

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ilton Parish Council held in Merryfield Hall on Tuesday
14th June 2022 at 6.30 p.m.**

2022/93 Attendance and Apologies

Present

Mr I Sherwood
Mrs R Burt
Mr G MacKenzie-Green
Mr N Matravers
Mrs E Simpson
Mrs K Larsson (Clerk)
Ms J Roundell Greene (County Councillor)
Mr A Dance (County Councillor)

Apologies

Mr A Pidgeon
Mrs M Bullock

In Attendance

3 members of the
public

2022/94 Declaration of Interest – there were no declarations of interest.

2022/95 Visitors and Public Voice

Two residents of the village had noted the valuation of the Copse Lane overspill car park and enquired as to whether it was the Council's intention to sell the land. They were advised that it was for the purposes of understanding the value of the land as an asset. Mrs Simpson also advised that as part of her Community Engagement role, she would communicate with the village to gain community views prior to any action being taken in this respect.

The same residents also requested the car park is maintained more regularly as it becomes unsightly along the adjoining houses fences as it becomes overgrown. Mr Sherwood advised he would liaise with the Ranger to make arrangements for this to be cut more often.

The new Chair of the village hall committee has made a request for a donation to renew the defibrillator at the hall. This will be added to the July agenda for consideration.

It was reported by a resident that there are rats in one of the Abri houses gardens, which is adjoining the recreation field. The resident reported that their dog was bitten by a rat that had come from this garden. Details of the property location have been given to the Clerk to report the problem to Abri housing.

ACTION – The Clerk

2022/96 Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 10/05/2022

Councillors approved the minutes which were duly signed by the Chair.

2022/97 Accounts and Financial Information

Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Draft updated documents have been circulated to all Councillors to review prior to the July meeting.

In relation to the draft financial regulations, the option to hold petty cash was discussed. Due to restrictions for its use, it was not felt that holding petty cash would be beneficial. The draft financial regulations will be updated to reflect this.

Quotations

The process of obtaining quotations was reviewed, and it was agreed that the council should continue with the current process of obtaining three quotes for goods and services wherever possible. All quotes must be sent to the Clerk for review and record keeping.

Payments and Receipts

Financial reports for March and April were circulated to all councillors.

The following amount was received: £192.00, SSDC CIL Payment

The following cheques were raised:

| | | |
|--------|------------|---|
| 001453 | - £ 135.20 | I Sherwood, maintenance expenses & young person award |
| 001454 | - £ 606.00 | A Pidgeon, railway sleepers for recreation field beds |
| 001420 | - £ 68.96 | N Matravers, footpath related expenses |
| 001421 | - £ 26.96 | Cowling Agriculture, tractor parts |
| 001422 | - £ 384.14 | Ranger, April |
| 001423 | - £ 90.00 | Elite Playground Inspections |
| 001424 | - £ 74.19 | A Pidgeon, recreation field related expenses |
| 001426 | - £ 235.90 | Cad Green Garage, diesel for mowers |
| 001427 | - £ 65.00 | The Wider View, Merryfield Messenger |
| 001428 | - £ 500.15 | K Larsson, salary & expenses |

2022/98 Request from St John Ambulance

The council considered a request from the Ilton based St John's Ambulance Cadets to Plant a tree to commemorate 100 years of the organisation. Subject to full details being provided by the St John's Ambulance group, the request was agreed in principle; Proposed by Mrs Simpson and Seconded by Mr MacKenzie-Green. Councillors voted 4 to 1 in favour.

ACTION – The Clerk

2022/99 County Councillor Report

The new Unitary Authority will take effect in April 2023, with current elected councillors having a 5 year term from this year.

Councillor Dance's portfolio will be Public Health, Equality and Diversity and he aims to work on gaining extra funding for providing preventative support services to communities.

Councillor Roundell-Greene will be having a scrutiny role. She advised that much of the work happening currently is organisational so there is little to report yet.

Mrs Burt asked if Parish Councils will be dissolved when the new unitary authority comes into effect. Cllr Roundell-Greene advised this would not happen as Parish Councils are a statutory body and will remain.

Planning

The current planning departments will remain in place until at least April 2023. Cllr Roundell-Greene advised they wish to see planning kept at a more local level so there is familiarity with the areas, but nothing has been decided on this yet. There is currently no further update on the issue of phosphates.

2022/100 Update on Previous Outstanding Actions

Village Notice Board

Cllr Gordon has taken on the task of organising a new notice board as he has a relative who has offered to make one for the village.

Field Working Group Terms of Reference

The terms of reference, updated as agreed at the last meeting, was circulated to all councillors for final approval. Councillors voted 4 to 1 in favour of the updated terms of reference.

Play Park Bin

Initial indicative quotations were presented by the Clerk. The council agreed a more heavy-duty galvanized bin with a lock should be sourced, similar to in the recreation field. Quotes to be obtained and presented at the July meeting.

ACTION – The Clerk

Councillor Training

Councillors were reminded to provide suitable dates to the Clerk as soon as possible. For any councillors unable to attend online training, the clerk advised that face to face training should be provided by SALC sometime shortly after September.

ACTION – All Councillors

2022/101 Young Person of the Month

Four nominations were received and considered.

It was decided to share the award between three young people, Oscar, Lilly and Blake who helped the Field Working Group with the new planters in the recreation field.

A further young person, Finlay was nominated for his hard work helping to build the Jubilee Beacon.

2022/102 Councillor Updates

Community Engagement

Mrs Simpson wanted to express congratulations to Mr Pidgeon and Mr MacKenzie-Green for their efforts for the Jubilee and success of the Jubilee Beacon lighting event which was very successful.

The Facebook page continues to be success, and reaches an average of 870 people per post.

Review of the signage around the recreation field was completed as requested at the May meeting. Mrs Simpson proposed to purchase 4 x “no dogs” signs for the football pitch and 4 x “clean up after your dog” signs made of durable Di bond aluminium with scratch resistant varnish, at a total cost of £198. Mr Sherwood seconded the proposal. Councillors voted 4 to 1 in favour.

General Maintenance / Ranger

The Ranger has been attending more regularly as previously agreed and due to concerns over road visibility and safety, has cut a number of verges that are the responsibility of the Highways department. The Parish Council have been advised Highways will only be cutting the grass once per year around June.

Brook Green

The damaged bridge is now useable although some further work is still to be carried out. Mrs Burt to follow up with regard to tree stumps at local farm to see if they could be transported to Brook Green to use on the banks to prevent 4x4 access.

ACTION – Mrs Burt

Playing Field

Five planters have been installed, dug and planted around the field by the Field Working Group with assistance from some local children and a number of compliments have been received. The FWG would like to have additional planters around the field and will put a proposal forward at a later date.

Concern was raised by Mr MacKenzie-Green in relation to potential vehicle access to the field by the gates from the Larkfield housing. A chain and lock have been added to the gate and a contact number will be added to the field noticeboard should it need to be opened. Quotes will be sought for means of improving security of the gate for review at the next meeting.

ACTION – The Clerk

Cemetery

An interment was held on Friday 10th June.

It was confirmed by Mrs Burt that existing graves should only have maintenance carried out, i.e. levelling the grave, with the permission of any living relatives.

The vehicle access gate to the cemetery has now been locked. Keys are held by Mr Sherwood and Mr MacKenzie-Green.

Play Park

The area where Western Power carried out emergency works is now in satisfactory condition. Play park inspector to be contacted regarding his willingness to install a gate at this entrance now the area has been made good.

ACTION – The Clerk

Footpaths

An active nest has been found along the footpath which is currently being cleared by the footpath walking group. All work to clear this path has been stopped and the nest will be monitored by the ornithologist in the group.

Merryfield Moated Site – Access investigation carried forward to next month.

ACTION – Mr Matravers

A walking routes map is in the process of being produced which will show walks around the area and their level of difficulty. The cost to print each map is £3.00, and Mrs Simpson proposed reimbursing Mr Potter who is producing the maps for these costs. Mr MacKenzie-Green seconded and all councillors were in favour.

Highways

Mrs Burt has contacted highways regarding the work road markings in the village and awaits a response.

Update on ditch along Merryfield lane as reported to the PC last month to be carried forward to next month.

A358 Update

A number of amendments have been put forward, with a deadline of 26th June for responses to be received. Observations by Ilton PC from the latest proposed amendments to be submitted are as follows:

- ▶ Rapps will be the only access for lorries to the business park, which is a narrow road to accommodate large vehicles.
- ▶ What are plans to prevent issues with lorries approaching from different directions and not being able to pass due to width of road?
- ▶ The business park is expanding and will result in additional vehicles travelling to and from the village.
- ▶ What are the contingencies for access to Ilton should there be an issue along Rapps?

Broadway PC have requested a footbridge, bridleway and cycleway to cross as the junction from Broadway will be closed.

ACTION – Mr Matravers to submit

2022/103 Matters for Report Only

There have been some reported incidences of anti-social behaviour in the village. The PC would like to see an increased presence of the PCSO.

ACTION – Mrs Burt

There have not been enough volunteers to arrange a community litter pick so this unfortunately cannot go ahead at present. It was noted that there is a resident who is regularly walking the village picking litter and the PC would like to express their thanks to them for helping keep our village tidy.

2022/104 Items for the next meeting

- a. Items as minuted.
- b. Mr MacKenzie-Green - Proposal for purchase of a trailer for transporting Field Working Group equipment.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.17pm.

Ian Sherwood, Chairman