

Exminster Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 20 August at 19:30 in the Victory Hall, Main Road, Exminster

Chairman: Josie Walledge

18/379	<u>Public open session</u> 1. Was the Parish Council aware of the situation at the Stowey Arms as the tenants appeared to have left and the pub was closed? It was acknowledged that this was not a Parish Council matter but rumours circulating in the village suggested that it was being transferred to new owners.	
18/380	<u>Present</u> Cllr Brian Aird (BA), Cllr Peter Chandler (PC), Cllr Sheila Churchward (SC), Cllr John Ponsford (JP), Cllr Kevin Smith (KS), Cllr Lorne Smyth (LS), Cllr Josie Walledge (JW). Deputy Clerk: Mrs Helen Hibbins (HH) Public: 2	
18/381	<u>Apologies accepted from</u> Mrs Jill Daw (JD) – personal reasons Cllr John Goodey (JG) – personal reasons Cllr Derek Madge (DM) – personal reasons Cllr Charles Nuttall (CN) – personal reasons Teignbridge District Councillor Kevin Lake Devon County Councillor Alan Connett	
18/382	<u>Declaration of interest on Agenda Items</u> None declared.	
18/383	<u>Dispensation requests regarding Code of Conduct</u> None received.	
18/384	<u>To approve the Draft Minutes of the EPC Meeting held on 6 August 2018</u> It was resolved to approve the draft minutes with the following amendment: 18/356 second line to start “ <i>Following a question and answer session with Councillors</i> ”	HH
18/385	<u>Clerk’s Report</u> 1. A Freedom of Information request had been received from a resident regarding communication with contractors relating to the Deepway sewer connection works. 2. A Subject Access Request had been received from a resident. 3. Reports had been received that the Skate Park lights were lit intermittently overnight. An electrician had been called out to investigate. 4. An interim response had been received from Devon County Council (DCC) clarifying when DCC had enforcement powers against vehicles parked on pavements and when it became the remit of the police.	
18/386	<u>To inform Council of the receipt of a formal complaint relating to Council procedures and to appoint four Councillors to the Complaints Committee to respond according to the Council’s complaints procedure.</u> Councillors Walledge, Ponsford, Smith and Smyth were appointed to the Complaints Committee. A date would be set for the meeting at the next Parish Council meeting.	JD
Planning Matters		
18/387	<u>Planning Decisions</u> Noted as listed below:	
/1	18/00010/FAST - 5 Spurfield Cottages, Main Road, Exminster – Appeal against refusal to grant planning permission for a 2 metre high boundary fence for a 12 month period – DISMISSED	
/2	18/00508/DCC – Lower Pottles, Days Pottles Lane, Exminster - on-farm composting of garden waste, with the finished compost used on the farm holding as a soil fertiliser & general improver - GRANTED	
/3	18/00530/FUL – Spurfield House, Exminster - Alterations to building and new two storey buildings around a courtyard to form a mental health care facility – GRANTED	

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	Concern was expressed about the parking provision on site. It was agreed that the Parish Council would monitor the situation when work was complete.									
/4	18/00531/LBC – Spurfield House, Exminster - Alterations to building and new two storey buildings around a courtyard to form a mental health care facility – GRANTED									
/5	18/01597/TPO – South Lodge, Exminster - Crown lift one sycamore tree by pruning four branches by approx. one third where overhanging neighbouring property; crown lift one lime tree by removing the nine lowest branches - GRANTED									
Other Planning Matters										
18/388	<u>To discuss the monitoring of Sentrays Farm planning conditions</u> No update.									
Finance Matters										
18/389	<p><u>RFO's report</u></p> <p>1. Direct debit payments during July</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NEST pension scheme contributions</td> <td>28.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Utilities Warehouse (Electricity)</td> <td>84.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NW Bankline</td> <td>6.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. External Audit - The External Auditor advised that as the Parish Council's income in the 2017/18 Financial Year had exceeded the threshold for intermediate audit, further documentation to support the AGAR was required. This had been submitted and confirmation had been received that there were no further requirements to enable the Auditor to proceed.</p>		£	NEST pension scheme contributions	28.33	Utilities Warehouse (Electricity)	84.73	NW Bankline	6.00	
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Utilities Warehouse (Electricity)	84.73									
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18/390	<u>Accounts for Approval</u> It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £4427.56.	HH								
18/391	<u>Draft accounts for July 2018</u>									
/1	<u>Budget Comparison Report</u> There were no questions on the report.									
/2	<u>Balance Sheet</u> There were no questions on the balance sheet.									
18/392	<p><u>To review the Councils Financial Regulations</u></p> <p>A copy of the reviewed regulations had been circulated prior to the meeting. The RFO drew attention to regulation 4.7b and recommended an increase in the limit of authorisation for the Clerk/RFO to spend on small maintenance projects (including tree works) to £500. Resolved.</p> <p>Other amendments included updates to the thresholds set by the Public Contracts Directive, and removal of unnecessary references to Governance and Accountability for local councils in Wales.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the amended Financial Regulations.</p>	HH/ JD								
Property & Amenities Matters										
18/393	<p><u>To update Council on a meeting held with Exminster Recreational Trust (ERT) and Cllrs Walledge and Smith on the 16th August</u></p> <p>The Chairman reported that three members of ERT had attended the meeting. The following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The property appeared to be well maintained. A grant from the Football Association had enabled the installation of new windows to the Pavilion. Discussion about future, larger maintenance projects (such as works to the roof) had taken place and it was suggested that the Trust may wish to commission a survey of the building. • In order for St Martin's football club to progress further in the league, some evening matches would need to take place. This would necessitate the installation of floodlights on the pitch. Quotations had been sought for the work and as a condition of the lease ERT were required to seek approval from the Parish Council to submit a 									

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	<p>planning application. This would be on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERT was keen to enhance its facilities and had the following plans: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To erect a temporary fence around the pitch (Councillors were reassured that this could be easily dismantled when the whole field was needed); 2) To create a small car park to the rear of the Pavilion to alleviate the parking pressure on Farm House Rise and Reddaway Drive on busy match days. This had been discussed with Westbank, who were supportive. 3) To install a small play park near the proposed car park to keep younger children occupied on match days. 4) To fit a canopy to the front of the Pavilion to cover the patio area. <p>A formal proposal would be made to the Council.</p> • ERT continued to aspire to install an Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) and were aware that the Parish Council may consider contributing towards this using Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. The Trust were in the process of arranging a meeting with a representative of Devon Football Association to explore the project further. • ERT had been approached by Devon and Cornwall Police as the football pitch may be a suitable landing site for the Police Helicopter. The Council was supportive of the idea and the Trust would investigate this further. 	JD
18/394	<p><u>Councillors' Reports</u> No updates.</p>	
18/395	<p><u>Public Open Session</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A resident outlined several scenarios in the village where parking on the pavement had caused inconvenience and danger to pedestrians. It was agreed that it was important to report all instances of dangerous/inconsiderate parking on the DCC portal; the link would be advertised on Facebook. Cllr Nuttall would be asked to pursue this issue in future meetings with the Police and DCC Highways officers. 	BA
<p>The meeting closed at 20:15 Date of next meeting: Monday 3 September 2018 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall</p>		

Signed:....Josie Walledge.... Date:.....3 September 2018.....