One Ilfracombe

Town Team Notes

1030-1230

Wednesday 19th October 2022

The Ilfracombe Centre

Attendees:

Neil Ingram - OI Project Officer (Chair)	**Eric Haynes – Ilfracombe Access Group**
Dan Lester – Devon & Somerset Fire Service	**Alan Matthewman – ITC Town Clerk**
Terry Elliott – ITC Councillor	**Georgina Carlo-Patt - Harbourmaster**
Barbara Clarke – Events 4 Ilfracombe/IBTA	**Rob Townsend – ITC Maintenance Operative**
Richard Rodd – ITC Facilities Manager	**PC Paul Woodward – D&C Police**
Suse – NDC Neighbourhood Officer	**Bert Gear – Ilfracombe Town Council**
Mike Jones – NDC Parks Department	

Apologies:

Netti Pearson – NDC & ITC Councillor	**Lena Hayden – NDC Parking**
Rod Donovan – ITC Councillor / One Ilfracombe Board Member	**Alex Bird – DCC Highways**

1. Neil Ingram (NI) welcomed the group and thanked everyone for attending.

2. **Actions from last meeting**

- *Push to encourage Town Team participation from local groups and NDC/DCC representatives* – **This has worked in part as indicated by the amount of people present at this meeting. This is also on the OI Board Agenda.**
- *"Have your Say" reporting system* – **The cards have been distributed and are now available at venues across the town. NI will arrange for boxes for each venue for people to post the cards in. The online version is also now up and running. Responses are slowly being received, those relating to the Police are being passed to them and NI is reporting any instances relevant to ITC, NDC and DCC. Promotion will continue and the use of the cards reviewed in 6 months. Public will continue to be reminded to Report-Report-Report and the processes for this with the Police, ITC, NDC and DCC.**
- *Victoria Road Benches* – **The original ownership and responsibility of these benches seems to have been lost over time. RR and his team have fixed the benches and ITC have now taken ownership and responsibility of them.**
- *IRB have taken on responsibility for addressing stalled sites* **– NI to inform Jeremy Mann NDC of the desire for Police and Fire Service to be involved at IRB. Concern still remains over how the public report instances of buildings being used by groups such as rough sleepers.**

NI reminded the meeting that the main purpose of the Town Team is to address issues at the "street level" through the co-operation of its members to "get things done". Matters of policy and bigger picture issues raised in the Town Team would be passed onto an appropriate body be this the IRB, or relevant council departments for action/consideration.

- *Return of the Street Marshalls* – **NI to contact Hannah Harrington to establish how to make this happen and the costs involved. This will then be passed to the Town Clerk for ITC consideration.**

3. **Written updates.**

Alex Bird (DCC Highways) - There are a series of closures in Ilfracombe coming up primarily along the roads leading from Church Street/St Brannock's from the start of January to mid March, these closures are for Wales and West to carry out utility works. They will be advertised and noticed accordingly.

The following roads that have been put forward for resurfacing works this year subject to funding:

Oxford Grove – Runnacleave Road – Mill Head – Langleigh Road

4. **Grot Spots Update**

- Market Arches – RR informed the meeting that the pigeon roosts have now all been caged off and "spiked". The area will be jet washed again next week by Rich Rodd and his ITC team, before painting commences the following week (week commencing 24th Oct)
- The Lanes – **NI to approach Community Payback team.**

Market Street and Oxford Grove were identified as other "grot spots" and the potential for ITC employing a contractor to address these areas was also proposed.

5. ITC Out & About Update

RR & RT had a considerable amount to report as follows:

- RT asked MJ if NDC had any plants that could be used by ITC around the town. MJ offered up some bulbs for use in and around the town.
- RR – Cheyne Beach benches to be replaced by benches made up from the Welcome Back Fund bench parts that were delivered damaged.
- RT enquired about the latest plans for the old TIC site (opp Admiral Collingwood) – informed by Harbourmaster and MJ that the intention was still to use the salvaged elements taken from the Pier to form part of the new Toilets/Bus Shelter however this was now being redesigned so the timescale was unclear. RT proposed to place a boat acquired by ITC to be used as a planter on the site. There were no objections to this from MJ as the boat was not a permanent fixture.
- The Harbourmaster also offered up another dinghy to RT for use as a flower bed which made RT very happy.
- Fingerposts – RR informed the group that they were still trying to work out how to remove the "fused" weathered finger posts so that they could be replaced with the new ones which are now with ITC.

- The War Memorial area has been tidied up and the lights there are all now fully operational. RR, his team and their volunteers will make sure the War Memorial is looking its best prior to the Ilfracombe Remembrance Ceremony on the 13th November.
- The metal planter stanchions are being removed. The way ahead for these will be discussed at the next meeting of the newly invigorated Ilfracombe in Bloom Committee. Post meeting note – Steve Trebble invited to attend future Town Team meetings as the Ilfracombe in Bloom representative.

6**. AOB**

- PW asked about the A-Boards which continue to cause obstructions along Quay Road – Harbourmaster informed the meeting that the process is to report this to DCC Highways. She continued to outline the DCC plans to "Red Line" and change the layout of Quay Road which would also include a loading bay at either end. The issue of enforcement was still a concern.
- Sarah Maddocks (ITC Volunteer Co-ordinator) passed on some good news that Barry, one of the Town Council volunteers, has now returned to his task of keeping Ilfracombe Tidy following an illness which now means that he carries out his volunteer role from his mobility scooter. So keep an eye out for him and say hi!
- EH updated the group on the newly established Health Pod at the Combe Coastal Medical Centre.
- BG raised an issue relating to National Express Coach drivers concern over them having to make a dangerous turn in the road when dropping/collecting passengers. A solution was to use the Brookdale Coach Park for this. A discussion followed and the **ITC Town Clerk will follow up up NDC Car Parks as part of another discussion he has planned with them.**
- BC expressed concern over some rather over zealous parking enforcement that had been witnessed on the High Street.
- MJ informed the group of an NDC project to develop Ilfracombe Sea Front using 106 funding to create a play area on the old putting green (where the bouncy castles are). The installation of this will commence in Spring 2023 following consultation of what local children would like to see in this most welcome addition to the sea front. AM asked whether this would be maintained by NDC, to which MJ answered – Yes.
- MJ – The benches on the Southern Slopes (behind Museum) have been removed due to repeated instances of Anti-Social behaviour.
- AM updated the group on the Access for Cash initiative.
- AM updated the group with the continued concern over the lack of public conveniences and the upkeep of the current facilities moving forward.
- AM updated the group on the Sports Arena aspect of the Southern Extension and that discussions relating to potential ownership by ITC were ongoing.
- TE highlighted how overgrown Cow Lane was and how this was a continually overlooked area. She went on to add that it would be really useful if we were made aware as to what NDCs street cleaning obligations were and what areas this covered. A map would be most useful. **AM stated he would follow up on this with NDC**.
- The Harbourmaster thanked NI for promoting the recent Hawking Survey, the results of which indicated that 70% had noticed a positive difference, 68% recommended that it should continue but 0% stated that they would be willing to contribute to the cost. At present the Harbourmaster was unable to find a way to move this forward and how to fund the £12k per year to make anything happen. Funding would have to be identified by December although physical payment could be delayed and was not required in a one off

lump sum. BG thought that ITC would be willing to contribute but that this was not currently in the budget with the general consensus that momentum had unfortunately been lost on what was a worthwhile initiative.

- The Harbourmaster informed the group of a project she was working on with Cllr Netti Pearson to obtain £25k in funding from Coca Cola to improve the litter bin situation in and around the harbour. The application for this will be submitted late Nov / early Dec 22, with a decision made in early 2023 with successful bids receiving funding in April 2023

7. Date of next meetings:

- 9nd November 1030 The Ilfracombe Centre
- 7th December 1030 The Ilfracombe Centre