



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
at the Town Hall, Ilchester at 7.30 pm.**

**Councillors:** Cllr D Galloway (Chair), Cllr J Hall, Cllr H Williams, Cllr S Marsh, Cllr A Schofield  
**Parish Clerk:** R Coombes  
**County Councillors:** None present  
**Parishioners:** 10 members of the public attended  
**Apologies:** None

**023/2025 Members of the Public**

A parishioner spoke regarding the travellers that had come to Mead Farm. This had been reported to the police, but it was felt they were ineffective.

A parishioner raised concerns about the maintenance of the verges for The Mead. The vegetation has grown rapidly and is impacting access to the pavement. Cllr Schofield agreed to take pictures to pass on to Somerset Council and then refer to Three Counties if necessary. The parishioner also reported that the footbridges on the Monarchs Way footpath are rotten and need repairing. Cllr Hall agreed to investigate further, it was noted some of these may be outside the parish boundary. The parishioner also raised concerns regarding people crossing the road after leaving the footbridge to visit the play area at the recreation ground. Signage could be used to highlight there are pedestrians crossing. Cllr Hall agreed to raise this at the next Highways Strategy meeting.

A parishioner raised the white lines on the Pill Bridge estate. This will be discussed on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June at the next Highways Strategy meeting. The parishioner also reported there is a large paving slab rocking outside the doctor's surgery.

A parishioner stated they had been in contact with the council regarding The Mead and had been provided a reference number. The grass on the verge hadn't been cut back far enough for visibility at the junction. Vegetation is overgrowing the pavement making it difficult for people to use resulting in them using the road.

A parishioner came to discuss the church yard at St Andrews; the path on the left-hand side is all overgrown, needs clearing around the graves. Cllr Schofield agreed to have a meeting with Rev Faulkner and Three Counties landscaping to see what could be done about the matter.

A parishioner informed the council that they attended the meeting regarding flood wardens. They had also attended an EA open house and a SRA meeting. The EA are still scheduled to attend the Mead in July.

A parishioner attended the meeting to notify the council of the erosion of the riverbank. The parishioner is in touch with the EA to get the work approved and has contractors ready to take action. They are waiting further information to establish whether they need a permit as the whole site is listed.

A parishioner asked permission to add a bench to the cemetery, Cllr Marsh agreed to hold a site meeting to discuss where something could be placed.

The meeting started at 19:46pm.

#### **024/2025 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Binns, Cllr Bomers, Cllr Pearlestone and Cllr Bailey.

#### **025/2025 Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interests were declared. Following recent code of conduct training, it was decided councillor dispensations should be sent to the clerk prior to the next meeting.

#### **026/2025 The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

These minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved that they be signed as correct with the amended date change.

The council noted Cllr Stapleton has decided to resign from the council. The council wished to thank her for her contribution to the community during her 24 years as councillor.

#### **027/2025 Co-option**

No application for co-option was received.

#### **028/2025 Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN**

The Somerset Councillors had previously circulated a report, no councillors attended the meeting.

#### **029/2025 Action list**

The council's action list was reviewed and updated.

#### **030/2025 Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.**

*Police* – The latest crime figures were presented to the council (April 2025). There were 7 reported crimes, this was less than the previous month.

*Town Trust* – Cllr Williams reported that the new rates for car boot have been accepted mostly. The Town Trust have received a new member.

*IDCA* – Cllr Binns had sent in a written report. This noted the plan for replacement noticeboards, the council were asked to increase the amount from £500 to £1000. Cllr Galloway asked Cllr Williams to confirm The Town Trust will also increase their donation.

IDCA also requested closure of the car park for a fete. It was decided to allow this as long as they are to be responsible for cordoning it off.

*IRINEC* – Cllr Marsh reported that the annual walk is due next month.

*Surgery* – Cllr Marsh reported that the main pressure at the surgery is staff turnover. There is a new average of 3m 39s to answer the phone; the hub has improved the service.

*Church* – No update received.

*School* – No update received.

*Community links* – No further update.

#### **031/2025 Planning matters**

*25/01131/FUL – New Spittles Farm*

The council had no comment.

*25/01143/FUL – Nuova Italia*

The council had no comment on the application but raised concerns regarding access on the pavement.

Updates to planning applications:

- *25/00582/FUL* - Formation of new vehicular access and a parking/turning area to the rear of The Elms - *Application refused*
- *25/01037/HOU* - Construction of a garage – *Approved*

- 25/00808/HOU – Proposed porches and internal works at Trinity Barn – *Approved*
- 25/00679/HOU – Demolition of existing conservatory, proposed conversion of outbuilding with a small extension and construction of a single story link extension at 7 West Street – *Approved*
- 25/00565/LBS – Replacement of timber windows and French doors to the ground at The Elms – *Approved*

A statement of S106 allocations for the parish had been received. There were errors in the information received from Somerset Council which confused Ilchester with Ilminster. The clerk will clarify with Somerset Council and this item will be on next months agenda.

### **032/2025 Highways Strategy**

Cllr Hall reported that there is another meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

The possibility of green-laning the fosse way had previously been discussed, Cllr Hall informed the council that the farmer is opposed to this as it is his access to his home and work address. SC have failed to keep it as a two-way road.

Cllr Hall had received a complaint regarding the hairdressers next to the garage. They are now taking up 4 spaces in front of the building where there should be pavement access. It is double yellow lined, anything parked there could be ticketed as the land belongs to Highways.

Cllr Marsh was concerned about the proposed roadworks at Northover roundabout. It was felt that people that live there have not been told what is going to happen; no road signs have been put up.

### **033/2025 Financial matters**

The Council approved these payments and noted the bank reconciliation report.

### **034/2025 Annual Governance Statement**

The council reviewed the annual governance statement and noted the internal auditors report.

### **035/2025 Financial Regulations**

This council reviewed and approved the Financial Regulations.

### **036/2025 Website**

The council agreed to proceed with NetWise to host the council website.

### **037/2025 Appraisal Policy**

The council approved the proposed appraisal policy. Cllr Galloway was voted to join the HR committee.

### **038/2025 Emergency Response**

The council agreed to create a WhatsApp group.

It was noted that the bridge was fixed quickly, and the joint in the bridge has been repaired.

### **039/2025 Flooding Update**

There were no flooding issues to report or discuss.

### **040/2025 Allotments**

Cllr Williams reported on the activity at the allotments. It was noted emails have been received by the clerk regarding the allotments, the council decided to hold an allotment meeting. Any related outcomes can be added to the agenda for the next council meeting.

### **041/2025 Cemetery Update**

The contractor has cleared the bush in the corner which was damaging the wall. The clerk will establish when Three Counties will complete the rest of the required work.

### **042/2025 Skate Park & Mead Play Area**

Cllr Schofield reported that inspections for the skate park have now ceased. Somerset Council have been paid for this service.

It was noted the council would consider paying for the required signage needed at the skatepark. The Town Trust could apply via a grant application.

**021/2025 Other correspondence**

It was noted the clerk had met with a representative from the council regarding the bins that have been removed from Dragonfly chase. The developer has removed the bins. The council have installed a bigger bin on the fosse way.

**022/2025 Items for report or for the next month's agenda**

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7:30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 20:50pm.

Signed:

Date: