One Ilfracombe Town Team

Wednesday 18th September

The Ilfracombe Centre

Attendees

Neil Ingram (Chair) – One Ilfracombe	Gavin Pennington-Ellis – ITC Facilities Manager
Bert Gear – ITC Cllr	Rob Townsend – ITC Maintenance
Damian Wilson - ITC Facilities	Eric Hayes - Resident
Mel Turnbull – High St Traders Association	Rachel Hadley - Ilfracombe in Bloom (Vice Chair)
Charmain Lovett – One Ilfracombe	Steve Trebble – Ilfracombe in Bloom (Chair)
Laura Donovan – ITC Proper Officer	John Hardwick - Resident
Ade Drury – PCSO D&CP	Terry Elliott – ITC Cllr

1. The Chair thanked everyone for attending

2. With there being a few new faces introductions were made.

3. The Chair went through the last meeting actions as follows:

- Trail & Information Signs & Notice Boards –Audit, clean, maintain and update ongoing.
  Action: Neil Ingram
- Victoria Place Tree Cutting – As at 28th May still with DCC Landscape Management Team
  Action: Neil Ingram – chase with DCC
- Cow Lane – Moss & Vegetation remains an issue
  Action: Neil Ingram – Speak to NDC about possibility of using the mini scarab
- Montebello Site Hoarding – Deterioration could do with a paint. One Ilfracombe will fund paint etc.
  Action: Neil Ingram & Laura Donovan – set up meeting with Friends of Fore Street
- Bins in Brookdale unable to cope – problem seems to have gone away for now. Continue to monitor and see if reported via Ilfracombe Report It!
- Lack of Street lighting in many areas across Ilfracombe – Community encouraged to use Ilfracombe Report It!
- High Street Pavements – Uneven in places
  Action: Neil Ingram
- Market Arches CCTV – latest update is that NDC are working on getting a contractor to clean pigeon waste prior to fitting by contractors.
  Action: Neil Ingram – chase up with NDC
- Commercial Bins Cheyne Car Park – Neil has spoken with NDC Trade Waste relating to the bins overflowing and having to be moved each time ITC operatives put up the flood barrier. NDC responded by sending a letter to all bin owners. Question remains as to why NDC owned bins are being stored in an ITC Car Park.
  Action: Neil Ingram & Laura Donovan to discuss way ahead.
- The Lanes – these continue to be overgrown and unsightly
  Action: Neil Ingram to speak to NDC about possibility of using the mini scarab
- Tarry Lane – NDC have asked that ITC/OI stop reporting fly tipping in this location. It is now on the daily route for their operatives.

- Litter bins around Market Arches (seafront side) need replacing
  Action: Neil Ingram investigating with NDC
- Lane behind Link Centre – there remain unclaimed areas here so it may come down to organising some form of local clean up and then set up a cleaning routine with ITC/NDH as it is highly unlikely that NDC or DCC will allocate resources.
  Action: Neil Ingram speak to NDH and explore possible volunteer involvement.
- **Oxford Grove Car Park –** planning permission recently raised for work on the retaining wall. Car parking spaces will not be reinstated according to NDC due to H&S concerns.

4. DCC Highways update: Patching to take place soon at Montpelier Road and Crofts Lea Park.

5. Cllr J Williams E-Mail:

- Request Watermouth Road (Hele update)
  Action: Neil Ingram to raise with DCC
- Request Watermouth Road (Hele) pathway inaccessible (vegetation)
  Action: Neil Ingram to raise via Ilfracombe Report It!
- Request more 20mph signage when entering East end of High St.
  Action: Neil Ingram to raise with DCC.
- Reporting pot holes on High Street and Portland Street
  Action: Neil Ingram to research whether these meet the criteria for reporting and log via Ilfracombe Report It! as required.

6. Cllr T Elliott E-Mail:

- Fly tipping top of Cow Lane – still there after having been reported
  Action: Neil Ingram Ilfracombe Report It!
- Oxford Grove Car Park – there remains overgrown vegetation around car park and play area that means certain car parking spaces can no longer be accessed.
  Action: Neil Ingram Ilfracombe Report It!
- Graffiti around town – the current incidents alongside the graffiti on abandoned buildings like the Grosvenor Hotel is bring down the look of the town. This was discussed and this needs to be individually photographed and reported to NDC directly or through Ilfracombe Report It! Any graffiti that is likely to cause offence should also be reported to the police.
- Bottom of Highfield Road on junction with Marlborough Road, large crack on supporting wall. Not sure who own this, likely to be either “nomansland” or privately owned.
  Action: Neil Ingram, need to take some images and establish ownership. This then needs to go to a public department with structural engineers.
- Tarry Lane and Springfield Road bins – these remain hotspots for flytipping and are unsightly. These issues are ongoing with research being undertaken by NDC Environmental Officers to try and identify a solution.
  Action: These issues form part of IRB and One Ilfracombe Work Plan agendas.
- Littering – Is there a plan for litter picking now the ITC Hygiene Operative post no longer exists and Peter Joyce as the sole ITC volunteers can only do so much? A discussion followed that identified that both District and County Council have made it clear that they have no additional budget or resources to address this issue and that the promotion of localism and identifying volunteers to fill this gap was at the fore on many an agenda . It was also

discussed that the vast majority of littering was as a direct result of household waste, predominantly recycling, being blown around the town and accumulating in certain places. Numerous solutions were discussed including the provision, use and promotion of the waste bin netting and also speaking to those local takeaways businesses, whose cartons and boxes were also raised as a littering problem in the High St.

Action:

- **ITC CSAs are investigating getting more netting covers from NDC.**
- **Social Media campaign to promote to follow if covers can be obtained.**
- **Once the new Facilities Operative has settled into their role the issue of litter picking will be reviewed.**
- **Explore possibility of incorporating litter picking into the Ilfracombe in Bloom "Treat Your Street" campaign.**
- **More frequent use of the mini (pavement scarab) in Ilfracombe.**

7. AOB

Gavin Pennington-Ellis

- Daily vandalism of ITC owned public toilets is taking up a disproportionate amount of time. It was discussed that closing the toilets in the evenings (from 5pm) would seem to be a solution that has been adopted elsewhere with a proven drop off in vandalism rates once imposed. Hopefully CCTV in the vicinity of the St James Toilets will also help.
  Action: ITC to decide on any revised opening times

Rob Townsend

- Questioned whether the safety buoys are ever serviced?
  Action: Neil Ingram will ask Harbourmaster

Mel Turnbull

- The High Street Traders would appreciate more F2F interaction and increased discussion/chats with D&CP. Mel also pointed out that at least one trader was refusing to open for Lighting the Lights through fear of ASB. This was discussed as to how best to make this happen and in what format. The role of the Street Marshalls and how best they could be part of this solution was also discussed.
  Action: Laura Donovan to follow up.
- Mel also asked for an update as to the progress of the High Street Regeneration. Neil Ingram stated that this has stalled over the past two months as addressing ASB had been the priority but that work will pick up pace over the next couple of weeks.

Steve Trebble - Steve provided the meeting with a very comprehensive update of what's been going on and what is planned for Ilfracombe in Bloom and the Gardening Club. The main points of this were:

- Had to move HQ to a temporary site but are now on a permanent site with a new HQ next to the Killacleave Recycling Centre. This has impacted on work this year but moving forward the future looks bright.

- The planter stations on the High St had a manufacturers defect. These will be replaced will new ones for next year.
- The Gardening Club is thriving with 35 volunteers.
- Treat your Street social media campaign gaining traction and the potential to set up a street steward system was floated.
- 40th Anniversary Fruit Tree Planting to take place along Marlborough Road near the Football Club.
- The plans for Ilfracombe War Memorial were explained.
- There will also be a celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Ilfracombe in Bloom on Saturday 14th October.
- Future plans at the HQ include but are not limited to:
    - Community Growing Centre / Voluntary Nursery to grow – sell – profits back into the community
    - Compost Centre

Neil Ingram offered up a local contact for discounted banners and signage

One Ilfracombe also offered additional assistance with grant funding applications and promotion.

Charmain Lovett also suggested Oxford Park as an opportunity to undertake a project potentially with residents from Hilldales.

The latest details on Ilfracombe in Bloom can be found in their Sept meeting notes - HERE

Ade Drury

- Op Lighten – Breaches of CBOs have resulted in court cases and there are likely to be more issued in the forthcoming months. The police continue to issue and escalate behaviour orders. If the courts permit, the names of those attending court and any subsequent sentences will be published into the public domain.
- Boxing event at NDR – Police had no reports of any incidents aside from those that were parking related which fall under the remit of DCC. Discussions ongoing as to whether future events will be cleared via the NDC led Safety Advisory Group. Ade also stressed that any individuals that do have concerns that these are registered well in advance of any event. Laura Donovan stated that ITC were open to collating any issues or concerns but to date nothing has been officially reported.

Laura Donovan

- New catenary wires will be going up in the High Street this week.
- In the short term the Catenary wires in Fore Street are likely to be removed.
- Lighting of the Lights for this year will feature less of the larger older lights with majority being the “twinklies”.

8. Date of next meetings: All at 1030 – The Ilfracombe Centre

8th October & 19th November