



**Minutes of Ilchester Parish Council held on Thursday 13th November 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, Cllr S McAllister
Parish Clerk: R Coombes
County Councillors: Cllr J Bailey, Cllr E Pearlstone
Parishioners: 7 members of the public attended
Apologies: None

113/2025 Members of the Public

A parishioner updated the council of their attendance at a flood meeting, they suggested forming a small group of other parishes that are also affected in order to have a bigger voice. They will be meeting quarterly. Cllr Bailey suggested Martock would be interested in joining.

A parishioner requested that there were no abbreviations on the agenda and requested more information be listed in reference to planning applications. There is usually a description of the application on the agenda and minutes but it was noted this had been missed in the previous month.

A parishioner raised the requirement of signs on the grass outside the town hall to help restrict dog fouling in the area. Cllr Galloway reminded the parishioner that the land belongs to Ilchester Town Trust. Cllr Williams agreed to raise the issue with the Trust. It was noted there had been problems with people parking on the exit of the Market Square car park, the council will investigate more signage. It was also raised that the grass at the bottom of West Street is being parked on again, the council has previously raised this with National Highways who own the land and have not received a response. The council are unable to enforce any parking restrictions on this area.

The meeting started at 19:35pm.

114/2025 Apologies for absence

None received.

115/2025 Declaration of Interests and dispensations

No declarations of interests were declared. Cllr Binns updated her register of interests.

116/2025 The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th October 2025

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

117/2025 Co-option

No application for co-option was received.

118/2025 Somerset Councillors' reports & Report from RNAS and LCN

Cllr Pearlstone discussed the report received from Somerset Councillors which had been previously circulated. Cllr Pearlstone raised awareness about the Fostering Service who are regularly seeking

foster parents. Coffee mornings to encourage potential new foster carers are going to be held in several locations and anyone is welcome to attend these events.

Cllr Bailey has raised the damage caused to the roadway by Wessex Water when accessing the facility. There had been little responsibility taken by Wessex Water and this will now be passed to Somerset Highways department. had been raised, highways will pick it up but awaiting a reply. The application for the Police Community fund was discussed, it is expected the council will hear back regarding their application in January.

The missing bin at The Mead was discussed as the second bin has not been replaced.

119/2025 Action list

The council's action list was reviewed and updated.

Cllr Galloway provided an update relating to the Hainbury Meadow development and the required works still to be completed. It was noted that a contractor is on site but there is very little progress and the car park still fenced off.

It was decided to invite a representative from Wessex Water to attend a meeting, Cllr Bailey agreed to pass on the relevant contact details.

120/2025 Police & Community issues, Community Links, Surgery updates, Ilchester Town Trust, IDCA, IRINEC, Church.

Police – The crime figures for 2025 were provided to the council, there were 14 crimes in September. There was no further update from the police.

Town Trust – No further update.

IDCA – Cllr Binns reported that Christmas preparations had started. There will be a Lantern workshop on 23rd November in The Bull, Step into Christmas on the 28th and 29th November for the Christmas fair.

IRINEC – No further update.

Surgery – Cllr Marsh reported that there is progress on bringing together the 4 surgeries that make up the primary care network, which is going to be called Symphony South Healthcare. Buttercross surgery will be joining the primary care network around February which means the computer systems need to be changed. The merge shouldn't impact the patients in terms of contact with the surgery, but they might be offered more options for treatment.

Church – No further update

School – No further update.

121/2025 Planning matters

There were no updates to applications within the parish that had not already been reported.

122/2025 Highways Strategy

Cllr Hall noted that the meeting had been postponed until January. The vegetation has been cleared around the roundels for the 20mph zone.

Cllr Galloway had researched Speed Indicator Devices and provided a list of suggestions of suitable devices for the council to consider. The council decided to proceed with Elan City devices with smiley faces.

123/2025 Financial matters

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

The council discussed the draft budget prepared by the council clerk for initial consideration. Items that would benefit the community and parish were discussed. The council will revisit the budget in the next meeting.

124/2025 Risk Register

The council noted the amendments and approved the Risk Register.

125/2025 Flooding Update

It was decided to discuss the available grants from Somerset Rivers Authority at the next meeting and submit an application to fund a pump for The Mead.

126/2025 Allotments

Cllr Williams reported that there is a big tree that is causing issues by falling slowly in to a fence and could potentially end up in the road. It was decided to forward this information to Somerset Council and inform them of the change of circumstance and needs urgent attention.

Cllr Willimas also reported that he had turned the water off for the winter to stop it freezing. The Allotments are now full.

127/2025 Cemetery Update

The clerk had met with Three Counties Landscaping to discuss the turf required at the garden of roses.

128/2025 Mead Play Area & Skate Park

The council reported the insurance has been re-instated. Signs and the required paint have been ordered. A resident has offered to put up the signs and remove the grind rail; the fencing can then be removed.

It was noted that reserves are being built up to refurbish the play area at The Mead when necessary.

129/2025 Christmas Trees

The council decided to meet on at 11:00am 23rd November to put the trees up and 4th January to take them down.

130/2025 Other correspondence

None.

131/2025 Items for report or for the next month's agenda

Cllr Marsh discussed the planning agreement at the new Hainbury development where a space had been allocated for trading facilities. The council discussed what could be done with this space, if anything. It was decided to invite the developers to a meeting for further discussion.

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday 11th December 2025 at 7:30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and declared the meeting closed at 20:31pm.

Signed:

Date: