

1.

**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 held following the Annual Parish meeting in the Town Hall, Ilchester held at 7.00 pm, commencing at 8.00pm.**

**Present:** Mrs. H. Panter, Chairman, Mr. S. Marsh, Mr. D. Galloway, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. A. Litwinek, Mr. A. Schofield, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. H. Williams, Mrs. Emily Pearlstone, Somerset Councillor, Rev. B. Faulkner and Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.  
Eighteen members of the public attended.

**225. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr. J. Bailey, Somerset Councillor & PCSO B. Marcelino.

On the proposition of Mrs. Panter, seconded by Miss Stapleton, the Council unanimously elected Mr. A. Schofield to fill one of the two Vacancies. Mr. Schofield signed his Acceptance of Office and was given a copy of the Register of Interests to complete. The Council were pleased that Mr. Schofield has returned to the Council. It noted that the second Vacancy can now be filled.

**226. The Minutes** of the previous meeting held on March 9<sup>th</sup> having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

**227. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Interests declared.

**228. Open Session – with RNAS, Somerset Councillors’ reports**

It was reported that Mr. Phillip Jones has been appointed as the new RNAS Communication & Engagement Officer.

Mr. G. Hill reported that he had cleared the footpath to the Mead from the A.37. He was thanked for doing this work, and this work had been reported the Somerset Highways.

Mr. Capozzoli gave a history of the car park area owned by the Parish Council on the Market Place and stated that the whole surface area needs resurfacing. It was agreed that this is put on the next agenda.

Ms. T. Rowe stated that she was unhappy with the state of the Parish Council’s noticeboard and felt strongly that it was on the wrong side of the wall in front of the Bull Hotel and not fit for purpose. Also there was a need to put up Notices at Taranto Hill. Mr. Marsh informed her that there is a Noticeboard at the entrance to Great Orchard. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Mr. J. Coulter expressed his concern at the amount of vehicles including lorries, using Ilchester as a short cut, rather than using the A.37 bypass onto the A.303. Mr. Coulter stated that he had counted 47 HGVs through Ilchester in eight hours on one day. He felt this was unacceptable. Mr. Hall stated that the potential new development will have its access opposite the Norseland Cheese Factory. Mr. Hall agreed that it is difficult to contact all HGV vehicle owners, although he is aware of those who has legitimate deliveries within Ilchester, regrettably the Police do not always help. It was noted that the Police have been in the area.

Mr. Marsh stated that that the Council have already asked for a 20 MPH zone and for raised surfaces on the three Zebra crossings. To date this has had a negative response from County Transport. It was agreed that it was Drivers bad behaviour that caused many issues.

Mrs. Pearlstone, Somerset Councillors, spoke on their report, which had been circulated, adding that the new Authority are now considering installing 20 MPH zones where most relevant.

**229. Police & Community issues, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC & Church matters**

The Council noted the crime stats for Ilchester Parish, which had been circulated.

Mr. Marsh highlighted that the Surgery is now looking for a further Doctor, which is proving difficult, but two new Nurses have been recruited.

The Council noted the report by Mr. G. Mottram on behalf of the Town Trust stating that the Town Trust is still recovering from the impact of Covid. The Museum has re-opened on Wednesday and will continue to be open on Wednesdays and are developing their own Website.

The Council have forwarded the request for yellow lines to prevent parking from the A.37 to beyond the Sports field entrance to Somerset Highways. No response to date.

The Council noted the report from IDCA stating that IDCA is proposing to hold an event to celebrate H.M. the King’s Coronation. A request for funding was agreed to be considered under Finance.

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### **230. Youth Parish Council**

Miss Stapleton reported that she and Miss Rachel Binns are going to visit to Martock Youth Club, to see how their Youth Club operates.

### **231. Hainbury development & Housing survey**

The Council noted the reports from the meetings' presentations for further development, made by Pegasus on behalf of Mr. Patrick Young on March 30<sup>th</sup>, both to the Council followed by a public meeting. Two issues were raised being the apparent lack of ongoing maintenance for the proposed woodland area, and the major issue of sewer capacity from the developments.

The Council were informed that there had been a 33% response to the Survey from residents, and the Community Council for Somerset had sent a draft document, which had been circulated to members. After discussion, it was agreed to send back the Council's comments to finalise the document. It was also agreed to be a very detailed response, reference the issues and was welcomed by members.

### **232. Planning matters**

The Council noted that there was still no decision on application 22/02251/FUL at Three Acres, Limington Road for change of use of land & buildings to provide canine daycare facility, erection of fencing and enlargement of hardstanding – retrospective (adjacent Parish).

The Council noted application 23/00254/DOC1, at The Coach House, West Street, for Discharge of Condition No.4 (Solar Panels) and No. 5 (cabling and Fixing) of Planning application 22/02158.

### **233. Financial matters**

The Council considered and approved the request for a donation of £150 to IDCA towards the events being held for H.M. Charles' Coronation.

The account balances were reported as at 31/03/23 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £31,656.13p

**Receipts** - £23.80p Bank interest.

**Payments made -**

13/04/23	2655	£96.80	HMRC tax
13/04/23	2656	£20	T. Mepham skate park
13/04/23	2657	£162	IDCA donation re. Defib
13/04/23	2658	£637.27	P. Horsington salary & expenses
13/04/23	2659	£483	Vision ICT Ltd domain & hosting
13/04/23	2660	£150	IDCA donation Coronation events

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

Discussion took place over the cost of the Website hosting.

### **234. Cemetery**

It was noted that Mrs. Panter and Mr. Litwinek are to meet with a Stonemason to draw up a schedule of works required for the wall repairs, so that this can be sent out to builders for quotations.

### **235. Highway matters**

The Council noted the issues raised earlier, that the footpath to the Mead had been cleared by Mr. G. Hill. There was no update on the missing sign 'No through road' and the damaged 30 MPH sign.

Also noted that no reports on the road surface issue at the entrance to the Mead, which forms part of the floodbank needs attention, the a loose slab in the footpath in the High Street by the Town Hall opposite No.1. The High street.

Mr. Galloway reported that the VAS device has been put up in the High Street, twice in Northover and and is now by the Schools at Taranto Hill. The data collected, has been circulated to members and put on the Parish Council's Website. Mr. Galloway reported that there are battery issues, and he has been in contact with Roadside Technologies Ltd.

Mr. Galloway was thanked for all he is doing with the VAS and providing the data from it.

The Council noted that the responses received from the Transport Officer, seem to be that very little can or will be done to alleviate traffic issues through Ilchester.

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After discussion, with varying views being put forward, it was agreed to investigate the viability of having Cameras at either end of the Village to help reduce speed and help to achieve a 20 MPH speed limit through Ilchester. The existing collected data proves the large number of traffic using Ilchester despite the bypass and the speeds involved.

There was no report reference the Zebra crossing lighting improvement in Northover, which had been highlighted and it was noted that the Zebra lighting at the Schools' crossing need to be inspected.

The Council noted that Somerset Highways have agreed and will be maintaining the roundabout area in future from the A.37 into Ilchester.

**236. Flooding issues**

There were no issues reported.

**237. Allotments**

Mr. Williams reported that the allotments area is very wet, that there had been a major break in, with the locks being cut and most sheds having had items stolen. The Police have been informed.

The meeting with the tenants will be on Sunday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11.00am.

**238. Skate Park**

It was noted that the weekly SSDC inspections have been received, with no major issues being highlighted. It was noted that Mr. Schofield has returned to the Council.

**239. Mead Play area**

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

**240. Rights of Way**

There were no issues reported.

**241. Tree Matters**

There were no issues reported.

**242. Correspondence**

The Somerset Waste Partnership newsletter, which had been circulated, was noted.

**243. Items for report or for the next month's agenda**

Mrs. Panter confirmed that she will not be standing for the post of Chair at the next meeting in May, at which the following year's Officers and responsibilities are elected. Mr. Marsh thanked Mrs. Panter for all she has done as Chair during her term of Office. This was endorsed by all present.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.22pm.

After, the meeting had ended Miss R. Binns expressed an interest in filling the second vacancy on the Council, and was given the relevant forms to fill in. The appointment is to be ratified at the next meeting.

Signed:

Date: