

IDEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 16th January 2025 at pm

Present:	Cllr T Hill – Chair Cllr A Carter-Woodwark - vice chair Cllr D Fox Cllr H Bellamy	Cllr M Batting Cllr C Hill Cllr J Gardner
In Attendance	Mrs Clarke - Clerk	2 members of the public

Item(a)	Discussion and Decisions (b)
135/25	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: The Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllr Peart DCC, Cllr Gearon, Dominic Morby, Robin Aaronson</p>
136/25	<p>THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: held on Thursday 12th December 2024 and the minutes from November 2024 were agreed and signed.</p>
137/25	<p>THERE WAS ONE DECLARATION OF INTEREST: As a trustee of the Millennium Green, the chair mentioned his interests in the insurance matter.</p>
138/25	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>One Parishioner was very concerned at the surface in the play park, which she indicated was very slippery and she considered this to be dangerous. It needs a wash. The Chair indicated that two days ago it was fine, but understood it might be slimy due to the weather. Mention was made of it being a soft porous surface design to prevent injury if a fall occurs.</p> <p>Another parishioner raised the item on insurance, namely the Parish Council and the Millennium Green, it was agreed to bring this up later then when the matter arises on the agenda.</p>
139/25	<p>REPORTS: There were no reports from District or County Councillors and PCSO Bunce reported for the period, 1st to the 31st December, one recorded offence to the police in the Ideford area.</p>
140/25	<p>PARISH MATTERS:</p> <p>140.1 Updates</p> <p>A pothole was repaired within a week of it being reported near Butts Lane. The far end of the lane is rapidly deteriorating, but we are waiting on a response from the council as it's turning to gravel. New legislation about pot holes, the government will be giving 500 million to councils for pot hole work. The street lights are on again some during the morning and/or during the day. Cllr Gardner will follow this up.</p> <p>A parishioner has raised concerns about a the byway, Halden Lane, Hambolcombe Lane and then the lane going further up Tower Hill which goes up to the Common, all of which are in a poor state. Cllr T. Hill has emailed the rights of way (generic email), which has a 28 days response time, however their system indicates this is not a public right of way, so Cllr Hill has report them as roads, in highways. Hedges have been a problem on Haldon Lane due to the size of tractors and the state of the lane.</p> <p>Gritting on the roads was raised. Will Vought had worked on it through Luton to Ideford. The council suggested a possible contact with Bishopsteignton Council to discuss snow and gritting for the future. Ideford Parish Council would be prepared to contribute to the costs</p> <p>140.2 Sustainable Ideford. No report</p> <p>140.3 Wildlife Wardens report: No report</p> <p>140.4 Budget/ Precept a discussion was held and there was mention of a potential short fall, as we would be reducing the reserves. Band D properties are the benchmark that is used in precept calculations. A discussion was held on the amounts required. The Council approved a precept figure of £9725.</p> <p>140.5 Insurance - Cllr T. Hill provided a background to what has already been covered, in essence joining the Parish Council and MG would save money. The MG is run for the benefit of the village, it has no income so it fund raises to cover all it's costs and obviously the largest cost was the insurance.</p> <p>The insurance policy, doesn't change the legal responsibility, the trustees still exist and the trustees would still be liable for what happens on the green. The Parish Council will still want to know what is happening and this will be shared regularly as Cllr T. Hill is a trustee. It was pointed out that if all the trustees left, the council would have to assume full responsibility.</p> <p><u>Questions that arose previously:-</u> Cllr T. Hill spoke to the insurance broker.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specific queries including not mentioning the green specifically in the policy - that is standard practice. 2. The builders carrying out the work have their own insurance, the insurer can provide a Works in Progress

	<p>insurance, however its the same cover as the builders, therefore no need for duplicate policies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Question about safety measures. There is Harris fencing around the site and signs around the green. Risk assessments have been carried out. 4. Are we expecting the Millennium Green to contribute anything towards the insurance? Using this joint insurance has saved the council some £600 pounds. The Millennium Green, is in trust for the village. 5. Will the costs of the insurance rise upon completion? There will be a minimal impact, as the building is a single skin building of £30k. 6. Would anyone from the insurers come out? No need for them to, it's a standard policy. <p>What sort of dialogue or collaboration will be necessary between Green and ourselves needs to be discussed at another meeting. Be it maintenance or how the building is progressing and time scales etc.</p> <p>Without grants, the builders and others are volunteering their time for nothing. Cllr Carter-Woodwark wanted to know if there were any other grants, Cllr T. Hill explained that they went through 12+ and the competition for grants is huge.</p> <p>The parishioner questions:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who is responsible should litigation arise the trustees? Cllr T Hill explained regardless of this new insurance policy, the trustees remain liable for the Green, this is only the insurance policy. 2. Is there a conflict of interest between the Parish Council and the Millennium green? Cllr T Hill, indicated this is only the insurance policy and not affecting liability. The Parish Council is paying the insurance policy but not taking on liability as the Millenium Green has trustees as part of it's deeds. 3. Who would pay the lawyers? Various councillors indicated that it is the insurance. 4. Who would submit a claim? The Parish Council. 5. Who has scrutinised the policy, Cllr C. Hill indicated he has read it. <p>Cllr T. Hill indicated If anyone is worried about what's happening on the Green, please become a trustee. The trustees are written within the deed and as this is all for the sake of the community to make sure that the Millennium Green remains as an asset to the village.</p> <p>Cllr C. Hill explained the basics of insurance provision and responsibilities. The positives from this is the MG will come to the Parish Council on a quarterly basis to keep us informed. This means more people will be involved in keeping the MG as an asset to the village. No individual trustee would ever be held liable, however they have trustee liability insurance.</p> <p>The result of this discussion shows there is Improved governance and a saving to the community of £580. Public liability insurance is a pre-requisite to an asset of this nature. If anyone has any concerns, please come to our next meeting to discuss this.</p> <p>The Pound is an area that's has seen an incident but this was appropriately covered.</p> <p>140.6 Policy reviews and updates: Filming and Recording, Risk Assessment, Training, were discussed and the council approved the amendments.</p>
141/25	PLANNING: 108.1/2/3 There has been no planning applications/decisions/enforcements to report.
142/25	CONCERNS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS TO COUNCILLORS -covered in roads 140/25
143/25	<p>143/25 CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE: A Balance of accounts and the monthly bank reconciliation for December 2024 were approved, along with approval for payments made since last meeting and payments due namely the Hall invoices 266, 271, 285. Along with signing bank statements etc.</p> <p>An administrative update was provided by the clerk, a full rundown will be provided on cyber security by email. The clerk raised concerns on both the costs of Scribe and the website, namely the money that could be saved and will provide full details on the website on an ongoing basis. The scribe contract will end at the end of the financial year. The clerk requested a change of internal auditor to save further costs in travelling, time and mileage, this was approved by the council.</p> <p>The clerk proposed a refund of the cilca grant, as the additional training has not been required. The council approved this.</p>
144/25	DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday 13 th February 2025.
145/25	The Chair closed the meeting at 20.20pm

Signed: Dated:

