

1. Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday July 14th 2022 held in the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.00 pm.

Present: Mrs. H. Panter, Chairman, Mr. S. Marsh, Mrs. P. Andrews, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. J. Hughes, Mr. A. Litwinek, Miss J. Stapleton,, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. J. Bailey, Somerset Councillor, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor, Mr. P. Young, Mr. W. Benny, Somerton Fish & Chips, Rev. B. Faulkner & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.

Three members of the public attended.

44. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr. A. Schofield, Mrs. Emily Pearlstone, Somerset Councillor, Mr. C. Hull, District Councillor, Mr. P. Rowsell, District Councillor, Mr. R. Graydon, RNAS & PCSO B. Marcelino.

45. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on June 9th 2022, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

46. The Chairman welcomed Mr. P. Young, who updated the meeting with his proposals for further development at Hainbury Farm.

Mr. Young informed the meeting that the ongoing development by Vistry is proceeding on schedule.

Mr. Young stated that the tenant is retiring in March 2023, which gives an opportunity for further development north of Taranto Hill, Ilchester across to the B.3151, part of which would be within Yeovilton & District Parish Council. Mr. Young stated that he already has developers expressing interest in any future development proposals. At present the Phosphate issue is holding up any proposals for determination.

The proposals under consideration is for 60/70 acres to be a Nature reserve with an avenue of trees in partnership with the National Trust to create a corridor linking with Lytes Cary. The vision is to have a Green Bridge over the A. 303 to establish this link. The principle being to allow access to the natural environment and promoting bio-diversity.

Mr. Young has set up a Charitable Trust, which is sponsoring a poly tunnel at the Primary School to involve pupils to learn & encourage growing skills. Miss Stapleton stated that the children love it.

In answer to a query, Mr. Young stated that the intention is to develop up to a further 250 dwellings.

Mr. Hall questioned the number of vehicles from any new development, as there is already an issues with volume and speed through Ilchester.

Mr. A. Myers highlighted the issue of safety at having access onto the B.3151, which with the increase in housing would effectively double traffic numbers onto an already busy road due to RNAS personnel use.

Mr. Myers highlighted the issue of run off from the development site, and stated strongly that there needs to be an independent assessment reference potential flooding impact.

Mr. Marsh asked what would be the benefit of these proposals for Ilchester, with Mr. Hall stating that Ilchester no longer has the facilities it once had and there is a lack of infrastructure. Mr. Young stated that the gains would be, improved walking environment with more access to the natural environment, a site allocated for a new Surgery, a light industrial site, employment land and parking. The housing being proposed would include space to allow for working from home, creating a Community where people live & work. The issue of pollution was raised from having extra vehicles. Mr. Myers stated that any increase in fuel prices will not deter the amount of traffic.

Mrs. Andrews stated that she welcomed the provision of a Nature reserve, as it will be brilliant for both children, families and the older generation.

Mr. Young was thanked for attending the meeting.

47. Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

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

In the absence of Mr. R. Graydon, RNAS, there were no RNAS matters reported.

Mrs. Panter welcomed Mr. W. Benny, from Somerton Fish & Chips, who introduced himself and outlined his proposals asking for the Council's opinion on him bringing a Mobile van into Ilchester on Friday nights, operating probably from the Northover lay by.

2.

After some discussion, with Mrs. Andrews stating that she understood that the Dolphin Inn would be starting to provide 'Take away' and 'Eat in' facilities from September, she felt that local business should be considered. The Council on a majority vote, with one opposed and one abstention, agreed to support Mr. Benny's request. It was noted that the necessary SSDC Licence approval, will have to be obtained, with this taking a minimum of 28 days notice before approval.

Mr. Myers informed the meeting that he and other riparian owners have stopped angling on the river Yeovil from the A.303 to the Weir, Yeovilton. There have been problems with the Angling Club. Issues arising include, litter in the river, bank erosion and the issue of vehicles' parking.

'Wild swimming' is happening and jumping into the river are also concerns. Mr. Myers highlighted the public's lack of respect. A suggestion of appropriate signs warn of potential diseases, was dismissed by Mr. Myers as he felt that these would not stay in place for long, and end up in the river.

Mr. Bailey, Somerset Councillor spoke on his report that had been circulated to members. This highlighted that the budget gap will be £44 million when the new Authority takes over and at present the Somerset County Council budget shows a potential of £14.4 million overspend. The help available for struggling families was also addressed.

Mr. Bailey, after discussion on traffic issues, it was agreed that Mr. Hall should send the latest traffic data to Mr. Bailey, with a view that at some point, a SIS could be put in place. It was agreed that the issues agreed by the previous Council, are also made available for discussion, with Mr. Hall taking the lead.

Mr. Capozzoli, District Councillor, highlighted the need for Cycle paths and reported that the Fox & Hounds, Charlton Adam are dealing with the Phosphate issue by providing reed beds.

Mr. Marsh asked Mr. Capozzoli why was the District Council recruiting a new Chief Executive, Mr. Capozzoli stated that this information was incorrect.

Mr. G. Hill stated that he has nothing to report from National Highways, Environment Agency of SRA reference flooding issues.

49. Police & Community issues, with Surgery updates & reports from Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC & Church matters

The Council noted the Crime stats, which had been circulated.

Mrs. Panter stated that she has now spoken to PCSO Marcelino. Miss Stapleton asked if the PCSOs will be in Ilchester, as Social Media indicates that they are present in Yeovil, because there is an element of anti social behaviour by persons, who are coming from Somerton. It was agreed to contact & highlight this issue with the Police.

Mr. Marsh reported on Surgery matters, stating there are major issues with staff off due to the recent variant of Covid. There is a Government programme in place to arrange cover for Surgeries on Saturdays with 800 persons in training in Somerset.

Mr. Marsh reported that the telephone kiosk at Great Orchard was in a reasonable state, with some repair needed. Miss Stapleton stated that there needs to be contact from IDCA before discussing the cost of maintenance of the Defibrillator at Great Orchard, being taken on by the Parish Council.

Mr. H. Williams reported on behalf of the Town Trust, that there had been no meeting.

Miss Stapleton reported that IDCA are due to meet for a full debrief on the event held on Sunday June 5th, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It has been agreed that the Flower & Produce show will be held on September 24th.

Mrs. Panter reported that IRINEC Trustees had held their annual farm walk..

Rev. Faulkner reported that the Church Clock is being looked at on July 15th.

Discussion took place on a request to apply for a full road closure on Remembrance Sunday. After discussion, it was agreed that as there would be a charge for a full Closure Order, that the holding of traffic during the Service is marshalled by either the Police or by the Community.

Rev. Faulkner reported that the PCC are working with Ms. Rowe to rewild an area of the Churchyard.

The Council were sad to record the passing of Mrs. P. Morley, who had been a Churchwarden & Treasurer of the PCC, also very involved as Internal auditor to the Parish Council.

50. Area owned by Ilchester & District Angling Club

Mrs. Panter reported she had contacted Mr. B. Bushell, Ilchester Angling Club, and he had informed her that to date their Solicitor has not been instructed to proceed. This was noted.

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51. Youth Parish Councils

Miss Stapleton reported that she and Rachel are to try and organise a one off event.

52. Hainbury development & Housing survey

The Council noted the report made by Mr. P. Young.

It was noted that the Clerk had contacted one SSDC official reference Section 106 payments, who had stated and confirmed that there was only one person dealing with these & CIL payments. The need to replace the Skate park as one project has been indicated.

There was nothing to report reference a possible questionnaire, relevant for Ilchester, seeking the views from residents on future potential development within Ilchester.

53. Planning matters

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 22/00918/HOU at 12, Church Street to demolish stone & tile kitchen extension and modern concrete block boiler room. Erection of a single storey rear extension & carry out internal minor alterations.

The Council considered applications SCC/ 3972/2022 at Somerton Road roundabout B.3151 & SCC/ 3975/2022 at Church Street Roundabout for advertising signs, and after some discussion, it was agreed that - In principle that the Council were opposed to any form of advertising on these roundabouts in Ilchester, as it can distract drivers. However, if it is agreed by the Authority that there is to be some advertising, then it should be by local businesses.

54. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 30/06/22 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £45,770.62p

Receipts - £3.79p Bank interest & £910 SSDC grant not included.

Payments made -

14/07/22	2607	£20	T. Mepham skate park
14/07/22	2608	£79	ITT room hire
14/07/22	2609	£59.55p	Water 2 Business allotments
14/07/22	2610	£69.60p	HMRC paye tax
14/07/22	2611	£587.89p	P. Horsington salary & expenses

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

Following a request from SLR Outdoor Maintenance for an addition £25 per month increase due to fuel prices' increase, the Council agreed to an increase of £25 per month up to the end of September, after which this will be reviewed. It was noted that the mowing service invoices are paid twice a year.

55. Cemetery

Mr. Litwinek reported that further discussion to agree the detail to determine how potential connections with Ilchester should be defined, and this meeting will be held prior to the September meeting. This was agreed.

56. Highway matters

Miss Stapleton thanked the Clerk for contacting County Highways, who had swiftly repaired a pothole, which had appeared in the High Street.

Mr. Hughes stated that he had counted 14 vehicles of the same type, going down Pillbridge Lane.

Mr. Hall reported on the traffic numbers taken from June 25th to July 2nd and these had been circulated and put on the Website. These showed a total number being 17,393 vehicles with a total of 66.9% travelling over 30 MPH. The highest speed recorded being 71.3 MPH.

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The Council noted that SCC Highways have declined to provide 'Hedgehog sign' at present.

Mr. Hall recommended that the 20 MPH issue remains on the agenda and it was agreed that discussions will be held on traffic issues with a view of agreeing a SIS via Mr, Bailey in due course.

Mr. Hall agreed to provide a synopsis of the issues, for discussion.

It was agreed to delay asking SCC Highways to cut the hedge from Great Orchard to the Schools until mid August, just before the Schools return. Mr. Marsh agreed to keep offending brambles trimmed.

Mr. Litwinek stated that he will supply photos of the cracked pavements within Ilchester with an indication of where these are, for the Clerk to forward to County Highways.

57. Flooding issues

The Council noted that there were no issues to consider.

58. Allotments

Mr. Williams stated that the allotments which Mrs. Small had, have been divided into three areas and these have all been re-let.

Mr. Williams reported that loads of hard core have been put at the entrance to improve access.

It was agreed that judging of the allotments is to take place on July 22nd.

59. Mead Play area

In the absence of Mr. Schofield, it was reported that the fortnightly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted and the area is well used.

60. Skate Park

In the absence of Mr. Schofield, it was reported that that the weekly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted.

61. Rights of Way

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

62. Tree Matters

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

63. Correspondence

The Council noted the Somerset Waste Partnership news letter, circulated & Clerks Direct.

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

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday August 11th 2022 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.34pm.

Signed:

Date: