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**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday June 10th 2021
in the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30pm.**

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

Present: Mrs. H. Panter, Chairman, Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. G. Bushell, Mr. A. Litwinek, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. A. Schofield, Mr. N. Bloomfield, County Councillor, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.
Members of the public attending Mrs. C. Stockwell, Mr. R. Blake, Mr. B. Masters, Mr. G. Hill, Mrs. L. McGee, Mr. & Mrs P. Whitaker, Mrs. C. Cross, Mr. J. Coulter, Mr. A. Schofield & Mr. M. Edwards.

22. Apologies

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

The Chairman asked that the Council record that today June 10th would have been the late Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh's 100th birthday.

23. Vacancy

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, and it was recorded that Mr. G. Pope had sent a letter of resignation to the Chairman, which had been accepted with regret. Mr. Pope has been thanked for his contribution to the Council. As a result, a second Vacancy Notice has been sent to SSDC and posted on the Noticeboards & website. Unless a Poll is demanded by June 28th, the Council will be able to co-opt one new member at the next meeting.

Mrs. Panter invited the four persons present, who had indicated their interest to be co-opted to the Council to say a few words. It was noted that one person, who had also expressed interest, was not present. After four rounds of secret ballot voting, Mr. Alan Scholfield was co-opted to the Council.

Mr. Scholfield signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was given a copy of the Register of Interests form, for him to complete and return to SSDC within 28 days.

24. Election of Officers

On the proposition of Mr. Marsh, seconded by Miss Stapleton, It was agreed that Mr. Scolfield is to assist Mr. Midwinter with the Play areas & Mr. Litwinek to assist Mr. Bushell with the Cemetery area.

25. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 13th 2021, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

26. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

In the absence of Mr. R. Graydon, RNAS, discussion took place on the number of empty MOD houses at Taranto Hill, however, it was reported that these are actually in the process of being sold off.

Mr. Bloomfield, County Councillor, reported that he had discussed with members of the Council prior to the meeting issues regarding traffic in and through Ilchester. Queries raised had been 20 MPH zones, raising the height of the Zebra crossings, with the need to identify the necessary SIS process required.

Mr. Bloomfield had explained any Small Improvement Scheme (SIS) has be be signed off by him, as County Councillor. That volume of traffic is disregarded, the principle being to safeguard children & the elderly. It is for the Council to identify the Parish issues, which SCC Highways will then evaluate. The requirement for a 20 MPH limit is to have a SCC speed check carried out, and if it shows an average speed at less than 24 MPH in that area, then 20 MPH can be considered. It was noted that this if it is put in place, it would to be at the expense of the Parish Council.

Mr. Bloomfield stated that putting in Gateways & flower displays at the entrance to Villages are one way of creating an impression of a narrower access.

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Mr. Bloomfield stated that he will contact the Council in the autumn, to receive their list of traffic issues. These will be then sent by Mr. Bloomfield, to SCC Highways for assessment as to how these are relevant and can be best dealt with.

Mr. Bloomfield reported that the requests for 'disabled parking' spaces are in hand.

Mr. Capozzoli, District Councillor reported that the recent Poll held on the options proposed by the District Councils to have two Unitary Councils, rather than the single one being proposed by SCC, had resulted in a majority of 67% to 33% in South Somerset in favour of two Unitary Councils. This was on average turnout of 25.6% of voters.

Mr. Capozzoli informed the meeting that he has been in contact with Mr. R. Rhys, agent reference the ongoing development at Taranto Hill.

Mr. Capozzoli highlighted that there is a seat at the Ivel Gardens area on land owned by the Ilchester Angling Club, donated in memory of the late Mr. Stevens - Cox, a renown historian, which is completely covered with brambles. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. G. Bushell will contact Mr. Brian Bushell, of the Angling Club. Mr. Marsh suggested a working party to deal with this issue.

Mrs. C. Stockwell stated she had been nearly run over in Pillbridge Lane, it was a Bridle path and legally should not be used by vehicular traffic. Also there have been vehicles parked in that area. Mr. Bloomfield stated that unauthorised parking is a matter for the Police and the only true measure of actual speed is via a speed device.

Mr. R. Blake stated that there is an increase in number of HGVs using Ilchester and stated that there are some regular users, despite there being a 7.5 tonne weight limit. Mr. Bloomfield stated that a 'Lorry watch' providing details & numbers of offending vehicles is something to be considered. Information details can then be sent to the Chief Constable & the newly elected Police Crime Commissioner for Police action.

Mr. G. Hill's proposals that would protect the Mead and satisfy the residents had been received and circulated to all members. It was agreed to be an excellent summary. It was agreed to formally discuss & approve the documents under Flooding issues.

Mr. B. Masters informed the meeting that he holds the key for the Notice board at the Mead.

There had been a request to trim back the hedge line at the exit from the Mead onto the A.37. This had been sent to County Highways, with Mr. Bloomfield agreeing to also speak to the County Highways.

Mrs. Cross expressed her concern at lack of public toilet facilities in Ilchester, as it impacted on her business. Mrs. Panter expressed her support, with Mr. Marsh suggesting contact with the Town Trust & The Ilchester Arms to see if they could help. Mr. Capozzoli stated that he had contacted SSDC and their response had been to recommend the use of the facilities at the Cartgate roundabout area on the A.303.

Mrs. Cross asked if the VAS device could be put in Yeovil Road. It was agreed to see if this is possible in that area.

Mr. M. Edwards highlighted parking issues both in Northover and at Taranto Hill and suggested that temporary double yellow lines could be trialled. Mr. Bloomfield stated as Traffic Orders have to put in place, the cost would be in the region of £30K and even more to have them removed.

28. Police & Community issues – St. Andrew's Northover, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC

Surgery news & Church matters

The Council noted the Crime Newsletter received from Sgt. Katie Maun, which had been circulated.

Mr. Marsh reported that the date of the roll out of the Central data programme is still yet to be decided and when up & running, it will be a benefit for all.

Mr. H. Williams informed the meeting on behalf of the Ilchester Town Trust, that there is to be a meeting on Monday next and the repairs to the Market Cross are still planned to begin in the Summer.

Mr. H. Williams stated that the Town Trust are considering plans to make the Roman Cemetery into an Open Wild Life Park area. After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council will nominate & send to the Town Trust that Mr. M. Edwards would be prepared to serve as an appointed Trustee from the Parish Council.

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

Miss Stapleton informed the meeting that there is to be a Community picnic on August 28th and it was noted that the Market Place car park could be closed and used for this event.

No issues were reported from IRINEC.

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

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29. Youth Parish Councils

Miss Stapleton reported that there was nothing to report this month.

30. Planning matters

Mrs. Panter reported that there is to be a meeting of the Councillors & Clerk on site at the Hainbury Development area of the 150 housing on Thursday June 17th. It was agreed to provide an agenda, to be sent to all parties attending. Issues to be covered CIL (Section 106) payments, soil disposal, traffic movements, future access points and expected infrastructural benefits for Ilchester. Mr. Marsh felt there should be also discussion on any future proposed development plans. The Clerk reported that he has contacted SSDC reference any potential Section 106 payments (now CIL) that may be received by the Council.

The Council noted the following -

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 noted that there was no decision on 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 noted that there was no decision on 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.

The Council discussed and supported application 21/01522/HOU at 10, Church Street, Ilchester for the erection of a single storey extension.

31. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 31/05/21 being in C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £44,588.94p.

Receipts - £0.35p Bank interest, £30 Appleby & Childs & £75 Yeovilton PC

Payments made -

10/06/21	2533	£6	ITT rents for Mead & Skate park
10/06/21	2534	£228	Chalmers & Co paye etc
10/06/21	2535	£3,950	L. Wright wall repairs Cemetery
10/06/21	2536	£25	S. Pack – Stone clearing Skate park
10/06/21	2537	£600.66	P. Horsington salary & expenses

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

The Clerk reported that the notice of Public Rights for inspecting the Accounts has been displayed & is on the Council's website and the necessary papers been sent via Email to PFK Littlejohn LLP (ref: SBA Team) for audit.

32. Cemetery

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

Mr. Bushell reported that the gate on the left entering the Cemetery is difficult to close and is to be repaired by Mr. Lee Wright.

Mr. Bushell stated that an Independent assessment of all the boundary walls is to be carried out.

The Council were made aware that some lettering on the Memorial to the late Mrs. Stapleton had been damaged. After discussion, it was agreed that the Stapleton family obtain a quotation for the letter repair, which the Council will consider.

Mr. Bushell reported that two estimates have been received for path refurbishment £500 & £900 to re-gravel & weed kill all the paths. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Bushell should make certain that the gravel put down is suitable for wheel chair use, ie. a firm base, before any decision is made.

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33. Highway matters

Mr. Marsh stated that following the earlier meeting with Mr. Bloomfield, County Councillor, he felt the Council should now highlight and identify traffic issues, which are affecting Ilchester and have this as an agenda item. This was agreed. Also to add 'Gateway' provision on the agenda.

Mr. Bushell informed the meeting that the VAS device was at Northover at present, and will look at the possibility of putting the VAS in Yeovil road. Other potential sites were also discussed.

34. Flooding issues

The Council discussed the papers received received from Mr. G. Hill & circulated to all members. It was agreed formally, to endorse these, and that that these are to be sent to the Environment Agency, Highways England & SRA for their comments.

35. Allotments

Mr. H. Williams stated that he felt that there needs to be a skip at the Allotments to clear away a lot of rubbish. After some discussion, it was agreed on a majority, one member nem con, that Mr. Williams is authorised to arrange the skip hire.

36. Mead Play area

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

37. Skate Park

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

The Council considered a request from Team Rubicon to use the Skate Park area as part part of their Nationwide Talent Pathway programme. This will coincide with skateboarding making its debut at the Olympics, as an official sport. The cost to the Council would be £800 to take part. Miss Stapleton felt that this ought to be supported, and it was agreed to consider this request at the next meeting.

38. Rights of Way

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

39. Tree Matters

There were no issues reported.

40. Correspondence

The Council noted the Somerset Waste Partnership newsletter.

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

Miss Stapleton highlighted the Ilchester Community Cupboard, which sends tinned goods into Yeovil for the Lords Larder..

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday July 8th at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all present, and declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed:

Date: