

**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup> 2023 held in the Town Hall,  
Ilchester held at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Mr. D. Galloway, Miss R. Binns, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. A. Schofield, Miss J. Stapleton, Mr. H. Williams, Mr. J. Bailey, Somerset Councillor & Mr. P. Horsington, Clerk.  
Five members of the public attended.

**42. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mr. S. Marsh, Chairman, Mr. A. Litwinek, Mrs. H. Panter, Mrs. Emily Pearlstone, Somerset Councillor, Rev. B. Faulkner & PCSO B. Marcelino.  
In the absence of Mr. Marsh, Mr. D. Galloway, vice – chairman took the Chair.

**43. The Minutes** of the meeting held on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2023 were signed as correct.

**44. Open Session – Remembrance Sunday with RNAS, Somerset Councillors’ reports**

The Council discussed the issues from last year’s Service, highlighting the lack of liaison between the Services and those involved within the Parish. Mr. Galloway agreed that he will be the contact with the RNAS Community Relations Officer, and discuss issues, including the road closure of Church Street during the Service at the War Memorial. It was agreed that despite concerns, the road closure had been achieved last year, with the other issue being members of the Forces not attending the Town Hall after the Service.

There was no report from RNAS.

Mr. Westlake reported that the main security lights at the Sports field had remained on for four days. Ms. T. Rowe offered to take on being contact with Mr. Westlake over these issues. This was noted.

Mr. B. Masters reported that the floodbank in the road protecting the Mead had been repaired, although the potholes outside number 22, The Mead had not. Ms. Rowe highlighted potholes in West Street, which needed attention. It was noted that both these issues had been reported to Somerset Highways.

Mr. Galloway stated that a link to report these issues to Somerset Highways will be added both to the Website and put into the Village magazine.

Mr. G. Hill reported that he had attended the meeting of the Somerset Rivers Authority held on June 16<sup>th</sup> and it had been agreed that the recent severe flooding in the Bruton, North Cadbury, Yarlinton, Queen Camel, West Camel and Podimore areas were ‘force majeure’ a one off event.

Mr. M. Cawte stated that he had read the item reference the Skate park being replaced at some point, and as a Skate boarder was interested as to how far the project was at, and he felt that the existing equipment was satisfactory. Mr. Schofield stated that the area had been painted last year and there were some small issues that were being monitored. It was agreed that Mr. Schofield exchange details. It had been indicated that there is at least five years life left in the existing equipment.

Mr. Bailey, Somerset Councillor, spoke on his report, which had been circulated, highlighting that members should attend the meetings of the Local Council Network.

Mr. Bailey stated that he had nothing to report either on issues at Great Orchard or the meeting with the relevant Officials, in an attempt to progress improvements to reduce volume and speed through Ilchester traffic issues within Ilchester, this was ongoing.

It was reported that the area outside the play area in Pillbridge Lane is not being kept tidy and trimmed, although Mr. Williams stated that he had tidied the area because of the risk to the users of the play area. He was thanked for doing this, but it was agreed to inform Mr. Bailey of the details, so that it can be dealt with by the relevant authority.

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

Miss Stapleton stated that she had met with the local PCSO and reported that there have been antisocial issues happening on the new estate being built at Hainbury. Other issues being considered, were Lorry and Speedwatch schemes. The crime stats for Ilchester had been circulated.

In the absence of Mr. Marsh, Mr. Galloway reported that the Surgery is to deliver both ‘Flu & Covid’ vaccinations for patients over 75 years from September into October.

In the absence of Rev. Faulkner, the Clerk informed the meeting that the new part for the Church Clock has been made and is to be installed shortly.

Mr. Williams reported on behalf of the Town Trust stating that new doors are to be put on the Sports pavilion and the play equipment has been moved from Tall Trees and is to be re-sited on the Sports field.

Miss Binns reported that IDCA needs more members, and confirmed that the Flower Craft show will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> in the Town Hall.

There was no matters reported from IRINEC.

Mr. Galloway informed the Council that once discussed and agreed by all parties, it was being proposed that ITT, IDCA and the Parish Council, all share the same new Notice board. It was noted that there was no report received from Mr. Andrew Stapleton, to date.

#### **46. Youth Parish Council**

Miss Stapleton reported that she and Miss Rachel Binns have tried to engage with the young members of the Parish, but as yet with little success. They intend to visit Martock Youth Club to see how their Club operates.

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

There was nothing to report from Pegasus Ltd on any future development plans.

The Council noted that members had received both the Full and Executive Summary documents of the Survey from the Community Council for Somerset, Smart Communities Ltd and both were now available on the Council's website.

#### **48. Planning matters**

The Council noted that there was 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.

The Council considered & supported application 23/01667/LBC at the Mill House, Northover to dismantle 1 No. existing chimney to existing lead tray level and rebuilding of the chimney like for like.

#### **49. Financial matters**

The account balances were reported as at 30/06/23 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £55,898.94p

**Receipts** - £56.48 Bank interest, £15 Allotment rent & £105 Fine Memorials

**Payments made -**

|          |      |         |   |
|----------|------|---------|---|
| 13/07/23 | 2674 | £97.52  | Water2Business allotments                   |
| 13/07/23 | 2675 | £114    | HMRC paye tax                               |
| 13/07/23 | 2676 | £20     | T. Mepham skate park                        |
| 13/07/23 | 2677 | £100    | S. Horne tree limb removal                  |
| 13/07/23 | 2678 | £728.09 | P. Horsington salary & expenses             |
|          |      |         | (includes £50 for Cemetery rubbish removal) |

The Council approved the above cheques for payment.

It was noted that to date, no quotation had been received from Firestone Surfacing reference the works at the Market Place car park.

#### **50. Cemetery**

In the absence of both Mrs. Panter and Mr. Litwinek, it was reported that Mr. G. Pope and Mrs. Panter had removed all the rubbish in the bin and the bags by the Chapel of Rest. They were thanked for doing this. It was reported that SLR Outdoor Maintenance have given notice of finishing their maintenance contract at the end of August. It was agreed that members are to consider & review the existing schedule of works, as it had changed from what had been accepted three years ago.

It was asked if there was a start date for the Cemetery wall repairs, it was reported that Mrs. Panter has contacted the builder.

#### **51. Highway matters**

Mr. Galloway reported that the VAS device has new batteries, but these are not lasting as long as previously. The VAS has been loaned to Yeovilton & District Parish Council.

It was reported that Somerset Highways had confirmed that orders have been raised for the repairs needed, to potholes in Northover, potholes at the end of Almshouse Lane leading into the High Street. and considering the speed humps by the Schools.

It was noted that there was no report from members concerning contacting wheelchair users, asking where in their experience, further dropped kerbs should be provided.

Mr. Hall highlighted the general untidiness of the majority verges within Ilchester. This was noted. A report received from a resident from Ivel Gardens, highlighting that parts of this area is very untidy was discussed and noted.

**52. Flooding issues**

There were none reported.

**53. Allotments**

Mr. Williams reported that a tree limb had fallen down and had been a risk to those entering the allotments and has now been removed by Stuart Horne, Limington.

Mr. Williams reported that there are now three new tenants on the allotments.

Mr. Williams stated that there is a fair amount of vegetation within the allotments that needs to be removed and asked for approval that Mr. G. Pope deals with this. After discussion, subject to a reasonable price, it was agreed that this work can be done. .

**54. Skate Park**

It was noted that the weekly SSDC inspections have shown no major issues being highlighted.

It was noted that Mr. Schofield will be in contact with Mr. M. Cawte and also stated that that it is now estimated that any new Skate park provision will cost in the region of £300K.

It was noted that the Annual Play inspection of both the Skate park area and Mead has been delayed due to staff shortages at Play Inspection Ltd.

**55. Mead Play area**

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

**56. Rights of Way**

There were no issues reported.

**57. Tree Matters**

There were no issues reported.

**58. Website**

In the absence of this item on the July agenda, it was agreed that it be reinstated.

It was noted that Miss Binns will update the website, except for formal Council business.

**59. Correspondence**

Somerset Waste Partnership updates were noted and had been circulated to members.

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

Miss Stapleton highlighted the Local Community Links meeting to be held on July 18<sup>th</sup> asking that this Community now becomes an agenda item. This was agreed.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday August 10<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the acting Chairman, Mr. Galloway, thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.48 pm.

Signed

Date