

Ilmington Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL held in Ilmington Community Shop on 30th SEPTEMBER 2021 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs Karen Peachey (Chairman), Geoff Davies, Rob Hawkins and Rob Heritage

In attendance: Pauline Rigby (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

There were none.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hawkins declared an interest in items 11 as the recipient of a payment and item 12, the mowing contract on the grounds that he is the current mowing contractor.

3. County and District Council Reports

The district and county councillors were not in attendance.

4. Public Forum

A resident attended the meeting to highlight concerns around climate change and COP26, and urged the council to support initiatives to plant wildflowers. The possibility of residents forming a committee to develop this idea and raise funds was discussed.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2021 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

6. Co-option of New Parish Councillors

The flyer promoting the vacancies had been distributed around the village. There were no candidates for co-option at this point in the meeting.

7. Highways Issues

An email had been received via County Councillor Seccombe which noted that County Highways have programmed the drainage works on the Armscote Road, to lay a new pipe across the road, new gullies and clear ditches, for Mon 29th November – Tues 7th December; while the resurfacing from the junction of Armscote Road / Front Street to speed limit signs, is scheduled for Weds 8th – Fri 10th December 2021.

8. Planning Matters

8.1 South Warwickshire Council: It was agreed that councillors could respond to the consultation as individuals if they wish. Concerns were raised that the combined district council would be more remote and less responsive to local needs.

8.2 Planning decisions at variance with the views of the parish council:

None to report.

Council agreed comments on planning applications as follows:

8.3 21/02745/FUL: Kincaig Ilmington Shipston-on-Stour CV36 4JQ – Ground floor and part first floor extension with associated internal and external works.

Comment: No objection.

8.4 21/02962/TREE: T1: Holm Oak - Canopy reduction, reduce height by approximately 1.5m, with 2m off the spire to north east, reduce wider sides by no more than 3m back to suitable growth points. reduce the remaining crown to leave a balanced shape. Not exceeding 30% reduction of the total crown

Comment: No objection.

9. Conclusion of Audit

It was noted that the audit has been completed and external auditor's certificate received which stated that the AGAR has been completed in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern.

10. Policies Review

10.1 The model publication scheme was presented.

10.2 The draft press and media policy was presented.

It was RESOLVED that the above policies be adopted.

11. Finance

11.1 Council received the bank reconciliation to 23 September 2021 which showed balances of £47,086.02 in the current account and £375.00 in the playground fund.

11.2 Council reviewed the budget monitoring report.

11.3 Council noted that the second half of the precept of £10,130 had been received.

Cllr Hawkins had declared an interest in the next item and did not vote.

11.4 It was RESOLVED to add the Clerk's printing costs to the schedule and approve payments in the sum of £2,142.37 according to the list appended to these minutes.

12. Mowing Contract

Cllr Hawkins had declared an interest and did not vote on the above item.

Council reviewed the draft tender documents. It was noted that the number of cuts in the tender specification would not result in the same standard of maintenance around the village that residents are used to. Most areas are being cut weekly during the growing season by the current contractor. It was agreed to amend the tender document to include the verges (orange areas on the plan) and to increase the frequency of cuts to a maximum of 20 cuts annually on all areas. The dates to be corrected on page 2.

It was RESOLVED that the tender documentation as amended be approved.

Councillors discussed the advertising of the tender; it was agreed to send it to contractors on file, advertise locally and place it on ContractsFinder.

13. Member reports

13.1 Cllr Peachy report on Village Hall Committee: The play 'Old Herbaceous' and the Green Week event in September were both successful and well supported.

13.2 Cllr Davies reported that the grass needs cutting on Back Street as it is interfering with visibility when turning right. Cllr Peachey and Cllr Davies to write a letter.

13.3 Cllr Hawkins: There is nothing to report about pavilion improvements and he is still seeking someone to take over the cleaning of the public toilets. He also commented that the trees planted as avenues into the village need attention, and the council should consider whether to go out to tender for the work.

13.4 Cllr Heritage: After several amendments to the quotation, the repairs have been ordered from Playdale. Once the repairs have been completed, he suggested the council treats the wood to help preserve the life of the equipment.

14. Correspondence

To review the matters below and agree whether to take them forward:

14.1 WALC Annual Conference on 22-23 October – delegate fee of £10. It was agreed that Cllr Peachey could attend if she wished; Cllr Peachey to confirm availability.

14.2 SDC mobile skate park offer. There was no interest in adopting the equipment.

14.3 Letter requesting support for wild flower planting and bee friendly spaces. This has been discussed in the public session. It was suggested that there is space at the dog walking area at the playing fields that could be used for a project.

14.4 Press request for comment on Times article 'Why Ilmington, Warwickshire, is one of the best places to live in 2021. Cllr Peachey had spoken to Warwickshire Live.

15. Clerk's Annual Appraisal

The Chairman reported that the Clerk's annual appraisal had been carried out on 29 September, when performance, hours, salary and training had been reviewed.

It was RESOLVED that one point increase on the Clerk's salary to SCP17 be approved.

It was RESOLVED that Clerk's attendance on a WALC training course for clerks on report writing be approved at a cost of £40 ex VAT.

16. Future Agenda Items

To receive information about any new items of business.

Already noted: budget for 2022/23 (Oct/Nov). To be added: tree maintenance.

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday 28 October at 7:30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.

Signature of Chairman on approval of the minutes: _____

Schedule of Payments

Date	Payee	In respect of	Amount	Authority
01-Sep	GVS Righton	Mowing	£ 1,344.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
02-Sep	Ilmington Village Hall*	Donation	£ 100.00	LGA 1972 s133
02-Sep	R Hawkins	Hedge cutting	£ 80.00	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
03-Sep	Pauline Rigby	Postage	£ 15.84	LGA 1972 s111
16-Sep	Vistaprint (P Rigby)	New Cllr flyers	£ 34.08	LGA 1972 s111
20-Sep	Shemeam	Annual website charges	£ 129.00	LGA 1972 s142
24-Sep	Print Pond (P Rigby)	A3 Printing	£ 6.78	LGA 1972 s111
30-Sep	Staff costs *	September salary	£ 432.67	LGA 1972 s112
		TOTAL	£ 2,142.37	

* Payment already made