

Exminster Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 15 October 2018 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall, Main Road, Exminster

	<p>6. TDC had returned the draft Heads of Terms for the Gissons footpath and were broadly in agreement with the amendments suggested by the Parish Council. There was an outstanding issue related to the advertising of a Loss of Public Open Space and this would be resolved by TDC legal department once they had accepted the instruction to proceed; facilitated by the signing of the Heads of Terms. If an advertisement was required for the process, TDC would arrange it and invoice the Parish Council accordingly.</p> <p>7. Redrow Homes had confirmed that work to clear the fallen tree from Berry Brook would take place on Friday 19 October. Thereafter, a tree survey would be carried out on their land adjacent to the brook. It was noted that Hi-line (Western Power) were also due to undertake work in the Wilderness area and it was suggested that dates for this work were determined in order to advise neighbouring properties.</p> <p>8. Correspondence had been received from Crown Property Management (Devington Park Management Company) concerned about litter around the Milbury Reach bus shelter. It was agreed that the provision of a litter bin near the bus stop should be considered at a future meeting.</p> <p>9. Direct Debit payments during September:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NEST pension scheme contributions</td> <td style="text-align: center;">28.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Utilities Warehouse (Electricity)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-253.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NW Bankline</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staples</td> <td style="text-align: center;">135.93</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		£	NEST pension scheme contributions	28.33	Utilities Warehouse (Electricity)	-253.45	NW Bankline	5.20	Staples	135.93	<p>HH</p> <p>HH</p> <p>HH</p>
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18/476	<p><u>Complaints Committee update</u></p> <p>It was confirmed the committee included Cllrs Walledge (Chairman), Ponsford and Smyth. A report on the meeting had been circulated. The committee resolved that the complaint, received on 7 August, was not upheld. Aspects of the complaint that were not confidential were summarised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaint regarding a Councillor Complaints against Members of the Parish Council were not within the remit of the complaints committee and should be addressed to the Teignbridge District Council monitoring officer. The Complainant had been advised of this. • Complaint regarding voting procedure The committee found that voting had been carried out in accordance with standing orders, despite there being an interruption during the process. • Allegation of breach of the Equality Act and request for disclosure of a document on the Councillors table. A Subject Access Request had been submitted by the Complainant and all documentation duly disclosed. • Query regarding the awarding of a contract to the highest bidder The Complainant had submitted a Freedom of Information request for all correspondence relating to the award of the contract. The Clerk had supplied the requested information. <p>The Complainant had been informed of the outcome in writing on 8th October and was eligible to appeal the decision within 14 days. The Complaints committee were thanked.</p>											
18/477	<p><u>To update Council on Highways matters</u></p> <p>Cllr Nuttall reported that Cllr Connett had written to DCC Highways regarding extending the 20mph speed limit through the village centre, additional pedestrian crossings on Main Road and the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). Unfortunately, the response from DCC had not been positive. Safety audits from 2016/17 were cited as evidence that an extension to the 20mph limit would not be advantageous; a crossing point near the Motorway Bridge</p>											

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	<p>would not meet the necessary requirements in terms of pedestrian demand and VAS placement would need to be investigated through DCC's Speed Compliance Action Review Forum (SCARF) process.</p> <p>It was noted that there used to be a 20mph zone in Exminster, but this had been removed approximately 8 years ago. The Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) believed that 20mph zones, in conjunction with other traffic calming measures, were highly effective at improving safety and reducing accident rates.</p> <p>Cllr Nuttall proposed that the Parish Council grant authority to Cllr Nuttall, working with Cllr Connett, to pursue matters with DCC to bring forward a recommendation to the Parish Council as to how the issues could be best addressed. Resolved.</p> <p>Cllr Nuttall and Mrs Aird were keen to revive the Community Speedwatch Campaign. A meeting with PCSO Carl Thomas and PC Beck would be arranged to facilitate this.</p>	HH/ JD
18/478	<p><u>To consider entering a decorated tree into the annual Exminster Christmas Tree Festival.</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council would enter a tree, to be decorated by Cllr Smyth with a "Village Issues" theme.</p> <p>It was resolved to approve a budget of £30 for the tree and decorations.</p>	HH/ LS
Planning Matters		
18/479	<p><u>Planning Decisions</u></p> <p>Noted as listed below.</p>	
/1	Westfield Cactii Nursery, Kennford – Erection of storage building - GRANTED	
/2	Land to rear of 40, 42 and 44 Crockwells Close – Tree pruning to clear overhead power lines - EXEMPT	
18/480	<p><u>To discuss the monitoring of Sentrays Farm planning conditions</u></p> <p>Cllr Goodey reported that activity on site was decreasing and the management team had now left.</p> <p>Work to the attenuation pond and children's play area had not yet been finished.</p> <p>It was believed that boundary issues had been resolved.</p>	
Exminster Neighbourhood Development Plan Implementation Group (ENDPIG)		
18/481	<p><u>To consider the following recommendations brought forward from the ENDPIG meeting on 8 October</u></p> <p>The notes from the meeting would be available at the next Parish Council meeting.</p>	
/1	<p>To commission Devon County Council to undertake a feasibility study for the provision of a pedestrian crossing across Main Road between the motorway bridge and the northern junction with Sannerville Way.</p> <p>Cllr Ponsford reported that a crossing near the motorway bridge was originally proposed as part of the northern junction improvement scheme. Both cyclists and pedestrians needed to cross the road at that point and there had been reports of a near miss involving a child pedestrian.</p> <p>As Cllr Nuttall and Cllr Connett were already in discussions with DCC regarding safety issues, it was resolved that they should take the project forward in the first instance.</p>	CN
/2	<p>To investigate the installation of solar powered lighting bollards (or similar) at the outdoor gym on Deepway Green.</p> <p>There was currently no lighting in the vicinity of the outdoor gym, making it unusable after dark. It was suggested that low level background lighting would be appropriate for safety purposes.</p> <p>It was resolved to research the feasibility of installing lighting.</p>	HH
Finance Matters		
18/482	<p><u>Payments for Approval</u></p> <p>It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £4767.13.</p>	HH
18/483	<u>Draft accounts for September 2018</u>	
/1	Budget Comparison Report	

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	It was resolved to approve the report.	
/2	Balance Sheet It was resolved to approve the report.	
18/484	<u>To consider convening a Budget Working Party during the budget and precept setting process.</u> The purpose of the Working Party would be to meet with the RFO to discuss finances and make a recommendation to the Parish Council regarding the budget and level of precept to be requested from TDC. It was resolved to convene a working party for the duration of the process.	
18/485	<u>If 18/484 is agreed, to consider Terms of Reference for a Budget Working Party and to appoint members to the Working Party.</u> Draft Terms of Reference had been circulated. It was resolved to amend the draft as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership - include the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council as Ex-officio members and appoint a Leader of the Group rather than a Chair. • Voting – remove this section and replace with a Decision Making section: <i>“On matters requiring a decision, the group will discuss matters with a view to reaching a consensus. If this cannot be achieved, the differing views will be recorded in writing and communicated to the Parish Council.”</i> Cllrs Aird and Churchward were appointed to the Working Party, with Cllrs Walledge and Smith as ex officio members. The RFO would circulate potential meeting dates.	HH
18/486	<u>To consider purchasing the eleventh edition of Arnold Baker on Local Council Administration at a cost of £103.99 plus postage and packing</u> Resolved.	HH
18/487	<u>Councillors’ Reports – for information only</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Madge reported that a further attack on a dog had taken place on Crockwells Meadow. The Dog Warden had been advised. 2. Cllr Madge reported on a recent act of vandalism in the cemetery. Councillors were deeply saddened to hear of this gross lack of respect. 3. Cllr Walledge thanked the volunteers who undertook the litter pick on Saturday 13 October. 4. Cllr Aird noted that the Parish was likely to change over the next two to three years as homes were occupied in Matford and asked about forward planning. It was suggested that financial aspects of this could be considered during budget setting. 5. Cllr Churchward reported that there was currently nothing to report from the Community Plan Working Party. 6. Cllr Churchward reported that she had been approached by a resident of Farm Cottages who had asked that Deepway Lane was considered in any traffic calming/speed reduction measures. 	
18/488	<u>It is proposed that in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act of 1960, the Press and Public will be excluded from items 18/490 (part II) having due regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</u> Resolved.	
18/489	<u>Public Open Session</u> Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There was an overgrown hedge partly obstructing a pavement near the junction of Glebelands and Main Road. 2. Residents should be reminded not to leave wheelie bins outside properties on the pavement. 3. Had the Parish Council taken up the matter of inconsiderate parking with DCC? 	

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	<p>The Chairman confirmed that the matter had been discussed with the police and DCC and residents had been advised to report instances of inconsiderate parking online.</p> <p>4. It was the 10th Anniversary of the Methodists' Christmas Tree Festival and the Parish Council may wish to take this into account when considering decorations.</p> <p>5. On the weekend of 7/8 December, St Martins Church would be holding a Crib Festival. Any loans of a crib would be much appreciated.</p>	
Part II		
18/490	<u>To update Council on Staff Appraisals</u>	
<p>The meeting closed at 21:00</p> <p>Date of next meeting: Monday 5 November 2018 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall</p>		

Signed:....Josie Walledge..... Date:....5 November 2018.....