

# Exminster Parish Council Meeting

## Minutes

Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 19:00 – Remote meeting via internet

Chairman: Kevin Smith

Action

**21/132 Present**

Cllr Derek Madge (DM), Cllr Charles Nuttall (CN), Cllr Kevin Smith (KS), Cllr Lorne Smyth (LS)

Clerk: Mrs Jill Daw (JD)

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Helen Hibbins (HH)

Devon County Councillor: Alan Connett (AC)

Teignbridge District Councillor: Charles Nuttall (CN)

Public: 1

**21/133 Apologies accepted from**

Cllr John Ponsford (JP) – work commitment

Cllr Renata Szewczyk (RS) – personal reasons

Cllr Sheila Churchward (SC) – personal reasons

Cllr Brian Aird (BA) – personal reasons

The Clerk reported that Cllr Rebecca Watts had resigned for personal reasons with effect from 22 March. Teignbridge District Council (TDC) had been informed and a casual vacancy notice had been published. A letter of thanks would be sent to Ms Watts.

JD

**21/134 Declaration of interest on Agenda Items**

Cllr Smith declared an interest in 21/143 as his wife is the President of the local WI.

**21/135 Dispensation requests regarding Code of Conduct**

None received.

**21/136 Public open session (maximum 10 minutes)**

Comments:

1. A resident (and member of the Green Spaces Group) sought approval to raise money for charity by planting 100 saplings in the hedge on Crockwells Meadow over the May bank holiday weekend. The planting had previously been approved by the Parish Council as a Green Spaces Group project.

Council asked that the Green Spaces Working Party were contacted as a priority as any work of this nature carried out on Council land should be done under the umbrella of the Working Party. The Parish Council's insurance only covered work carried out by members of the group.

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**21/137**     **To confirm the Draft Minutes of the EPC Meeting held on 15 March 2021 are an accurate record**

Resolved.

**21/138**     **County Councillors Report on items other than those on the agenda**

Devon County Councillor Alan Connett reported:

1. Potholes in various locations in the village had been reported to Highways.
2. Work on the Speedwatch campaign continued alongside Cllr Nuttall.
3. No decision on the safety crossing underneath the Motorway Bridge would be made until after the elections on 6 May.
4. Residents of Sentrys Orchard had requested a chicane at the end of the path from the new play park on to the A379 for safety reasons.

**21/139**     **District Councillors Reports on items other than those on the agenda**

Teignbridge District Councillor Charles Nuttall reported:

1. Potholes had been reported on Days Pottles Lane. Repairs had taken place within a week.
2. Devon County Council Highways' Officer, Helen Frankpitt, had been sent a list of potential sites for Vehicle Activated Signs.

**21/140**     **Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report.

**21/141**     **Clerk's Report**

1. Delegated Authority was used in the sum of £36 to book a training course for the Deputy Clerk - "Developing an effective communications strategy and policy for your council".
2. Correspondence had been received asking why the Skatepark had remained open during lockdown. It was explained that Council was following the approach taken by TDC.
3. Graffiti had been reported on the Milbury Reach Bus shelter.
4. Graffiti at the Skate Park and MUGA had been reported to the police.
5. The Deepway Centre Trust would hold its AGM on Wednesday 28 April at 7.30pm at the Deepway Centre.
6. A further complaint had been received regarding the banks at St Martins Football Ground. Residents were disappointed that some lower, dead nibs, were removed (using power tools) from bushes that had been cut prior to the bird nesting season. Birds had been disturbed by the work

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and the Wildlife Warden had been contacted. The complaint had been responded to.

7. Notes from the Environment Working Party meeting on 17 March had been circulated.
8. Correspondence from a resident: *"I've just been having a look through this years' Parish Council meeting minutes and would like to formally express how delighted I am to see so many discussions about sustainable transport and the promotion of active travel."*
9. Cllr Connett had highlighted an issue regarding the increase in obstructive parking at the corner of Days Pottles Lane and Main Road. It had been suggested to Highways that restrictions on the Care Home side of the junction should be considered in the annual waiting restrictions programme.

**21/142 To agree the final updated contract and job description for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk/RFO**

The contracts and job descriptions had been circulated.

A Human Resources professional had looked through the contracts and had recommended some legislative changes. This had been reviewed by the Chairman in conjunction with the Clerk and Deputy Clerk/RFO. Various other updates have been made to them to ensure there is a standard template, and also changes to the Job Descriptions to bring them up to date.

It was resolved to approve the contracts. Arrangements would be made to sign the contracts.

KS/  
HH/  
JD

### PROPERTY & AMENITIES MATTERS

**21/143 To consider a request from Exminster WI to use the Bowling Green site in Reddaway Drive for a charity fund raising activity on the 8 May**

The fundraiser was for Dementia UK. Appropriate Covid regulations (at the time of the event) would be adhered to. The event was only open to WI members and therefore numbers could be controlled.

It was resolved to approve the request.

JD

The Chairman abstained from voting, having declared an interest in the item.

**21/144 To consider a request from St Martins football club to temporarily use Deepway Green to train their Under 10's and 12's whilst the pitch at St Martin is unavailable**

Item no longer required. Alternative provision had been made by the club.

**21/145 To note any other Property & Amenities matters**

Correspondence had been received from three commercial organisations.

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1. A request had been received from Pizza a Legna to trade from Deepway Green on Saturday evening. As this request was received after the agenda was published, the Clerk recommended that the request was discussed at the next Parish Council meeting under a formal agenda item. JD
2. A request had been received from a Personal Trainer to hold a kettle bell class on either the MUGA or Deepway Green, one evening per week. This would be on the agenda for the next meeting. JD
3. Teign Bean Ltd had asked whether there were sites available to operate from in the village.

### FINANCE MATTERS

#### 21/146 Accounts for Approval

It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £210.00. HH

### PLANNING MATTERS

#### 21/147 Planning Applications

##### /1 **19/01224/MAJ, Land Off Chudleigh Road, Alphington - Erection of 21 dwellings with associated landscaping and access**

The application increased the number of dwellings on the site by 2 (from a previous application). The Matford Working Party considered that the comments made on 6 September 2019 were adequate and recommended that no further comment was required. HH

It was resolved not to comment further on the application.

##### /2 **21/00446/HOU, 42 Milbury Farm Meadow - Two storey extension and conversion of garage**

The purpose of the extension was outlined, and the following points noted.

- The extension reduced the parking amenity for the property (with the loss of a garage and much of the second parking space). The remaining parking space only appeared to be suitable for a small car.
- In accordance with Neighbourhood Development Plan policy EXM3 (quality of design) it was considered that the extension would be out of keeping with the street scene.

It was resolved to object to the application for the reasons listed above with the additional caveat that if the application was approved, to meet Exminster Parish's biodiversity expectations, bird and bee and bat habitats should be included in the development. HH

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### **/3 21/00365/FUL, 40 Berrybrook Meadow - Two storey rear extension**

The application amended a recently granted application (supported by the Parish Council) for a single storey extension. The design was in accordance with Neighbourhood Development Plan policy EXM3 (quality of design).

It was resolved to support the application and to comment that to meet biodiversity expectations, nesting features should be provided for bats, bees and birds.

HH

### **21/147a Planning Decisions**

Noted as listed beneath.

### **/1 21/00364/FUL, 40 Berrybrook Meadow - Single storey rear extension - GRANTED**

### **/2 DCC/4208/2020, Land adjacent to the layby on the east bound carriageway of the A379 east of Chudleigh Road, EX2 9SQ - Construction of a footbridge/ cyclebridge over the A379 - GRANTED**

### **/3 21/00023/FUL, compound cryoserve, Peamore Truck Centre - installation of an ambient vaporiser unit, silencer skid, concrete plinth and ancillary infrastructure - GRANTED**

### **/4 21/00113/FUL, 20 Dawlish Road - Oak framed garage with accommodation over - GRANTED**

### **/5 21/00252/LBC, Spurfield House, Main Road - Internal staircase between first and second floors and opening up of atrium - GRANTED**

### **OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

### **21/148 To note any planning matters regarding the Matford development**

TDC had been contacted regarding the request from the Environment Working Party to open the upper gate to the Sentrays Farm development Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS).

Estelle Skinner, TDC Infrastructure Officer had advised that the SANGS was only temporary until the South West Exeter development SANGS was open and therefore it would not be possible.

Concern had been expressed that residents may not be aware that the SANGS was temporary and that this would need to be highlighted when arrangements for the closure had been finalised.

Cllr Nuttall had received a tour of the South West Exeter SANGS. It was envisaged that it would open in July. Details of the park would be circulated.

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### ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

**21/149 To agree a response to the consultation on the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay**

The Environment Working Party had discussed the consultation and circulated a paper with a proposed consultation response. The responses were aligned with the Environment Working Party's objective to increase the availability of different types of recycling.

JD

It was resolved to approve the submission as proposed.

**21/150 To note any other Environmental matters**

None.

**21/151 Councillors' Reports – for information only**

None.

**21/152 Public Open Session – (Maximum 10 minutes)**

Comments:

1. Regarding the complaint about the banks at St Martins Football field: Council needed to be aware it is unlawful to intentionally disturb/destroy an active birds nest in the breeding season by hedge cutting or any other means.

The meeting closed at 20:30

Date of next meeting: Monday 19 April 2021 at 7pm – to be held remotely

Signed:...Kevin Smith..... Date:...4 May 2021.....