

Chairman: Kevin Smith

Action

**21/393 Present**

Cllr Brian Aird (BA), Cllr Sheila Churchward (SC), 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)

Teignbridge District Councillors: Charles Nuttall (CN), Andy Swain (AS)

Public: 1

**21/394 Apologies accepted from**

Cllr Renata Szewczyk (RS) – family commitment

**21/395 Declaration of interest on Agenda Items**

None declared.

**21/396 Dispensation requests regarding Code of Conduct**

None received.

**21/397 Public open session (maximum 10 minutes)**

No comments.

**21/398 To confirm the Draft Minutes of the EPC Meeting held on 20 September 2021 are an accurate record**

Resolved.

**21/399 County Councillors Report on items other than those on the agenda**

Devon County Councillor Alan Connett was not present.

**21/400 District Councillors Reports on items other than those on the agenda**

Teignbridge District Councillor Charles Nuttall reported:

1. Waste and recycling collections continue to be disrupted.

**21/401 Chairman's Report**

No matters to report.

**21/402 Clerk's Report**

**Action**

1. The old wall bordering Crockwells Road and Gissons needed urgent repair. Ownership of the wall had not yet been determined. However, some safety fencing had recently been erected. Council would be kept updated of developments.
2. There had been two incidents where youths had accessed the Victory Hall and the Mother and Toddler shed and interfered with equipment. These had been reported to the Police. As a precaution, the bush had been cut back to open-up the view behind the toilet where access had been gained.
3. A resident had noted that the width of the new shared path alongside the A379 appeared narrow. This had been checked with the contractors who advised that the path had been constructed in accordance with guidance and as wide as possible.
4. Several householders had contacted the Parish Council concerned about rising water levels of Berry Brook. The Parish Council had cleared the section that it was responsible for, and the other landowners were advised about the problem.
5. A meeting had taken place with a resident regarding cutting bushes and a tree down on Parish Council land. It was an error by their contractor and an apology had been received. The tree would regrow.
6. An email had been received from Exminster Long Table relating to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022. The future of the Community Interest Company and event was in question as no-one had come forward to offer to take it on. It was agreed that this would be on the agenda of a future meeting for discussion. JD
7. A request had been made to join with other local Parishes to support a combined defibrillator training session. This would be considered when further information was available. JD

**21/403 To discuss arrangements for Remembrance Sunday on the 14 November**

Guidance relating to Covid had been sought from Devon Communities Together. There was currently no clear advice, but it was noted that guidance had been released very late last year.

The Parish Council was constrained by the restrictions set by the Victory Hall Trust regarding the number of people that the hall could accommodate.

Several suggestions were made including holding the civil service and church service separately, observing the two minutes silence in both locations.

The Clerk and Chairman would liaise with Rev Williams and the details would be finalised at the next Parish Council meeting. JD/KS

For the civil service:

Cllr Nuttall would do the reading.

**Action**

Cllr Smith would read the roll of honour.

Cllr Madge would place the wreath.

**HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

**21/404 To propose that a request is submitted to Devon County Council to normalise a 20mph limit/zone throughout all residential roads and areas in the village of Exminster with the utmost haste**

Cllr Nuttall had circulated a paper explaining the advantages of passing the resolution.

A video was shown illustrating the benefits of a lowered speed limit including safety, environmental and health and well-being.

It was resolved to pass the resolution as above.

Cllr Nuttall explained that a Devon wide campaign was being launched that the Parish Council could support.

It was noted that, if a 20mph speed limit was enforced, it would make cycling through the village safer and there would be no need for a dedicated cycle path.

It was agreed to write to Devon County Council stating that the Parish Council had passed the resolution including a copy of the paper written by Cllr Nuttall for justification.

JD

**21/405 To propose that a public safety audit in relation to public highways, cycleways and footways is undertaken within Exminster Parish**

The audit would provide a baseline of the village public highways that would inform the Council of safety issues both now and in the future, should development take place. Devon County Council would be asked to carry out the audit. Cllr Connett had offered to assist with the request.

There was concern that the Parish Council may be involved in too many similar campaigns simultaneously, considering the resolution passed in 21/404.

At the conclusion of discussion it was agreed not to pursue the request immediately, and to re-agenda it in October 2022.

JD

Cllr Nuttall left the meeting.

**FINANCE MATTERS**

**21/406 Accounts for Approval**

It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £1083.40.

HH

**PLANNING MATTERS**

**21/408 Planning Applications**

**Action**

**/1 21/01975/HOU, 108 Berrybrook Meadow - Retention of porch**

The application was retrospective. The structure was not simply a porch but part of a larger scheme to change the use of the garage. The porch was not in keeping with adjacent properties.

It was resolved to object to the application and make the following comments:

- The retrospective application is disingenuous and does not reflect the amount of change.
- The development does not meet Neighbourhood Development Plan policy EXM3 (quality of design) as it does not enhance local character and the materials are not in keeping with the existing and neighbouring properties.
- This development does not meet Teignbridge Local Plan, S2 - Quality Development, a): integrating with and, where possible, enhancing the character of the adjoining buildings.
- If the applicant had acted with permission, any development within the Parish should include bat, bee, and bird habitats to meet the Parish Council's biodiversity expectations,

HH

**/2 21/01134/FUL, Middle Cottage, Days-Pottles Lane - Two storey rear extension**

The same application was granted permission in May 2018 that had now expired. The extension would replace the existing single storey kitchen extension with a two-story extension incorporating a bedroom.

It was resolved to support the application with the following comments:

- This development, as with others in the Parish, should include bat, bee, and bird habitats to meet the Parish Council's biodiversity expectations.
- The dwelling is located on a restricted lane close to the congested junction with Dawlish Road. Contractors should be encouraged to park sensibly, with respect to neighbours and users of Days Pottles Lane.

HH

**21/409 Planning Decisions**

Noted as listed below.

**/1 21/01646/LBC, Little Thatch, Days-Pottles Lane - Replace existing boiler and boiler flue extension - GRANTED**

**21/01902/HOU, 40 Jupes Close - Single Storey Rear Extension - GRANTED**

**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

**21/410 To note any planning matters regarding the Matford development**

**Action**

1. Cavanna Homes had advised that they would be submitting a planning application for the next phase of development.
2. Councillors would be receiving a tour of the Ridge Top Park on Thursday 7 October.

**21/411 To note the 'Welcome Leaflet' to be distributed to new Residents at the Matford development**

It was suggested that the Facebook reference should be to the Parish Council page only.

The services provided by Devon County Council and Teignbridge District Council should be signposted. There was a webpage in construction that would fulfil this.

After amendment, 50 copies of the leaflet would be taken to the developers by Cllr Churchward.

HH/JD

**21/412 To consider a timeline to revise the Exminster Neighbour Development Plan**

Deferred pending further information.

JD

**ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**21/413 To update Council on plans for its Environment Fair to be held on the 9 October**

Cllr Churchward outlined the work involved in organising the Fair and the arrangements being made to allow Co-cars to park in front of the Victory Hall.

**21/414 To request a data search of biodiversity records in relation to Exminster at a cost of £249 plus VAT**

The search would identify opportunities and priorities for improving biodiversity in the Parish.

Councillors requested more information about the benefit of the survey, and it was agreed that Jeremy Pyne should be invited to a future meeting to explain further.

SC/JD

**21/415 To review current banking and investment providers to ensure that they meet with the Parish Council's aim to reduce its carbon footprint**

Following a meeting with the RFO, Cllr Churchward made two proposals.

1. For the Parish Council to consider its investment providers during the budgeting process to ensure that they were ethical and aided the Parish Council in reducing its carbon footprint.

Resolved.

HH

Following the review, the findings would be minuted at a Parish Council meeting.

**Action**

2. To add to s.1.3 of the Financial Regulations - "to ensure that financial bodies holding the public monies managed by the Parish Council refuse to invest in environmentally harmful or otherwise unethical industry, and furthermore those bodies are actively improving the social and environmental impacts of its investments and loans."

Discussion took place about the practicality of obtaining information about ethical investing and the limited options of providers for investment of public funds.

It was resolved to make the addition to Financial Regulations when reviewed in August 2022. Prior to that, the RFO would consider how the wording could be amended appropriately.

HH

Resolved.

**21/416 Councillors' Reports – for information only**

1. Cllr Churchward commented that the area outside Spurfield House (near the bus-stop) was untidy due to overgrown vegetation and brambles. The Clerk would contact the owner.

JD

**21/417 Public Open Session – (Maximum 10 minutes)**

No comments

**The meeting closed at 21:16**

**Date of next meeting: Monday 18 October 2021 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall**

Signed: Kevin Smith

Date: 18 October 2021