

1.

**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday September 8th 2022 held
in the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Mrs. H. Panter, Chairman, Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. A. Litwinek, Miss J. Stapleton, Mrs. P. Andrews, Mr. A. Schofield, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. A. Capozzoli, District Councillor, Rev. B. Faulkner & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk. Six members of the public attended.

The Council recorded their deepest regret at the announcement at 6.31pm earlier this evening of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2nd at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. The Council stood in Silence for two minutes.

Mr. Litwinek stated that he was disappointed, as he felt the meeting should have been cancelled & left the meeting. After consideration, it was agreed that the meeting should continue.

85. Apologies

Apologies were received from, Mr. J. Bailey, Somerset Councillor, Mrs. Emily Pearlstone, Somerset Councillor, Mr. C. Hull, District Councillor, Mr. P. Rowsell, District Councillor, PCSO B. Marcelino & PCSO M. Day.

86. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on August 11th 2022, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

87. Declarations of Interest & Vacancy

There were no Interests declared.

The Council recorded with regret that Mr. J. Hughes had tendered his resignation following the last meeting. He has been thanked for all his work with H.M Platinum Jubilee. The Vacancy has been declared & recorded with SSDC. If there is no demand for a Poll, then it can be filled at the next meeting.

88. Skate Park – update

Mr. Schofield informed the meeting that there had been a meeting held at the Sports field on September 5th, attended by IPC - Mr. Panter, Miss Stapleton, Mr. Schofield, ITT - Mr. G. Mottram, Mrs. S. Small, Mrs. M. Read & Maverick Industrial Skate Parks rep. Mr. R. Holbert. This meeting was held to discuss the future re-development of the Skate Park area.

The options being -

1. To keep the skate park as it is with necessary ongoing repairs
2. Fund raise and redevelop the skate park into a modern facility
3. Leave the equipment as it is until it is unsafe for use and then dismantle & remove with no facility in place

Issues for considerations before any new developments, include need to have any archaeological survey on the proposed area, maximum height of any construction and depth permitted.

It was noted that as there is an existing facility permitted development may be granted if the facility is under under v200 cubic metres.

It was suggested that the new skate park would be constructed as an above ground structure, with the ground surrounding the area being landscaped from the existing ground level to a height just below the top of the ramps. To achieve this the area would need to be moved five metres further from the hedgerow to accommodate the landscaping of the area. This would leave a distance of more than 15 metres from the nearest football pitch. There would no shelter as part of this development.

The ramps proposed by Maverick would be reinforced concrete with a smooth hand finished surface. Any build by Maverick would have a 15 year guarantee. The approximate spend would be in the region of £270K.

Mr. Schofield reported that there will have to be three written quotations, planning granted and in place. Three quotations are being progressed. Mr. Schofield is in contact with SSDC Leisure Officer, Mr. Steve Barnes for his advice. Once the quotations have been received then there will be presentation for all to see. Mr. Schofield was thanked for all his work on this project.

It was reported that that the Annual Inspection report and weekly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted. In principle options 1 and 2 were favoured by members.

2.

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

Rev. Faulkner informed the meeting that there will be a Book of Condolence in the Church following the death of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Second, with the Church being open for private prayer. There will be a specific Service held to remember H.M. the late Queen.

There were no RNAS matters raised, except to note that Mr. Graydon has retired from RNAS.

In the absence of Mr. Bailey & Mrs. Pearlstone, Somerset County Councillors, the Council noted Mr. Bailey’s report, which had been circulated.

Mr. Capozzoli, District Councillor informed the meeting that the SSDC Chief Planning Officer can be invited to a meeting with the Parish Council, but it would have to be a meeting not open to the public.

Mr. B. Masters highlighted overgrowth on the footpath to the Mead from the A.37. It was agreed to contact County Highways, adding that the hedge adjacent to the Great Orchard estate on the B.3151 to the Schools also needs attention.

Mr. G. Hill highlighted issues with ‘boy racers’ along the road to the Mead, with Miss Stapleton emphasising that these issues need to be reported to the Police at the time. Mrs. Panter stated that she will report these issues. Mr. Schofield reported that the Police have been in Ilchester, in the area of the Norseland Cheese Factory.

Mr. Hill stated that the ditch in front of the Mead adjacent to the A.303 has still not been cleared. It was agreed to again contact the various Authorities on this issue.

Mr. P. Westlake drew attention to cars queueing from the A.303 & A.37 on some Sundays prior to the Car boot site being open. This has caused him some problems with access. Ms. T. Rowe stated that she helps with the Car boot sales, and felt that this was not a regular occurrence. This issue was noted.

Mr. G. Pope stated that the white lining at the Pillbridge Land / West Street junction need to be repainted. Mrs. Panter stated that Mr. Bailey, County Councillor was aware of this issue.

The Chair reported that Mr. Knight has issues with plastic bottles and cans being thrown into the field adjacent to the Pillbridge play area from the play area. This is causing him concern with potential plastic issues with his livestock and from the cans damage to machinery. As this site belongs to and is managed by SSDC, it was agreed to forward these complaints to SSDC Leisure.

The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by Mr. C. Richer, Norseland Cheese, asking if the Council had any ideas to add to theirs to commemorate their 60 years in business.

90. 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.

Miss Stapleton asked for another meeting with the PCSOs B. Marcellino & M. Day.

Mr. Marsh was asked if the Buttercross Surgery newsletter could be published and made available for members of the public. Mr. Marsh stated that he make enquiries and report back..

Mr. H. Williams reported on behalf of the Town Trust, stating that there will be a meeting held on Monday next.

Miss Stapleton reported that IDCA had held a Coffee morning, which had raised £146.

The Council noted a request from IDCA for a contribution towards a storage container and agreed to consider the request under financial matters.

The Council discussed the Email received from IDCA reference the request to fund the annual rental for the defibrillator in the Telephone box at the entrance to Great Orchard. After discussion, it was agreed to ask IDCA who actually owned the Telephone kiosk, as the Council had agreed not to adopt it when offered it a few years ago. It was felt that the responsibility for the upkeep of the Telephone kiosk needs to be established before making any commitment to the annual rental of the defibrillator.

There were no issues reported from IRINEC.

91. Area owned by Ilchester & District Angling Club

Mrs. Panter reported that she, with Mr. Schofield had by invitation, attended a meeting with members of the Angling Club meeting. This meeting had agreed to progress the transfer of the area to the Parish Council.

92. Youth Parish Councils

Miss Stapleton stated that she had nothing to report at present.

3.

93. Hainbury development & Housing survey

The Council noted that there will be a meeting with the Somerset Community Council in the Town Hall, Ilchester on September 22nd. This will be to discuss and receive advice on the way forward to gain public opinion on any future within Ilchester.

94. Planning matters

The Council noted applications 19/02668/FUL for Mr. Mark Knight at New Spittles Farm, 19/02670/FUL at New Spittles Farm, & 19/02669/FUL at New Spittles Farm had all been withdrawn.

The Council noted that application 20/02024/FUL at New Spittles Farm for erection of an agricultural storage building had been granted.

The Council noted that there was no decision on applications SCC/ 3972/2022 at Somerton Road roundabout B.3151 & SCC/3975/2022 at Church Street Roundabout for advertising signs.

The Council noted that there was no decision on application 22/02054/FUL at 13-25 & 24-46 Eagle Close for the installation of external wall insulation to external walls and re-roofing work carried out as part of a thermal upgrade programme to Service family accommodation.

The Council noted that there was no decision on application 22/02158/FUL at The Coach House, West Street, for erection of PV system with non invasive ballasted foundations to generate carbon free electricity on non intrusive foundations.

The Council discussed and supported application 22/02201/FUL at New Spittles Farm, for the construction of an extension to an existing agricultural building.

The Council discussed and supported application 22/02202/FUL at Spittles Farm, Old A.303 road for the construction of an agricultural building to be used to store straw & general agricultural commodities

The Council discussed and supported application 22/02200/FUL at New Spittles Farm for the construction of an agricultural building to house a proportion of the milking cows within the herd at this farm in a loose yard based system.

The Council discussed and supported application 22/02199/FUL at New Spittles Farm for the construction of an agricultural building to be used to house dairy cows.

There was discussion on a development within Limington Parish, adjacent to the Parish boundary. The Clerk reported that to date, there was no application on the SSDC planning website, and there had been no information submitted to Yeovilton & District Parish Council.

95. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 31/08/22 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £45,399.50p

Receipts - £4.13p Bank interest & £30 allotment rents.

Payments made -

08/09/22	2614	£198	Cumbria Clock Co - Church clock
08/09/22	2615	£750	SSDC play inspections – half year
08/09/22	2616	£144	Play Inspection Co.Ltd annual report
08/09/22	2617	£72	ITT room hire
08/09/22	2618	£39.84	H. Williams – petrol & engraving
08/09/22	2619	£20	T. Mephram skate park
08/09/22	2620	£585.31p	P. Horsington salary & expenses
08/09/22	2621	£2,658	SLR Maintenance half mowing

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

The Council considered the request from IDCA for a contribution towards a storage container, which would cost in the region of £1,500. After discussion, the Council, on the proposition by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Andrews, unanimously agreed a contribution of £300 towards its cost.

96. Cemetery

In the absence of Mr. Litwinek, the Council considered his proposals reference defining details concerning eligible conditions for persons with Ilchester connections. It was agreed that there should be a few amendments, which are to be circulated and discussed further.

The Clerk reported that he is still in discussion with SSDC and Somerset Waste Partnership to arrive at an agreement to have a green Wheelie bin.

4.

97. Highway matters

Mr. Hall reported that he had met with Mr. J. Bailey, County Councillor and gone through the details of highway issues within the Parish. It was emphasised by Mr. Bailey, that there needs to be greater involvement with the public, and Mr. Hall stated that he has been in contact with the Police for accident statistics. The major issue is that SCC have no funding available at present for SIS projects.

Mr. Hall reported that the VAS will be going to Yeovilton & District Parish Council shortly.

The Clerk reported that County Highways would take back the maintenance of the AS.37 roundabout, with it being cut once or twice yearly. It was agreed to continue until the end of the year with the existing arrangement, and then probably give the maintenance over to County Highways.

Mr. Hall reported that there had been an Emailed complaint reference the bush growth by the Bus shelter opposite the entrance to Great Orchard. Mr. Marsh informed the meeting that he had trimmed back some foliage, and there needs to be an updated Bus route sign.

Following a request from County Highways to check the levels of the Salt / Grit bins within the Parish to see what is left in each bin, Mr. Schofield offered to do this, with the Clerk then sending this information to County Highways.

The hedge trimming adjacent to Great Orchard & the path to the Mead were noted for action.

98. Flooding issues

The Council noted that there were no issues to consider.

99. Allotments

Mr. Williams reported that Mr. J. Coulter, Church Street, is to be send the agreement papers to take on allotment number 1B.

Fly tipping by the allotment area is to be reported.

It was noted that the results of the allotments' judging will be given at the Flower, Craft & Produce show being held on September 24th.

100. Mead Play area

Mr. Schofield reported that the fortnightly SSDC inspections have been received, with no issues highlighted, although there are potentially some items that will need attention in the future.

101. Rights of Way

Mr. Hall reported that SCC Highways have just trimmed Browns Lane, Northover.

In the absence of Mr. Litwinek, Mr. Marsh stated that there were no other issues to report.

102. Tree Matters

In the absence of Mr. Litwinek, there were no issues reported.

103. Correspondence

The Council noted the Somerset Waste Partnership news letter had been circulated. & Clerks Direct was available.

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

Mr. Hall requested that the next agenda has an item to discuss that the Lighting in Ilchester is switched of after midnight. This was agreed.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday October 13th 2022 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signed:

Date: