

Neighbourhood Development Plan Community Projects



In April we provided an overview of the Exminster parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and the work of the Exminster Neighbourhood Development Plan implementation group (ENDPIG), in May we provided an overview of the planned Matford Development and in June we provided an overview of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that Exminster Parish Council will receive and the priorities for investing those funds.

This month we look at the way in which you can get involved with the community infrastructure projects.

What is the Parish Council going to do with the CIL funds received?

The Exminster Neighbourhood Plan outlines that CIL will be used to: provide accessible community, sports and leisure facilities; purchase and maintain public green open spaces within Exminster Parish; and support necessary infrastructure for education, health and transport.

But what does this really mean?

In practical terms CIL will be used to invest in the Matford development community facilities including sports centre, health centre and community use buildings. In Exminster village there are also a number of potential projects including traffic enhancements at the entrances to the village and cycle path creation through the village; both of which came from the Exminster Community Plan consultation.

How can I get involved?

The Parish Council is not doing this alone, professional and volunteer assistance is needed to ensure that the projects can deliver for the community. The skills and experience from volunteers that would support these projects include: project management, construction, architecture, grant application, accounting, and community consultation.

If you are community minded and have skills / experience of delivering community projects then get in touch with Helen via the email details below.

The Parish Council has professional support why do they need volunteers?

Projects will require professional support but what is needed is experienced people who can advise on the right questions to ask of professionals and interpret the professional advice and designs received.

For example the use of community volunteers with expertise in planning, finance and healthcare have helped ensure that the NDP was able to be developed and managed effectively by utilising professional advice where needed rather than handing control of the NDP from the community to a professional firm.

If you would like to have a conversation about how volunteering as part of these projects works in practice then please email Helen Hibbins or call Karl Walker on 07769 964261, Karl is a community volunteer who has been part of the Community Plan and NDP team from their inception.

Need to know more?

The NDP implementation group provides updates to the Parish Council during its public meetings where you can hear the latest and ask questions during the public session.

The parish council website also holds the information regarding the neighbourhood development plan: www.exminsterparish.org.uk/wp/ndp/

If you have any queries get in touch with Helen Hibbins via email: rfo@exminsterparish.org.uk