



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 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, Cllr A Schofield, Cllr J Stapleton, Cllr M Grice, Cllr S Bomers  
**Parish Clerk:** R Coombes  
**County Councillors:** Cllr J Bailey, Cllr E Pearlstone  
**Parishioners:** 14 members of the public attended

**089/2024 Apologies**

None received.

**090/2024 Declaration of Interests**

None received.

**091/2024 The Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

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

**092/2024 Casual Vacancy**

There had been 2 applications for the 2 vacancies on the council. Candidates were asked to tell councillors a little about themselves, councillors then voted unanimously to co-opt both candidates on to the council. The two new members signed their Acceptance of Office will complete their Registers of Interest.

**093/2024 Members of the Public**

A parishioner spoke regarding a parking issue at Taranto Hill. The parishioner informed the council that vehicles keep blocking access to his driveway, which also results in emergency services not being able to pass either. Damage is now being caused to the kerbs by various lorries unloading. The parishioner requested the help of Ilchester Parish Council to investigate whether double yellow lines could be added to this section of road. Councillors decided to re-visit the topic under the highways item on the agenda.

A parishioner updated councillors that they had written to Sarah Dyke about the flooding issues at The Mead. It was noted that Cllr Bailey offered to arrange a meeting with all interested parties and suggested this would be the best way to provide a course of action. The parishioner also raised concerns that a hole has developed in the tarmac outside of No. 3 at The Mead. The council asked the parishioner to report this to Somerset Council on their website, and the clerk will do the same.

Another parishioner questioned whether the council had received an update regarding the scout hut. Cllr Williams reported that a fence has been put up and that the grass has been cleared. The parishioner stated parts of the site is now covered in nettles and brambles, with bin bags left which have the potential to attract rats. Cllr Williams agreed to visit the area with the parishioner and the parishioner was reminded to contact Ilchester Town Trust about the situation.

A parishioner raised concerns regarding drain clearing of the highways being devolved to parish Councils. Ilchester Parish Council have no further update as to when this service will become the

responsibility of the parish.

Parishioners raised concerns that the traffic through the village is getting worse, and reported there are a number of drivers that do not stop at the crossing. Parishioners were reminded that a 20mph limit will be introduced but it was felt there was a need for something physical to slow traffic.

Parishioners raised concerns regarding an empty house in Cannons Gate with a hedge that now reaches the kerb, and requested the council contact the owners of the house to cut back the hedge. A parishioner confirmed it had already been logged to Somerset Council and cut back, it had been logged again but no action is yet to be taken. Parishioners offered to cut the hedge. The same issue was reported at the house opposite Croft House at Priory End.

A parishioner brought to the attention of the council the behaviour of a councillor. The Council noted the complaint and will be in contact with the parishioner.

A parishioner noted that the landowners hedge was overhanging and impeding access to The Mead on the footpath, a conversation was had with the farm worker, and it was cleared within 3 days.

#### **094/2024 Action list**

The Councils action list was discussed.

#### **095/2024 Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN**

Local updates – An email had been received regarding traffic calming near the school. Cllr Pearlstone highlighted how much had been done to attempt to calm the traffic (roundabout, speed bumps, lorry signs, flashing lights), if there is anything else that can be done then the cost will lie with Ilchester Parish Council.

77 bus – Cllr Binns offered to investigate whether there is a petition regarding the proposed end of the service.

54 – This service has been extended out to the RNAS base, but still needs to be having around 50 more seats each week to keep it going. Promotions should have started in April, but due to these being late to start an extension has been given.

#### **096/2024 Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.**

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

*Town Trust* – It was noted the Town Trust are organising the games day for English heritage on Saturday 11-3 at the sports field. Cllr Williams reported there had been complaints regarding the ransom strip, he has now mown this twice this month.

*IDCA* – The fete and flower festival raised approximately £500 profit, £300 was saved by moving the venue to the churchyard instead of closing the road. Councillors reported the event was enjoyed by everyone.

*IRINEC* – The Parish council usually nominates representatives; Rachel Frampton is one of the current nominations and is currently chair. Councillors voted in agreement for Rachel to continue to be one of the representatives of the parish council.

*Surgery* – No further update

*Church* – No further update.

*School* – No further update

*Community links* – Meeting planned for September.

*Youth Parish Council* – No further update

*Noticeboards* – Cllr Binns has started applying to the 303 social fund.

### **097/2024 Planning matters**

An update was provided on the following planning matters:

24/01311/HOU - 10 Central Avenue - Single storey rear and two storey hall and landing front extension to dwelling - Application Permitted with Conditions

24/01329/HOU – 1 The Mead - Alterations and construction of a two-storey side extension in place of single storey extension - Application Permitted with Conditions

24/01130/COU - 30 Kingshams - change of use of land from agricultural land to extension of domestic garden - Application Refused

### **098/2024 Highways Strategy**

Cllr Hall reported there had been a meeting to discuss the Highways Strategy. Cllrs Binns and Schofield were also in attendance. The current cycle paths were discussed, as well as Truck watch. It was reported that one of the weight limit signs from Yeovilton direction was still missing; Highways are aware, and it is currently in the Yeovil depot waiting to be replaced. It has also been confirmed that this doesn't prevent the law from being enforced. Once the sign is back into position, Councillors would like to advertise for volunteers. Councillors voted in favour of allowing a room to be hired for this purpose.

LCWIPS was also discussed at the meeting. This is set up to encourage active walking, and Councillors are using the Yeovil model as a skeleton and populate from there. Cllr Bailey reported he had Liaised with the camp to see which routes they use. Cllr Binns had mapped out cycle paths. It was reported the installation of bollards at Northover roundabout, not on a scheme but is in the plans.

Councillors re-visited the request for help with double yellow lines at Taranto Hill to prevent a driveway being blocked. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Highways and arrange a meeting to discuss lines and kerbstones. Councillor Galloway agreed to encourage the shop owners to be involved in helping access.

### **099/2024 Hainbury Meadow update**

Cllr Galloway had met with Vestry regarding the unfinished work at Hainbury Meadow. An email had been received stating they would start work today and aim to finish the works within 4 weeks.

### **100/2024 Financial matters**

<b>Balances at 31/05/24:</b>	£100.00 – Current Account
	£58,985.32– Business Reserve Account
<b>Receipts:</b>	£79.2- Interest
<b>Payments to be made:</b>	£20 - T. Mephram
	£420.20 – R Coombes
	£645.00 – Three Counties Landscaping Ltd
	£234.00 – Cumbria Clock Company
	£276.00 – Chalmers & Co
	£10,000.00 – transfer of funds

The Council approved & signed the above cheques for payment.

### **099/2024 Review and adopt the Publication Scheme**

Councillors all agreed to adopt the publication scheme, this will be added to the website.

### **100/2024 Review and adopt the Risk Register**

Councillors all agreed to adopt the publication scheme, this will be added to the website.

### **101/2024 Fingerpost**

The clerk updated that the fingerpost had been removed, and that the work should be completed within approximately 2 weeks.

### **102/2024 Carpark Re-surfacing**

The Council had received 3 quotes for the re-surfacing works required to the carpark. The Town Trust have expressed an interest in becoming the owners of the carpark. It was decided to investigate this further and forward the quotes received to Ilchester Town Trust.

### **103/2024 Bins**

The council noted the letter received from Somerset Council regarding the bins.

### **104/2024 Flooding Update**

It was noted Mark Doyle has been in contact regarding removing the trees coming out the wall between the bridge and the summer house.

It was noted that the grass towards the allotments had been cut, and questions were raised as to whether the landowner was going to dredge the ditches to help alleviate any potential flooding. The Clerk agreed to contact the landowner.

### **105/2024 Allotments**

Cllr Williams thanked Cllr Binns for her work on the fresh produce stall at the fete.

Cllr Williams updated that awards had been given out in relation to the allotments and a new tenant had been found for the plot recently made vacant.

### **106/2024 Cemetery Update**

Cllrs Marsh & Stapleton visited the cemetery to inspect the wall. They noted there was a bad crack in the wall which could potentially be a big issue and asked for this to be an agenda item next month. It was reported some bits were found in the chapel and it was suggested these be placed in the museum. It was noted that there will be a meeting with the contractors to ensure all work required is being carried out.

### **107/2024 Skate Park & Mead Play Area**

There are options available to the parish council regarding the skate park, the Town Trust are considering taking on the ownership and liability of the skate park. It was suggested that further discussions were required with Ilchester Town Trust regarding the Skate Park and car park area. Councillors agreed to support the continuation of discussions with the Town Trust.

### **108/2024 Other correspondence**

Cllr Marsh informed the Council that there is an open day by the surgery on the 14<sup>th</sup> August at the Town Hall for patients to meet the staff and raise any questions they may have.

### **109/2024 Items for report or for the next month's agenda**

The Council asked the Clerk to provide further information regarding Parish Online, and to investigate how much it would cost for each councillor to have a .gov email address for council business.

Cllr Stapleton reported that she was investigating window cleaners to clean the bus shelters.

It was reported the most recent Coffee morning raised £186 for the new lock at the cemetery.

A complaint was noted regarding the amount of dog waste on the road at the end of The Mead.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Signed:

Date:

DRAFT