



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 15th September 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 R Binns
Parish Clerk: R Coombes
County Councillors: None present
Parishioners: 8 members of the public attended
Apologies: Cllr J Bailey and Cllr E Pearlstone

092/2025 Members of the Public

A parishioner noted the repairs to the penstock had been completed at The Mead. It was noted that parishioners are attending the next SRA meeting.

A parishioner raised concerns regarding vehicles parking on the double yellow lines from the Hight Street garage to the Church Street junction. It was noted this creates issues with emergency vehicles gaining access and other cars are being damaged. Cllr Hall agreed to raise this at the Highways meeting.

A parishioner attended to hear about the skate park.

Parishioners raised concerns regarding the trees on the grassed area at the end of West Street. It was noted the power company have cut back branches that could have interfered with the wires, but no further maintenance had been completed on the trees. The council agreed to investigate.

The meeting started at 19:35pm.

070/2025 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Bailey and Cllr Pearlstone. It was resolved to accept these apologies. It was noted that Cllr Bomers had resigned from the council, the council thanked him for his contribution.

071/2025 Declaration of Interests and dispensations

No declarations of interests were declared.

072/2025 The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th August 2025

These minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved that they be signed as correct. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Hall.

073/2025 Co-option

Stuart McAllister was unanimously co-opted on to the council.

074/2025 Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN

The Somerset Councillors had previously circulated a report.

Cllr Marsh noted that a bonus had been awarded to the chief officer when Somerset Council are severely underfunded.

075/2025 Action list

The council's action list was reviewed and updated.

076/2025 Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.

Police – The crime figures for June 2025 were provided to the council, there was no further update from the police.

Town Trust – Cllr Williams noted a quote had been received to make the town hall compliant with the required electrical standards. It was noted the Heritage Centre is running smoothly.

IDCA – Cllr Binns reported on the upcoming awards evening for the craft show and village in bloom. Plans are progressing for Halloween and Christmas events. There is a further £600 required to install the noticeboards.

IRINEC – No further update.

Surgery – Cllr Marsh reported on the merger of the 4 surgeries, it was noted that the results of the consultation are not yet available, and the merger will be going ahead in January. Cllr Marsh also noted that Flu and Covid injections are available in Crewkerne, or the normal Thursdays with the surgery. Cllr Marsh informed the council that there had been a 25% increase in face-to-face consultancy.

Church – Rev Faulkner reported that the church is still awaiting for a tree survey report from Somerset Council for the work that needs to be done to the large Cypress tree at St Mary Major before any damage is caused. The sale of the School Rooms is still progressing. There will be a Harvest festival held on 28th September, there will be a collection of tins and dried goods for the Lords Larder Food Bank, items can be left at the church. Rev Faulkner and Cllr Marsh had secured quotes required work for the war memorial, IDCA have agreed to make a small donation towards the work.

School – No further update

078/2025 Planning matters

The council noted the following updates on planning applications within the parish:

- 25/02238/TCA at The Coach House West Street Ilchester – notice of tree work

080/2025 Highways Strategy

Cllr Hall noted there was no further update.

083/2025 Financial matters

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

The council noted the back dated pay award due to the clerk.

The council approved a £500 spend towards the restoration work required to the war memorial.

The council approved a £1,000 donation towards the cost of the noticeboards.

084/2025 Flooding Update

The council noted information produced by the EA informing landowners that they will no longer be trimming the weed in the river and that the responsibility may transfer back to the landowner. It was noted that the trees that had fallen in to the river had been removed by the landowner and that repairs to a garage that had been damaged due to the erosion of the bank were also taking place.

085/2025 Allotments

Cllr Williams reported that plot 8 had been viewed and it was turned down as it was too big. The council intend to have a meeting on site with allotment holders.

087/2025 Cemetery Update

Cllr Marsh reported that the required work to the corner of the wall will start on Monday. The rest of the maintenance work had been carried out. The hole in the hedge where livestock has been

able to enter previously needs to be checked.

089/2025 Mead Play Area

The council noted that the bi-weekly inspections of the play area are still continuing. The council will no longer be issued a report unless there is a problem with the play area, the reports will be available when an invoice is received.

The council agreed the clerk should write to the Town Trust with a proposal to reinstate the insurance for the skate park and resume appropriate maintenance. A parishioner offered to assist with repair and maintenance. It was noted that where the shelter has been removed, there is a sharp metal hole in the floor under the cone. Cllr Williams agreed to report health and safety concerns back to the Town Trust.

090/2025 Other correspondence

A letter had been received from the Town Trust requesting feedback on a submission for S106 funding within the parish. It was felt more information regarding costs was required.

091/2025 Items for report or for the next month's agenda

Cllr Binns confirmed arrangements for Remembrance Sunday on 9th November, and the provision of teas and coffees by the council. Rev Faulkner confirmed traffic measures would be the same as last year.

Cllr Williams reported the road to the sewage works is breaking up due to the frequency and weight of the vehicles accessing the plant. It was decided the clerk would write to Wessex Water and request the access be repaired.

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday 9th October at 7:30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 20:15pm.

Signed:

Date: