



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 13th June 2024
at the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors: Cllr D Galloway (Chair), Cllr S Marsh (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Hall, Cllr H Williams,
Cllr R Binns
Parish Clerk: R Coombes
County Councillors: Cllr J Bailey, Cllr E Pearlstone
Parishioners: 4 members of the public attended

047/2024 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr A Schofield and Cllr J Stapleton. It was RESOLVED to receive and approve the apologies submitted.

048/2024 Declaration of Interests

None received.

049/2024 The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2024

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

Matters arising from the minutes

Councillors wished to discuss the car park at the sports field, it was decided to discuss this further under item 066/2024.

050/2024 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 are published on the website and in the newsletter.

051/2024 Members of the Public

A parishioner spoke regarding the parking at Great Orchard. It was reported that people are parking very close to the corner at the exit of Great Orchard which affects visibility when pulling out of the junction, BT OpenReach seem to park their vans here regularly. This can also create problems going back into Great Orchard. It was proposed that the council could investigate whether yellow lines could be installed to reduce the parking on the area. It was also noted that there is a lot of parking taking place in peoples gardens due to the amount of cars in Great Orchard, which is resulting in cars crossing the green to get to their driveways. It was decided the council would write to Abri and ask them to come up with solutions for this problem. The Council will also write to OpenReach and the parishioner was asked to get a photograph for the correspondence. There has also been a van with a trailer attached parked in the same area which has affected access. Cllr Hall agreed to pass this on to Dan Cox.

A response had been received from the EA regarding the letter sent via the Council addressing the situation of the withdrawal of the pumps from the Mead. It was confirmed that they are going to stop the pumps, but they haven't yet completed the consultations which is when there will be

further information about contingency plans. Parishioners reported that the penstock has never worked and it was felt the EA needed to get the problems fixed as it isn't acceptable as a long term solution, the pump is required before the water comes over the flood defence as there isn't time afterwards. It was reported that there is a SRA meeting tomorrow in Yeovil. It was decided to request an onsite meeting with Council, residents, unitary councillors and the other relevant parties before the winter. Cllr Bailey reported that a Flood café will be created in the Yeovil area.

Another parishioner spoke regarding the state of the footpath from the footbridge down to the mead. He had called Somerset Council several times and spoken with multiple different people regarding this problem. The resident was concerned for peoples' safety and access for those with mobility scooters and pushchairs etc. Somerset Council inspector agreed to have someone sent out to clear the footpath. The Council decided to write to John Nicholson at Somerset Council and highlight the issue, as well as the area by the school. The parishioner also highlighted that the road signs are overgrown by vegetation.

052/2024 Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN

Reports from Somerset Councillor J Bailey and E Pearlstone had been received and circulated. It was reported that the 54 bus now has an additional stop at Yeovilton. It is hoped that more people will now use the service, there has been a huge amount of people involved in saving the 54 bus service, but the subsidy stops at Christmas.

It was noted that voluntary redundancies within Somerset Council have happened quicker than expected.

Local matters

It was noted that Cllr Bailey and Cllr Binns are meeting to look at local walking and cycling improvements. As the project will need more help from the Parish Council, it was requested that an item be added to the agenda to allow reports back from the Ilchester Traffic Strategy. The next Yeovil LCN meeting is the AGM and will be held on Monday 17th June.

053/2024 Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.

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

Truck watch – It was noted that one of the 7.5t road signs had been removed on the Yeovilton Road. This will be reported to Somerset Council.

Noticeboard – it was reported that there will be a meeting with a joiner for quotes. Cllr R Binns had been made aware of an A303 social fund which could be approached for further funding.

Town Trust – It was reported that a window was repaired at the Town hall, base of the window was found to be rotting and needs attention, this will be replaced by the end of the month.

The Heritage centre rota has been distributed and it is open now until the end of August 2024.

Sports field – The new security system at the pavilion has been completed, new codes have been distributed

The wall is to be re-built in the Roman cemetery, and a quote has been provided.

It was noted that Chairman of the Town Trust has been to The Mead to address the scout hut issue.

IDCA – It was reported that the AGM had been well attended and there were 2 new members.

Plans for the summer fair and the flower fruit and fresh vegetable festival are progressing.

054/2024 Planning matters

24/01329/HOU – 1 The Mead, Ilchester, Yeovil

Councillors had no objections to this planning application.

It was noted that Cllr Galloway had responded regarding the dog facility at Limington.

Councillors had received a letter from residents at 30 Kingshams regarding a change of use from Agriculture to garden. It was noted the planning application had not yet been received from Somerset Council.

055/2024 Financial matters

Balances at 31/05/24:	£100.00 – Current Account
	£63,481.48– Business Reserve Account
Receipts:	£78.61- Interest
	£15.00 – Allotments
Payments to be made:	£645.00 - Three Counties Landscaping
	£20 - T. Mephram
	£399.20 – R Coombes
	£408.00 – Vision ICT
	£127.07 – Stapleton Engineering

The Council approved & signed the above cheques for payment.

056/2024 Spend to budget

The spend of the Council for the first quarter of the financial year was reviewed. Councillors requested that all charitable donations be made at the next meeting.

057/2024 Closure of the account

Councillors voted to make the necessary updates to the current accounts with NatWest in order to have it closed and transferred to Unity Trust Bank.

058/2024 Review and adopt Standing Orders

The Standing Orders had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. All Councillors voted in favour of adopting these Standing Orders. They will be published on the Council website and reviewed annually.

059/2024 Review and adopt Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was proposed and resolved that the Code of Conduct be adopted by the Council and added to the Council website.

Cllr D Galloway proposed that the next 2 are financial regulations and the asset register.

060/2024 To consider SALC Membership

The Council had received a rough estimate of SALC membership. Councillors voted against joining SALC as it was felt at £540, membership was too expensive.

061/2024 Highway and Footpath matters

Cllr Hall reported there had been no further meetings regarding Highways, but another one was due at the end of the month. Truck watch had been taking place but there were no results at this time.

062/2024 Increase in 20mph zone costs

Ilchester Parish Council had been advised by the Highways Department at Somerset Council that the cost of the 20mph zone is going to increase to £3250. Councillors voted to proceed with the increase.

063/2024 Flooding Update

The role of Flood warden was discussed and it was decided this should be promoted on Facebook. It was noted that the development in Mudford will create further water run off which due to the topography of the land will be directed toward the part of the A37 that floods. Cllr Galloway has

submitted concerns on behalf of the Council to the planning department.

It was noted that the Council hadn't received an adequate response from Wessex water as to why there was a spillage at Pill Bridge Lane, it was decided the Clerk should follow this up.

064/2024 Allotments

Cllr H Williams reported that all the allotments were now hired. The padlocks on the gate have been lubricated again.

065/2024 Cemetery Update

The Council would like to thank Alfie Stapleton for the work carried out at the Cemetery. It was agreed to investigate whether there was anything else the Council can help with towards his Duke of Edinburgh award. It was decided to have new combination locks at the Cemetery. Cllr Marsh will visit the cemetery with Cllr Stapleton to look at the items found.

066/2024 Skate Park & Mead Play Area

Cllr Williams provided a map of the carpark that is being proposed at the sports field. It was decided that further information was required.

067/2024 Other correspondence

It was noted that the Council had received notification from the Town Trust that the trees in the car park are to be crowned.

068/2024 Items for report or for the next month's agenda

It was decided to send a card to Andrew Litwinek on behalf of the Council.

The action list was reviewed and updated.

Cllr Williams reported that some residents have had dog waste in their garden, further information is required so that this can be forwarded to the dog warden.

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

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 20:52pm.

Signed:

Date: