stated that it is only the Police that have the necessary legal powers, to deal with these vehicles. Mr. Bloomfield stated that Martock Parish Council, of which he is Chairman, have put a scheme in place, hiring a Security Company to do some extra patrolling. It was agreed that the details of the costs and service provided, are to be sent to the Parish Council for possible consideration.

46. Police & Community issues - Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC & Church Matters

Apologies from the Police were noted.

Mr. H. Williams on behalf of ITT, reported that the Monument issue is progressing.

It was noted that bookings were being taken for the Flower show being held on July 15th, with Rev. Faulkner reporting that the Street Fair had been an excellent event.

There was nothing reported from IRINEC.

Rev. Faulkner gave an update on the Centenary WW1 event, stating that it is hoped to have Silhouette figures at St. Mary Major Church.

Mr. McAllister stated that he and a number of volunteers from 825 NAS, had been and tidied up the Churchyard at Northover during the past week. Rev. Faulkner thanked Mr. McAllister and his team for carrying out this work. This was endorsed by the Council. There was a short discussion as to the future of keeping the area tidy. The Council was informed that the Churchyard is the responsibility of the Rector and PCC of St. Mary Major.

47. Youth Parish Councils

Miss Stapleton stated that there was nothing to report.

48. Planning matters

The Council considered the draft traffic management agreement document, received from E4Environment Ltd in connexion with application 17/01215/FUL for Mr. M. Knight at New Spittles Farm for the construction of an aerobic digestion plant. This had been circulated to all members. After discussion, it was agreed that members would meet as a group to finalise the Council's response.

The Council noted that application 18/01256/FUL for Mr. Jay Hughes at 16, Pillbridge Lane for the erection of a single storey extension to dwelling house had been granted.

The Council considered an Email from County Highways asking for an opinion on having a Catering van being sited at the Northover lay by. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed not to support this enquiry for the following reasons, potential litter, access, as there is a property & farmland that needs to be accessed, the lack of parking space and proximity to the Northover roundabout.

Mrs. Panter raised an issue of a caravan sited at the Car wash facility site in Northover, being used as overnight accommodation. After some discussion, it was agreed to inform SSDC planning.

49. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 30/06/18 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £54,196.70p

Receipts - Bank interest £2.15p & £40 Allotment rents

Payments made -

12/07/18	2337	£122.74	Wessex Water allotments
12/07/18	2338	£20	Sophie Pack- Stone - skate park area
12/07/18	2339	£28.80	HMRC paye tax
12/07/18	2340	£567.95	PTH salary & expenses

The above cheques were approved and signed.

50. Website

Mr. C. Williams reported on a quotation received from Vision ICT Ltd to upgrade the website, but after some discussion, it was felt it was not necessary to go for the upgrade at this time, even if the present site is not easy to upload. Mr. Williams is to contact Vision ICT Ltd to discuss the situation.

51. Cemetery

Mr. C. Williams reported that he had removed some alder, and would be meeting with the Clerk to look at the potential new site for the rubbish area.

52. Highway matters

The Council agreed to leave the proposal for further lighting at the end of Almshouse Lane until all residents living in that area are contacted before proceeding with the extra lighting.

As mentioned, it was noted that the Footpath to the Mead from the A.37 had only been cleared partway and this with the drain issues raised earlier will be sent to County Highways.

Miss Stapleton having thanked those who had trimmed back the overhanging brambles on the footpath adjacent to Great Orchard on the B.3151, highlighted that the brambles are still growing. It was agreed that these will be attended to, with a request to County Highways, that the hedge is fully trimmed back before the Schools start again in early September.

53. Flooding issues

A gap was reported in the area adjacent to the Town bridge. This was discussed with no decision being made, as this could be work in progress. Potential risk was noted.

54. Allotments

Mr. H. Williams reported that the judging of the allotments had been done, with the results being announced at the Flower show being held on July 15th.

The Council noted the independent advice received, which had been sent to all members, on the issue of the impasse between the District Valuer's comments & that of Bidwell's on the gifting, now at a cost of £25k of the allotments to the Parish Council.

After some discussion, on the proposition of Mr. H. Williams, seconded by Mr. Edmondson, it was agreed that the latest opinion is to be sent to both Bidwells and the Senior Bursars at Trinity College.

55. Mead Play area.

The SSDC inspection reports indicated that there are loose bolts on a piece of equipment, this is to be looked at by members.

Mr. McAllister stated that there are tree branches that need trimming and it was agreed that Greenacres are asked to deal with this.

56. Skate Park

Mrs. Panter stated that she had not yet obtained quotations for painting the Skate park equipment.

The SSDC inspection reports indicated that there is a small hole highlighted in one of the equipment, but had not been identified as a risk. It was agreed that this will be looked by members.

57. Rights of Way

Mr. Pope informed the Council that some of the verges in Pillbridge Lane had been trimmed back by the local landowner.

58. Tree Matters

It was noted that the resident concerned, reference the overhanging tree branches & brambles in Priory road has been unwell, and has yet to be contacted.

59. Correspondence

The Council noted the SSDC Area East bulletin, which had been circulated to members & Clerks Direct.

60. Items for Report, or for the agenda of the next meeting

Mr. Edmondson highlighted a talk to be given on Flooding being held on July 26th in the Town Hall.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed for Thursday August 9th 2018 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all present for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 9.33 pm.

Signed:

Date:

