

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of 4 November 2024, 7.30 pm.

1. Welcome.

The Chair of the Parish Council (Gerald Godfrey) welcomed those present at the meeting, which included 6 Parish Councillors (GG, Jacqui Harrison (JH), Colin Ward, Penny Ward, Ian Braid and Rod Apps (RA)). There were 4 members of the public present, in addition to Tina Newby (Parish Clerk) and County Councillor Judy Cloke.

2. Apologies.

No apologies for absence were received. District Councillors Toby Hammond and Anthony Specca sent their apologies.

3. Declarations – Pecuniary and Other.

There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interest.

4. Minutes.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on 2 September 2024 were confirmed and unanimously agreed.

5. To discuss any outstanding items from previous meetings not on this agenda.

- a. Update on Shipmeadow Solar Farm proposal. There was no update.
- b. Update on Top Road speeding issues. The statistics are itemised later in these Minutes.
- c. Purchase of an additional SID. The Parish Clerk noted that this should be ordered this week.
- d. Web accessibility statement. Ongoing.

6. Adjournment. Standing orders will be suspended for public participation. For information only, total of 3 minutes be member. Nothing was discussed, with the Parish Council agreeing to allow the public to speak at specific agenda items.

7. Opportunity for District Councillors and County Councillor to speak.

- a. Judy Cloke's report
- b. District Councillor report
- c. Council Leader's report

Resume Standing Orders

8. To discuss any planning applications

There were no planning applications for discussion at the time of the agenda being published.

9. To discuss and agree any highways issues

- a. To receive an update and agree any action on the persistent overflowing/flooding correspondence. County Councillor Judy Cloke mentioned that MP Adrian Ramsey is aware, and Highways will not take the issue of their list until it has been repaired.

There is an issue on Top Road in relation to the pipe under the road that needs to be sorted. When faced with persistent rain, there is a risk of flooding to properties on Top Road.

b. To receive an update on Speedwatch. This continues to be successful. Traffic can be seen to reduce speed when they see the team. The Parish Council **agreed** to purchase some replacement batteries and chargers for the speed gun. **Action:** Gerald Godfrey to source and buy the batteries and chargers.

c. To receive the Vehicle Activated Sign data.

Top Road:

Date from:	18/08/2024
Date to:	12/09/2024
Average Speed:	26.3 mph
Average Overspeed:	29.9%
Max speed recorded:	65mph. (Sunday 16/09/2024, 7.15am)
Average daily traffic:	730
Total vehicle count:	18166
Total over limit:	5432
Highest overspeed day:	Sunday. [34.2%]

Sewer Lane:

Date from:	12/09/2024
Date to:	02/10/2024
Average Speed:	21.17 mph
Average Overspeed:	34.2%
Max speed recorded:	75mph. (Friday 04/10/2024, 00.30am)
Average daily traffic:	942
Total vehicle count:	22,972
Total over limit:	5,502
Highest overspeed day:	Sunday. [41.2%]

10. To discuss and agree the finances.

a. To discuss the draft budget.

This was noted. The Parish Council **agreed** to not make the £150 donation for the upkeep of the Burial Ground this year, and the payment would be reviewed next year.

b. Payments for the month:

Date	Payee	Ref	Cheque Number/BACS	Total
04/10/2024	Clerk wages Sept		BACS	£277.42
	Insurance renewal		BACS	£361.14
	HMRC Tax		BACS	£388.37
03/10/2024	Clerk wages Oct		BACS	£260.00
				<u>£1,286.93</u>
	Back-dated pay to be approved			
	0.63p*31 weeks*5 hours			£97.65
	Clerk expenses			£22.74
	Elan City (Speed Indicator Device)			
	[£2314.99 before VAT]			£2,777.99
			Total Payments	£4,185.31

The Parish Council unanimously **agreed** to pay the amount of £4,185.31 on the basis of the items identified above.

c. Update on finances for 2024-2025, The Clerk produced the budget which was for information at this stage, which was duly noted.

11. To discuss and agree any Parish Council items.

- a. To discuss the narrow footpath leading off Ringsfield Road, near the junction with Becks Green Lane. County Councillor Judy Cloke will arrange a meeting this week to view the problem. It may also be that the footpath is not on the agreed line.
- b. To agree the work needed on the Play Area in light of the safety report produced earlier in the year. This was discussed, and it was noted that in the first instance the Parish Council probably needed to sort out the gates, posts and fittings to go with them. It was also noted that it would probably be best to make use of metal gates in the future, given experience with other play areas. **Action:** Parish Clerk to speak to David Bracey (author of the safety report) regarding the design of the gate etc.
- c. To discuss whether the village needs an additional defibrillator. The Parish Council discussed this, and concluded that given the distribution of housing within the village, there would be little benefit to be gained from acquiring an additional defibrillator. It was **agreed** that the agenda item would be closed. It was **agreed** that it would be beneficial to run a refresher course next year on the use of the defibrillator. **Action:** Parish Clerk to discuss this with Alan, who was responsible for delivering the last session.
- d. Community Energy Group. It was noted that the Community Energy Group was looking at schemes, resourcing, sharing of information and resourcing solar power within the village. The Solar Farm Group will be established, which needs to be a community-run project. It was noted that RES may well have already reserved capacity at the substation, which may reduce possibilities for alternative schemes.
- e. Roles of the Parish Council and communications with the Land Management Company. Councillor Jacqui Harrison had requested this item to be included on the agenda due to concern over apparent inconsistency of treatment regarding claims for 'adverse possession' of Common land within the village. There was an extensive discussion of the issues, with the result that there was some uncertainty and confusion. The Parish Council **agreed** to join the Open Spaces Society. The Parish Council also **agreed** to seek more information on the issues discussed. The Parish Council expressed their thanks for the great work that the Land Management Company has been undertaking and is continuing to do.

Whilst this agenda item was being discussed, it appeared that the meeting went over its statutory tie limit, usually stated in the Standing Orders of 2 hours. The adopted standing orders do not state this. The Chair continued the meeting until it closed. The Clerk has noted that the Standing Orders need to be modified.

- f. Constitution of the Land Management Company. In light of the confusion and uncertainty created by the discussion under item 11 (e), this was not confirmed. The Parish Council **agreed** to wait until it was a member of the Open Spaces Society.

12. To discuss the other meetings held between the Parish Council meetings:

- a. Village Hall Report. The Village Hall Committee is looking at installing solar panels on the roofs of the Hall, and are awaiting quotes.
It was noted that the Village Hall Committee has done an excellent job of restoring the finances of the Village Hall following the difficulties associated with the re-roofing.
- b. Land Management Company: Minutes awaited.

13. To note Correspondence.
All correspondence was noted.

14. Date of next meeting: Monday 6th January 2025.

The Chair closed the meeting at 10.22pm.

Signed

Date