

ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **PLANNING, HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** was held on **Tuesday 11th August 2015** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, North Street, Ilminster, starting at **19:30 hrs.**

Present:

Chairman: Cllr A Shearman

Councillors: Cllr P Burton, Cllr R Drayton, Cllr J Fagan, Cllr J Fowler,
Cllr C Goodall, Cllr D Kinder, Cllr R Neave, Cllr S Shepherd,
Cllr S Storey, Cllr R Swann and Cllr T Walker

Officers In Attendance: Miss J Norris (Town Clerk), Mrs Deborah Speed and Miss A Tolland

Members of the Public: 3 members of the public attended the meeting, of whom 1 wished to speak.

At the start of the meeting a sheet was circulated to Councillors giving comments made by Planning Officers and other consultees on the applications..

P19. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Albin, Keitch and Sothern.

P20. Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest given in the table below were made regarding items on the agenda.

Name	Agenda Item	Minute No	Nature of Interest	Type of Interest	Action
Cllr. Neave	Agenda Item 12 a Cricket Lane Road closure	P30		Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr Stuart Shepherd	Agenda Item 9 The Sport's Club roof	P27	President of Cricket Club	Personal	Spoke and voted
Cllr Walker	Agenda Item 10 i Parking and Transport Issues Agenda Item 10 e) and g) Signage on the A303 and traffic flow at Southfields Roundabout	P28i P28 e & g	Plans for East Street	Personal	Spoke and voted

Chair's Initials

P21. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2015 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to Action List Item No.5, the spelling being amended from Breowen to Breowan.

P22. Police Report

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Police to report on any matters relevant to policing in Ilminster; there was no written police report and no policing matters were raised or reported.

P23. Planning Applications

a) 15/02591/FUL, 15/02592/LBC, 6 High Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9AW

Replacement windows. (GR 336027/114721)

No issues were discussed during consideration of the item included:

RECOMMEND approval

b) 15/02875/R13, Greenfylde First School, Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0DS

Replacement of existing windows and doors on main building and replacement of timber floor in the 1960's hall within that building, (GR 3335975/114454)

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- Raising of objections and concerns from various parties
- Supported the principle of the work to be done

RECOMMEND approval subject to Historic England's concerns regarding the materials to be used being addressed

c) 15/02944/FUL 39 The Cross, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0EH,

The erection of 1 No. dwelling house (revised application). (GR 336133/114104)

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- The mixed styles of nearby housing
- The size of the proposed building
- The location, in relation to a path

RECOMMEND approval

d) 15/03105/LBC 44 East Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0AW

Replacement window on rear elevation and removal of internal wall (Implemented). (GR 336378/114569)

The Clerk informed the Committee that the application had already been approved by Council.

e) 15/03331/ADV, 15/03333/LBC Mitcham & Co, 1 Cornhill Market Place, East Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0AD

The display of 1 No. nonilluminated hanging sign and 1No. nonilluminated fascia sign. (GR 336130/114561)

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- The impact of the proposed signage within the conservation area
- The existing signage on adjacent buildings
- The

RECOMMEND

- (i) Approval of signage above doorway
- (ii) Refusal of the hanging sign

Chair's Initials

P 24. Planning Appeals

15/00419/FUL, 50 Herne Rise, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0HJ

The erection of a two storey rear extension to dwelling house. (GR 335750/113973)
It was reported to the Committee that the appeal had been dismissed.

P25. Planning Decisions made by SSDC

The following decisions made by South Somerset District Council were reported for information.

- a) **15/01346/FUL Wilmik Engineering, 6A New Road, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9AE,**
Demolition of existing single stor-y workshop and the erection of a pair of 2 bedroom semi-detached dwellings with parking (GR 335822/114777)
Application withdrawn.
- b) **15/01982/LBC 48 High Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9AP**
The carrying out of alterations to include alterations to roof of dwelling and lean to. (GR 335973/114699)
Permission granted.
- c) **15/02267/LBC The Chantry, 3 Court Barton, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0DU,**
Alterations to wall to include rebuilding of wall. (GR 335991/114603)
Permission granted.
- d) **15/02292/FUL 77 Lower Meadow, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9DR,**
Erection of conservatory to front of ground floor flat (GR 335430/114659)
Permission granted
- e) **15/02482/TPO, Wallbridge Byre, Apple Close, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0NZ** Application to carry out tree surgery works to 1 No. Oak within South Somerset District Council's Tree Preservation Order (DOWA 1) 2015. (GR 337590/112557)
Permission Granted
- f) **15/02513/FUL, 12A Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0DJ**
Internal and external alterations to include the installation of roof lights to east and south elevation and new first floor window to west elevation. (GR 336088/114515)
Permission Granted
- g) **15/02514/LBC, 12A Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0DJ**
Internal and external alterations to include installation of roof lights to east and south elevation and new first floor window to west elevation. (GR 336088/114515)
Permission Granted

Chair's Initials

P26. First Bus Service

The Committee considered a letter regarding bus services in Ilminster that had been submitted to the Annual Town Assembly and the subsequent information researched by the Office Team.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- Timetables of current services especially the last service from Taunton to Ilminster
- Decline in the use of public transport
- Cost of bus journeys

RESOLVED that a letter is sent to the bus companies to make representations to maintain and, if possible, improve the bus services in Ilminster

The Chair took the meeting out of session to enable the Cricket Club representative to address the meeting.

Speaker 1 - John Pallister

- The Cricket Club are intending to revamp the exterior of the Sports Club building. The first stage of the work is to replace the current roof with cement fibre tiles, a specimen of which was shown to the Council so that they could see colour, feel weight etc. The tiles covering the roof will weigh approximately 2.25 – 2.5 tonnes in total; a roofer has confirmed the roofing joints will take the weight.
- The building was erected in 1969/70 and currently has 4-6 layers of felt (approx. 16 rolls to cover the roof)
- A breathable membrane will be placed below the tiles
- There is already insulation in the roof.
- Most of the work to be done by volunteers from the Cricket Club.
- The work will take approximately a fortnight, during which the building will continue to be used.
- The scaffolding will be erected for day of work and when not in use will be stored within the building.
- The need for planning permission/building regulation approval has not been checked

The Chair took the meeting back into session

P27. The Sports' Club Roof

During the next 18 months the Cricket Club are intending to refurbish and make good the exterior of the Sports' Club, Committee approval for the work and type of roof tile to be used was sought.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- Insurance cover – especially public liability insurance
- Concerns about the colour of the roof tile and making sure it is appropriate
- Work to the exterior of the building is necessary,

RESOLVED

- (i) that the principle of re-roofing the Sports' Club building is supported
- (ii) that the Town Clerk is given delegated authority to approve the work once all matters pertaining to planning permission, building regulations and insurance cover have been resolved and the appropriate written evidence provided.

Chair's Initials

P28. Parking and Transport Issues

A written report had been published detailing requests that had been received regarding parking and transport issues. The Committee were asked to consider and agree a viewpoint on various situations.

A) Speeding at Highfield and the surrounding area

It was reported that speeds in this area had been monitored with a Speed Indicator Device (SID) and found to be within the legal limit.

B) New Road - Parking

It was appreciated that this is a problem but Councillors were concerned that changing the road markings and parking arrangements would move the problem rather than resolve it.

RESOLVED that the Somerset County Council be informed that the Town Council appreciate any effort to resolve the existing problem but that care must be taken to resolve the problem not just move it elsewhere on the adjacent part of the road.

C) Ditton Street/Shudrick Lane Junction

Issues discussed included:

- Drivers failing to stop at the junction
- A Stop Sign would have more legal impact.
- There is insufficient room for a roundabout.

RESOLVED to request a Stop sign replaces the existing Give Way sign, with any required changes to the road markings, at the junction of Ditton Street with Shudrick Lane

D) Signage on the A303

A suggestion had been made that signs, similar to those used in France, stating the number of deaths that had occurred on the road together with a pictorial representation or a life size cut-out should be erected on the A303 near Ilminster.

Issues discussed included:

- That the signs could be a distraction.
- That raising awareness of the potential for accidents was a good idea
- How any pictorial representation or sign could be amended to ensure it remained accurate
- Financing and cost of the signs

RESOLVED to request the Highways Agency to erect a sign at each end of the Ilminster Bypass part of the A303 recording the number of accidents / fatalities

E) Safety on the A303

A suggestion that the middle lane of the Ilminster Bypass should be coned off to prevent use was discussed.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- Safety on the A303 is outside the remit of the Town Council but nevertheless has an impact on the Town, its residents, businesses and visitors.
- Use of cones as suggested may push the problem further down the road
- Hatch road markings (instead of cones) would be more dangerous
- The design of the road may be a contributing factor to accidents
- Bad driving may be a contributing factor to accidents
- Average speed checks have been successful in reducing speed and thus related accidents in other areas

RESOLVED

Chair's Initials

- (i) that the Town Clerk writes to relevant people and organisations expressing the Town Council's concerns and passing on the ideas that have been given to Councillors
- (ii) that the Town Clerk contacts the relevant organisations to enquire as to the current situation and timescale for the proposals to dual the Ilminster Bypass section of the A303

F) Parking in Ilminster and Traffic Flow when the A303 is closed

The suggestion had been made that when the Ilminster Bypass is closed it would help alleviate traffic problems in the town if free parking was available in car parks.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item

- Parked vehicles on the "through route" can slow traffic and cause more traffic hold-ups,
- Free parking when the Ilminster Bypass is blocked may encourage people to move their cars off the "through route"

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk writes to South Somerset District Council and Somerset County Council to ask if they will consider allowing free, unrestricted parking for the period of any closure of the Ilminster Bypass.

G) Traffic flow at Southfields Roundabout

A suggestion from a member of the public that traffic lights should be installed at the Southfields Roundabout junctions was discussed.

Issues raised during consideration of the item

- Traffic lights were not considered practical.

RESOLVED that this suggestion is not supported.

H) Parking

Statements made by Mr Colin Bailey at a Town Council meeting regarding general parking issues in Ilminster were considered.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item

- The County Council is responsible for on-street parking regulations and related enforcement
- Off street parking is the responsibility of South Somerset District Council
- The police only have any jurisdiction if the parking is dangerous
- Pedestrians being forced into the road due to parked vehicles

RESOLVED that that the Town Clerk writes to the various organisations saying that residents have raised concerns about parking in Ilminster.

I) East Street/Bay Hill

Safety at the junction of East Street and Bay Hill was considered.

Issues discussed during consideration of the item included:

- The speed of traffic in the area
- The history of parking in the vicinity
- Any reduction in the availability of parking spaces would have a knock-on effect on the adjacent roads
- Large vehicles parked near the junction exacerbate the problem of visibility

RESOLVED

- (i) that the Town Clerk requests a SID placement on the junction in order to obtain information on the speed of vehicles
- (ii) that the Town Clerk asks Somerset County Council for any accident information at the junction

Chair's Initials

RESOLVED

- (i) to note the naming of Jordans Road
- (ii) to defer identifying new road names to a future meeting of the Committee

P30 Road Closures

- a) The Committee were informed of the temporary closure of Cricket Lane from Somerset Highways. The order becomes effective on 3rd August 2015 and will remain in force for 18 months.
The works are expected to last for 4 weeks. While the closure is in operation an alternative route will be signed as detailed.
- b) The Committee were informed of the temporary closure of Langport Road from Somerset County Council. The road will be closed from 10th August 2015 and is expected to last for 1 week to enable traffic calming measures along A378 Langport Road which will include: resurfacing, road markings, signing and lining works to be carried out on the road.
- c) The Committee were informed of the temporary closure of Gas Lane, Hinton St. George. The road will be closed from 8th September 2015 for three days for essential gas works. The diversion route will be clearly signed for the duration of the works.

The meeting closed at 21:16 hrs.

Chair's Signature and Date

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