



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 14th February 2024
at the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors: Cllr D Galloway (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Hall, Cllr H Williams, Cllr R Binns, Cllr A Schofield
Parish Clerk: R Coombes
County Councillors: None present
Parishioners: 5 members of the public attended and Rev Bruce Faulkner

200. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr E Pearlstone, Cllr J Bailey, Cllr S Marsh, Cllr J Stapleton

201. The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2024

These minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed and agreed that they be signed as correct.

202. Casual Vacancy

It was noted by the Council that there are now 2 vacancies on the council. No applications have been received so far, and co-option is now available. These vacancies will be published on the website.

203. Members of the Public

A member of the public reported on the Somerset Rivers Authority meeting held on 8th March. Information at this meeting focussed mainly on the problems surrounding the river Brue and the flooding at Godney. The member of the public met with the SRA liaison officer who suggested Ilchester Parish Council apply for a small grant to fund a small pump. A meeting with Mark Doyle from the Environment Agency is required to observe the problems relating to the holes in the ditch and ensure those are to be fixed before the application for funding for a pump can be submitted.

The head of engagement at Wessex RFCA attended the meeting to inform the council that work is being carried out in the local area with RNAS Yeovilton to bring together communities. Legislation has recently changed, and Ilchester Parish Council would be welcomed to sign the Armed forces covenant. More information will be provided, and this item will be on the agenda at the next meeting for discussion.

Member of the public raised concerns regarding people exercising their dogs on the grass in the town square. It was noted there had been signs restricting dogs previously which were removed when the posts were replaced. Cllr Williams agreed to relay the information to the Town Trust as the owners of the land. The member of the public also highlighted issues with cars being parked at the exit of the carpark. It is hoped the Council will re-surface the carpark and new line markings will reduce this issue. Ilchester Parish Council agreed to investigate quotes for the re-surfacing works.

204. Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN

No reports were given at the meeting.

205. Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.

Police – the latest figures from police.uk were presented to Councillors.

Surgery – No further update.

Town Trust – It was reported that a 3 year maintenance contract has been renewed. A 5 yearly electrical inspection is due for both sites and will be taking place imminently. The Trust are due to renew their insurance policy and are reviewing their assets within the town. It was noted the Car Boot sales are due to start as of Sunday 7th April 2024.

IDCA – A meeting was held 7th February, and it has been decided that the street fair will be in a different format this year. The flower show will be occurring earlier on in the season and there will be a separate awards evening held in October which will allow for awards to be engraved prior to the evening.

Church – The Reverend advised Easter events are going to be taking place, information has been publicised. It was noted that Yeovilton Parish are asking for a survey to be completed regarding horses and aircraft noise and whether changed flightpaths are creating issues.

Community links – The next meeting is to be held in 2 weeks time.

Library service – No further update.

Noticeboard – The Town Trust are investigating options, designs and prices for a new noticeboard, which IPC will share cost and space with.

206. Website

The implementation of Google Analytics on the website is pending.

207. Youth Parish Council

No update to report

208. Planning matters

Councillors received an update on the following planning applications:

23/03025/LBC & 23/03024/FUL – Hainbury Farm - Works to an outbuilding to create habitable accommodation, new tractor shed, new walled garden, refurbishment works including new windows, doors and rooflights and reinstatement of a chimney pot: **Permitted with conditions**

The Council noted there was **no update** on the application *23/01618/HYBRID* at Hainbury Farm, Fosse Way for 1) Full application for the demolition of Farm buildings, creation of a Nature Reserve, vehicular access, engineering and associated works & 2) OUTLINE application with all matters reserved except for access for up to 200 dwellings, one hectare employment land, 0.5 hectare local facility land, public open space, landscaping, pedestrian / cycle access and associated works.

209. Financial matters

The account balances were reported as at 29/02/24 C/A/c £100 & B/R A/c £36,602.49

Receipts: £36.29 - Bank interest

Payments to be made: £469.43 - Three Counties Landscaping

£20 - T. Mephram

£426.00 – R Coombes

The Council approved & signed the above cheques for payment.

It was noted that Cllr Hall had requested Three Counties Landscaping to remove 3 elder stumps on

their next visit.

210. To review banking options

Information regarding Unity Trust bank was presented to Councillors by the Clerk. It was proposed and agreed to move to Unity bank. Councillors approved triple authorisation should be available on the account and every Councillor will be able to authorise payments unless otherwise requested.

211. Cemetery Update

Those carrying out painting work at the cemetery need to access the locked doors in the little chapel. The Clerk will investigate this further to find a key/access.

212. Highway and Footpath matters

Footpaths

It was noted a gate has been installed at Priory Lane.

Highways

As the SID is no longer functioning, Cllr Galloway has been investigating replacements and prices. It was suggested the Council replace the SID with an updated version whereby data can be retrieved via 4G and it is chargeable via solar.

It was reported from a highways meeting held on 21st February that the police are running a quiet lorry watch. They were originally looking at 3 axel lorries but are now looking at 2 axel lorries too that may be overweight.

A meeting was held with Kerry Jones from the Highways department to discuss what could be done to alleviate traffic issues within the village. The idea of putting a mini roundabout at the end of High Street had been discussed but it was highlighted this would not aid the issue due to the unequal direction of traffic and the rules regarding priorities at roundabouts. There will be flexible posts installed at the hatched area at the Northover roundabout to slow traffic. The next meeting will be held on 27th March 2024.

20mph limit

A map detailing where the 20mph limit zone will be implemented was shown to parishioners, it was reported this should be enforced as of September. A query was raised regarding repeater signs, and it was noted that more detailed plans will be available after the consultation period.

213. Flooding issues

There were no further flooding issues other than those that had been raised already to report on.

214. Allotments

Cllr Williams reported there will be an allotment meeting on 21st April at 12pm. There is currently one vacant plot and a notice advertising this will be put on the gate.

215. Skate Park & Mead Play Area

Cllr Schofield hasn't yet visited The Mead play area, it was noted there was no change on the weekly reports received.

216. Any other correspondence received

None received.

217. Items for report or for the next month's agenda

It was noted that the Council have decided to create a monthly action list for circulation after the meeting.

Cllr Binns agreed to advertise the need for a flood warden on the website. Further discussion was had regarding a WhatsApp group for flooding issues, and it was decided more information

regarding the role was required.

The Town Trust have been alerted to the problems with parking on the road to The Mead during busy times. It was suggested a message should be sent to the football coaches to remind families they could park for free and the parking is only chargeable for those selling at the car boot.

It was requested that resurfacing the car park was added to the agenda for the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday 11th April 2024 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 20:10 pm.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT