

1.

**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> 2021  
in the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30pm.**

**The meeting was held with strict Covid regulations, social distancing & masks being worn.**

**Present:** Chairman, Mrs. H. Panter, Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. G. Bushell, Mr. A. Litwinek, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor, & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.  
Four members of the public attended, Mrs. C. Stockwell, Mr. R. Blake, Mr. B. Masters & Mr. G. Hill.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr. L. Midwinter, Mr. G. Pope, Mr. N. Bloomfield, County Councillor, Mr. C. Hull, District Councillor, Mr. P. Rowsell, District Councillor, Mr. R. Graydon, CRO, RNAS, PC. Stefan Edwards & PCSO Tim Russell & Rev. B. Faulkner.

**2. Vacancy**

The Council recorded that Mr. C. Williams had sent a letter of resignation to the Chairman, which had been received with regret. Mr. C. Williams has been thanked for his contribution to the Council. The Vacancy Notice has been sent to SSDC and posted on the Noticeboards & website. Unless a Poll is demanded by May 24<sup>th</sup>, the Council will be able to co-opt one new member at the next meeting.

**3. Election of Officers**

On the proposition of Mr. Marsh, seconded by Miss Stapleton, Mrs. H. Panter was unanimously elected Chairman.

Mrs. Panter signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The other Officers elected were –

Vice Chairman	Mr. S. Marsh
Finance	Mr. G. Bushell
Highways	Mr. S. Marsh
Allotments	Mr. H. Williams
Rights of Way	Mr. A. Litwinek
Play areas	Mr. G. Pope & Mr. L. Midwinter
Cemetery	Mr. G. Bushell
Youth Parish Councils	Miss J. Stapleton
Internal Auditor	Mrs P. Morley

**4. The Minutes** of the previous meeting held on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2021, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

**5. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

In the absence of Mr. R. Graydon, RNAS, it was noted that Air Day will not take place this year.

In the absence of Mr. Bloomfield, County Councillor, his Emailed report highlighted that there had been no SCC elections this year due to the Unitary proposals, on which the Secretary of State is due to make a decision on the proposals for Somerset on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Capozzoli, District Councillor stated that three Senior Officers have left SSDC, including the Chief Executive, who has taken up a post in New Zealand, and a new SSDC Chief Planning Officer has been appointed.

It was noted that the Phosphate issue is due to potential raw sewage contamination.

Mr. Capozzoli informed the meeting that there will be a poll of residents on the options proposed by the four District Councils to have two Unitary Councils, rather than the single one being proposed by SCC. It was noted that the Poll will not be binding.

Mr. Capozzoli reported that he had contacted Mr. R. Rhys, agent for the Young family reference traffic issues with the 150 housing development.

2.

Mrs. C. Stockwell stated strongly that Pillbridge Lane, was a Bridle path and legally should not be used by vehicular traffic. A sign to that effect should be in place. It was noted that access to the allotments, sewage works and the gas station is permitted, as well as agricultural access.

Mrs. Stockwell highlighted speeding issues in Ilchester and recommended that 20 MPH limits should be considered. It was agreed to discuss this further under Highway matters.

Mr. R. Blake highlighted two issues, firstly litter left by the Bin collectors and secondly that he has had a near miss when using the Zebra crossing in Northover. These points were noted.

Mr. G. Hill informed the meeting that he had not received any response from the SRA, but the next meeting of the SRA is being on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. After discussion, Mr. Hill agreed that he would consult with the residents of the Mead and bring forward proposals that would protect the Mead and satisfy the residents.

## **7. Police & Community issues – St. Andrew’s Northover, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC**

### **Surgery news & Church matters**

The Council noted the Crime report received from PCSO Megan Day, which had been circulated.

It was noted that the letter written by the Chair, Mrs. Panter highlighting parking issues in Ilchester, will be put in the next Newsletter, when published.

Mr. Marsh reported that the Surgery locally support the provision of a new Surgery building, but Higher authority insist that there needs to be 1,700 new patients to justify this.

Mr. Marsh reported that there has been an update on the provision of the Covid vaccinations, with the Crewkerne facility scheduled to close shortly.

Mr. H. Williams informed the meeting on behalf of the Ilchester Town Trust, that the repairs to the Market Cross are planned to begin in the Summer.

Mr. H. Williams informed the meeting that Historic England feel that the Roman Cemetery would make an ideal Country Park.

Miss Stapleton informed the meeting on behalf of IDCA, that there are major issues with their printer, which results in there being no Newsletters being produced.

Miss Stapleton informed the meeting that there is to be a Community picnic on August 28<sup>th</sup> and asked if the Market Place car park could be closed and used for this event. Permission was granted.

No issues were reported from IRINEC.

In the absence of Rev. B. Faulkner, no Church issues were reported.

## **8. Youth Parish Councils**

Miss Stapleton reported that members have been taking part with an Online meetings with SBT, this being a Virtual Hub concerning Mental Health..

## **9. Planning matters**

Mrs. Panter stated that she and Mr. H. Williams had visited the ongoing development of the 150 housing, following local residents’ concerns at lorry movements. As a result, Mr. Marsh asked that a meeting is arranged with the Agent Mr. R. Rhys to discuss issues. This was agreed, with the meeting being arranged by the Chairman and involving Councillors only, not the Clerk.

Mr. Marsh asked what CIL benefit would Ilchester receive from the 150 housing development. It was agreed that SSDC are to be contacted for an answer.

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 21/00821/HOU at 42, Esmonde Drive for Mrs. M. Rickards for the erection of a two storey extension.

The Council considered and after discussion, supported application 20/03560/HOU at 11, Church Street for alterations to Garage by raising the roof for occasional use as an electronic golf driving range.

The Council considered and after discussion, supported applications 21/00859/HOU & 21/00860/LBC at 27, High Street for demolition of two existing single storey extension at the rear of the property and the erection of a single storey extension with dormer window.

3.

It was noted that the Phosphate issue, which is delaying planning decisions, is unlikely to be resolved any time soon.

#### **10. To sign Annual Statement of Governance**

Mrs. Panter, Chairman read & signed the Annual Statement of Governance.

#### **11. Financial matters**

The account balances were reported as at 30/04/21 being in C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £46,930.95p.

**Receipts** - £0.32p Bank interest, £615 allotment rents, £265 Forsey & Son Ltd & £26,000 Precept

#### **Payments made -**

13/05/21	2528	£25	S. Pack – Stone clearing Skate park
13/05/21	2529	£546	Vision ICT Ltd website etc
13/05/21	2530	£28.78	Mr. C. J. Williams Zoom provision
13/05/21	2531	£593.94	P. Horsington salary & expenses
13/05/21	2532	£1,452.42	Came & Co annual insurances

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

On the proposition of Mr. Bushell, seconded by Mr. H. Williams the Council formally adopted the annual accounts to March 31<sup>st</sup>. These had been received by all members. Mrs. Panter signed the Annual Accounts documents.

The Council noted that the Internal auditor, Mrs. P. Morley had inspected the accounts and signed the Audit return and sent a letter of approval.

Mrs. Panter, Chairman read & signed the Annual return documents to be sent to PFK, External auditors, Canary Wharf, London. It was noted that the Notice for Public Inspection is to be displayed on the Notice board in Ilchester and put onto the Website, when legally required.

The Council considered the three estimates received for the repairs to the Cemetery wall, and agreed to accept Mr. Lee Wright quotation of £3,950 less any contribution for left over stone.

Miss Stapleton highlighted that Miss S. Pack – Stone was now over eighteen, and after discussion, it was agreed to take advice on Employment law, to ensure that the Council are complying with the law.

#### **12. Cemetery**

The Council noted that T. W. Cribb & Co have yet to supply a photograph of the Bier.

Mr. Bushell reported that he received the list of potential works needed to be considered at the Cemetery from Mr. C. Williams. It was noted that the gate on the left entering the Cemetery needs attention, as it has dropped and is difficult to close. It was agreed that Mr. Lee Wright is to remedy this.

It was agreed to contact SSDC to ask if there would be any possible grants to assist with wall maintenance.

It was agreed to get an Independent assessment of the condition of the boundary walls, to highlight areas which need attention.

#### **13. Highway matters**

Mr. Marsh stated that he felt it would be appropriate to ask SCC Highways advice on further traffic calming in Ilchester, and after discussion, it was agreed to send various suggestions to County Highways and ask for a meeting on site. It was agreed to ask that the meeting with members, to be in the morning, on either a Monday or Friday.

The issues to be discussed with County Highways being-

- To consider areas for 20 MPH speed limits
- To provide footpath on east side of the Town bridge
- Install controlled (Pelican) crossings at existing Zebra crossings
- To raise the levels of the Zebra crossings
- To consider speed bumps where appropriate,
- To ask for a definitive answer as to the status of Pillbridge Lane.

4.

Mr. Bushell reported that the VAS 300SD Speed Sign has since the last meeting been up in Yeovilton Parish at Podimore & Bridgehampton and overall 75% of vehicles had been speeds recorded there were over 30 MPH.

Mr. Bushell informed the meeting that at present there is no need to buy a new Laptop to download the VAS data. It was noted that Yeovilton Parish Council are to be invoiced £75 for the VAS use.

**14. Flooding issues**

The Council noted the comments made earlier by Mr. G. Hill and agreed to wait to receive his suggested improvements that would satisfy the Mead residents.

**15. Allotments**

Mr. H. Williams reported that at the Allotments there had been some shed break ins, but nothing had been stolen.

**16. Mead Play area**

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

**17. Skate Park**

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

**18. Rights of Way**

Mr. Litwinek stated that there were no issues to report.

**19. Tree Matters**

There were no issues reported.

**20. Correspondence**

The Council noted the Somerset Waste Partnership video conference & Emailed newsletters reference the new Recycling proposals. This information is to be added onto the Website.

**21. Items for Report, or for the agenda of the next meeting**

None were raised.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. It was noted that the Annual Parish meeting is being held on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7.30pm. The format to be determined according to latest Covid advice.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all present, and declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed:

Date: