

**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday October 8th 2020
at the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30pm.**

Present: Chairman, Mrs. H. Panter, Mr. G. Bushell, Mr. L. Midwinter, Mr. G. Pope, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. C. Williams, Mr. H. Williams, Rev. B. Faulkner (briefly) & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.
No members of the public were present.

41. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. N. Bloomfield, County Councillor, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor, Mr. C. Hull, District Councillor, Mr. P. Rowsell, District Councillor, Mr. R. Graydon, CRO, RNAS, PC. Stefan Edwards & PCSO Thelma Mead.

The meeting was held with strict social distancing due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Thanks were again expressed to the Town Trust for these arrangements.

42. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 10th having been circulated, were signed as correct.

43. Vacancy on Council

Mrs. Panter reported that she & Mr. Bushell had met Mr. A. Litwinek, Almshouse Lane, who has expressed an interest in filling the vacancy. It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Litwinek is invited to the next meeting. The Clerk was instructed to make contact, and provide the Acceptance of Office & Register of Interests for him to complete & sign prior to the next meeting.

44. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

Mrs. Panter reported from a meeting held at RNAS Yeovil on September 24th. Those attending were Cdre N. Griffin (CO), Lt Col N. Brighthouse (XO), WO B. Firth (BWO), CPO I. Peacock and Mr. R. Graydon (CRO). The Clerk also attended.

The background to this meeting were concerns over excessive alcohol consumption in Ilchester, centred around the Bull Inn and associated behaviour in the adjoining public area. Concern was expressed by Mrs. Panter, that if left unchecked someone may end up hurt or lose their job, also that local residents are being disturbed late at night.

The issue of the Landladies both of the Bull Inn & The Dolphin, employing Security was discussed, and it was noted that this was not acceptable to either, being an extra cost to their businesses.

The issue of the new NHS Track & Trace system was discussed, as this will ensure that all clients are to be recorded, and the added fact of the 10.00pm closure to be enacted will have some impact. It was noted that at present the Night clubs in Yeovil are closed, which would also have some impact. It was stated that RNAS is not able to provide a ‘Policing’ service, as it once did. Neither is RNAS able to provide a ‘Shuttle’ service to & from Ilchester, as it would be wholly inappropriate to fund such a service from public funds.

It was explained by Cdre Griffin that his ultimate sanction would be to put both the Bull Inn and Dolphin out of bounds to Yeovil personnel. Mrs. Panter subsequently contacted the Landladies, who both agreed that this would be bad for their businesses. Mrs. Panter thanked Cdre. Griffin for the meeting. Mr. Midwinter informed the meeting that there have been no issues recently from either Hostelryes.

In the absence of Mr. Bloomfield, County Councillor, there were no issues raised.

The Clerk reported that in the absence of all three District Councillors, he had received a report from Mr. C. Hull on behalf of all three District Councillors. It was agreed that this is sent to all members. This is in reference to the fact that SSDC were proposing the creation of two new Authorities, rather than the one Unitary Authority, being put forward by Somerset County Council.

46. Police & Community issues – St. Andrew’s Northover, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC & Church matters

The Council noted the report received from PCSO Thelma Mead, which gave the Crime stats for the area, as well as the Local Rural crime list received via the Clerk.

It was noted that as the Newsletter is not being printed as yet, due to Covid 19 issues.

The Council noted that Mrs. Panter is considering becoming one Parish Council nominee for the two vacancies to be filled on the Town Trust. The Council approved her nomination.

Mrs. Panter reported that she had been contacted by a resident reference consideration of purchasing an area of the Roman Cemetery at Northover. This was noted, with Mr. H. Williams stating that he will raise this at the next meeting of the Town Trust.

Mr. H. Williams reported on behalf of the Town Trust, stating that the ITT Notice board on the Market Place is in need of repair, and Mr. P. Biggenden had suggested that there could be two new ones put under the shelter, being one for the Town Trust and the other for Parish Council use. After discussion, this action was agreed, with the existing one used by the Parish being removed.

Mr. H. Williams informed the meeting that there is a dangerous tree adjacent to the Sports field on the A.37, and this has been reported by the Clerk to County Highways for action. Also that there has been a leak in the roof of the Sports pavilion, which has been repaired.

The Council discussed the state of the Christmas lights used on the three trees put up on the front of the Town Hall and agreed to provide a new set.

Mr. Midwinter, supported by Miss Stapleton highlighted issues caused by vehicles parking on the exit from the Market Place, which is indicated, by use of the Hatched area. It was noted that the Hatched area is in the ownership of the Town Trust. After discussion, suggested by Mr. C. Williams, it was agreed that there should be a meeting with the Town Trust and Parish Council to discuss this issue.

Miss Stapleton informed the meeting that IDCA has held a short meeting and the issue of producing a Newsletter was discussed and a date for hand over to the new team is still under discussion.

It was reported that no issues reported from IRINEC.

Rev. B. Faulkner reported that he will be providing a 9ft Christmas tree, which is ordered for December 7th to be placed on the grassed area in front of the Town Hall. The cost being already covered.

Rev. Faulkner informed the meeting that Remembrance Sunday November 8th will be a short Service 10.45 – 11.10am at the War Memorial, with limited attendance. Mr. A. Stephens has organised a wreath for the Parish Council, and it is expected that RNAS will lay a wreath this year, as well as one representative from both the Guides & Scouts, plus a Senior Scout. There will be collections by the RBL for the Poppy Appeal, and no Teas or Coffee afterwards.

As Mr. Midwinter had to leave the meeting early, the Council agreed to discuss the progress with the proposed new equipment at the Mead Play area. Mr. Midwinter reported that a meeting, attended by Mrs. Panter, Mr. Bushell, Mr. Pope and himself, had been held on site with Creative Play Ltd. The Council were shown the design layout and proposed equipment. This was considered in detail. Mr. C. Williams asked whether the Mead residents had been consulted. It was agreed that a copy of the proposals are displayed by Mr. Midwinter at the Mead to obtain any feedback. On the proposition of Mr. Midwinter, seconded by Miss Stapleton, it was unanimously agreed to accept the quotation from Creative Play Ltd of £9,875 plus VAT. The Clerk was instructed to forward the details to SSDC to see if any Grant, already applied for, would be available. It was noted that the SSDC Play officer has to approve any application for grant funding. Mr. Midwinter was thanked for his presentation.

47. Youth Parish Councils

Miss Stapleton reported that due to Covid 19, there had been no meetings.

48. Planning matters

Mrs. Panter reported that she & Mrs. R. S Jones, Chair of Yeovilton PC had met with Mr. R. Rhys, agent and owner Patrick Young to hear their ideas for future development on Land north of Dragon Fly Chase. They had outlined their proposals for the area beyond the present development, which would consist of a lake and Countryside park, this being a ten year project. There would be some 200 housing development as well.

Mrs. Panter stated that she had highlighted traffic concerns, and it had been agreed to hold a further meeting to look at their proposals.

Mrs. Panter stated that they wished to meet Councillors of both Councils for an informal meeting, with Yeovilton PC on the same evening, but separately in November – November 12th is being considered. It was agreed that all members should have the opportunity to attend this meeting.

The Council noted that there was still no decision on application on application 19/01359/FUL for Beaufort Court Management Co. Ltd Eagle Close, for the creation of 5 No car parking spaces, cycle store & bin provision.

Application 19/02668/FUL for Mr. Mark Knight at New Spittles Farm for an agricultural building to be used as a calving yard & associated works – no decision

Application 19/02670/FUL at New Spittles Farm for an agricultural building to be used as a collecting and dispersal yard facility & associated works – no decision

Application 19/02669/FUL at New Spittles Farm for an agricultural building to be used as a milking parlour complex & associated works – no decision

The Council noted that there was no decision on application 20/01866/OUT at New Spittles Farm, for construction of a new access to the anaerobic digestion facility by upgrading some existing farm tracks and constructing a new road off the current access to New Spittles Farm from the Ilchester mead interchange.

The Council noted that application 20/01842/HOU at 26, Kingsham for the erection of a two storey side extension to dwelling house had been granted.

The Council noted that application 20/02018/HOU at 23, Limington Road for the erection of a single storey to the rear of dwelling had been granted .

The Council noted the technical application 20/02484/NMA on Land north of Dragon Fly Chase for amendment to planning granted permission 15/00024/OUT for amendments to Sub Station position, handings (plots 142, 145) and plot 150 (stone cladding to extend to side / east elevation) .

The Council noted the pre - application 20/0278/PAPV notification for prior approval for the installation of solar photo voltaics equipment on the roof of Lower & upper buildings at Norseland Ltd.

The Council considered and supported application 20/02429/COU for Change of Use of a parcel of paddock land to garden land associated with the residential dwelling 4, The Paddocks, West Street.

As these two applications 20/02660/HOU & 20/02661/LBC at The Laurels, Northover for the erection of a timber garden room – retrospective application, had just come in, it was agreed to consider these at leisure, and instruct the Clerk with any decision.

49. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 30/09/20 being in C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £50,627.81p.

Receipts - £0.46p Bank interest, £944 SSDC, £30 Appleby & Childs & £265 Mrs. B. Armstrong

Payments made -

08/10/20	2489	£3,984.85	Greenacres – half yearly inc Northover
08/10/20	2490	356.40	HMRC paye tax
08/10/20	2491	£25	Miss S. Pack-Stone skate park
08/10/20	2492	£559.01	P. Horsington salary & expenses

The above payments were authorised and the cheques signed.

The Clerk informed that meeting that he has sent out the mowing schedule to five potential contractors and is in contact with them.

It was noted that the Pound area in Back Lane is very untidy, this being due to ivy being taken off the adjoining wall by its owners & being left. The area is maintained by Greenacres.

50. Website

There were no issues raised.

51. Cemetery

Mr. C. Williams stated that he has removed a tree and it was noted that the road side hedge & surrounding hedges have been cut.

52. Highway matters

Mr. G. Bushell reported that the VAS 300SD Speed Sign has failed, due to the batteries being insufficient for the volume of traffic and the need to reduce its luminosity. Mr. Bushell stated that he is in contact with Roadside Technologies, who are to swap the unit under warranty.

The Council noted that SSDC had given a grant of £944 towards the cost of the VAS device.

The Council noted that the damaged fencing by the Northover roundabout has been repaired.

Mrs. Panter reported that Mr. Marsh had concerns about speed & mud left on the old Fosse Way, now that the proposed development is beginning. It was agreed to ask Mr. Marsh, whom to contact.

53. Flooding issues

There were no issues reported.

54. Allotments

Mr. H. Williams reported that the Allotment area was now quite wet, and there are three persons on the waiting list.

55. Mead Play area

The Council noted the report & discussions on the new proposed equipment agreed earlier.

It was noted that the fortnightly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted..

56. Skate Park

The Council noted that the weekly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted.

57. Rights of Way

There were no issues reported.

58. Tree Matters

The Council noted the tree issue reported earlier.

59. Correspondence

The Council noted the Somerset Waste Partnership newsletter, circulated by Email.

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

Mrs. Panter highlighted issues with the ‘phones at the Surgery, and stated that Mr. Marsh was aware of this issue, as a member of the PPG, and also informed the meeting that Mr. R. Blake is to join the PPG.

Mr. Bushell drew attention to an overgrowth on a path at Canons Gate. This was noted.

Mr. Bushell asked whether the Car Sales at Northover were operating as per their planning consent.

Miss Stapleton stated that the whole hedge adjacent to the B.3151 by the Great Orchard Estate had been trimmed by County Highways and it was a job well done.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday November 12th 2020 at 7.30pm.

It was agreed to consider St. Mary’s Church as a venue, if, due to Covid 19, it becomes too difficult to use the Town Hall. The Church could accommodate up to 30 with Social distancing.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all present, and declared the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed:

Date: