

Chairman: Kevin Smith

Action

23/48 Present

Cllr Brian Aird (BA), Cllr Sheila Churchward (SC), Cllr Sarah Ladyman (SL), Cllr Derek Madge (DM), Cllr Charles Nuttall (CN) – until item 23/63, Cllr Lisa May (LM), Cllr Kevin Smith (KS)

Clerk: Mrs Jill Daw (JD)

Deputy Clerk: Mrs Helen Hibbins (HH)

Devon County Councillor: Alan Connett (AC)

Teignbridge District Councillor: Charles Nuttall (CN)

Public: 2

23/49 Apologies accepted from

Cllr Lorne Smyth (LS) – illness

Teignbridge District Councillor Alison Foden

23/50 Declaration of interest on Agenda Items

None declared.

23/51 Dispensation requests regarding Code of Conduct

None received.

23/52 Public open session

No comments.

23/53 To confirm the Draft Minutes of the EPC Meeting held on 16 January 2023 are an accurate record

Resolved.

23/54 County Councillors Report on items other than those on the agenda

Devon County Councillor Alan Connett reported:

1. Cycle path near the Texaco garage on Sannerville Way

Safety concerns had been raised on numerous occasions with reports of near misses between cyclists and cars exiting/entering the garage forecourt regularly appearing on social media. Devon County Council (DCC) had advised that the damaged green surfacing would not be

Action

renewed as it was expensive but that signs would be installed as an alternative. However, there were issues regarding land ownership and drainage that needed to be resolved first. The site had been identified as an “accident cluster” in September 2021, but it appeared that no progress had been made since. Cllr Connett was disappointed that the decision not to renew the surface had been made without consultation with the community or Local Member and would continue to pursue the matter.

2. 20mph speed limit

DCC Highways had been asked whether it would be possible to extend the 20mph speed limit in the village if the Parish Council was able to fund it. Cllr Smith asked for clarification on the installation costs.

AC/CN

3. Teignbridge Community Lottery

Cllr Connett recommended the lottery as an effective way of supporting local community groups.

23/55 District Councillors Reports on items other than those on the agenda

1. Teignbridge District Councillor Charles Nuttall raised awareness of the weekly Residents Update newsletter. It was confirmed that the Clerk circulated this to all Councillors.
2. The Clerk reported that Cllr Foden continued to campaign for improved bus services including the 2B and 2 routes.

23/56 Chairman's Report

1. The Wassail organised by the Green Spaces Group had been enjoyable and well received. The group were to be thanked for their efforts and the Clerk would thank the police for their attendance.

JD

23/57 Clerk's Report

1. Notice had been received from the Public Rights of Way Officer that footpath 13A would be partly diverted around the new buildings off Chudleigh Road at Matford.
2. Mel Stride had emailed the Parish Council in response to the objection submitted regarding the Electricity Substation planning application (DCC/4329/2022) that he had been copied into: *As a Member of Parliament, I have no authority over the planning process. However, I would be happy to raise any further procedural concerns on your behalf should they arise.*
3. Further to discussions about a Community Builder role at the Parish Council meeting on 16 January, information had been gathered from several sources including other local councils, organisations and Teignbridge District Council (TDC). A report from Devon Communities Together was awaited with recommendations on how this could be moved forward and this, together with the other information received would be

- | | Action |
|---|---------------|
| sent to Cllrs Churchward, Aird and May for consideration. Council would be updated on the findings in due course. | JD |
| 4. The 3rd Quarter Citizens Advice Report had been circulated. The charity had asked whether it could apply for a Community Small Grant. It was agreed that the Clerk would advise that any application received would be considered in the usual way. | JD |
| 5. Exminster Methodists' Outlook newsletter for February 2023 had been circulated. | |
| 6. The Clerk had followed up on whose responsibility the concrete path was, surrounding the Deepway Centre, following a query from the Deepway Centre Trust (DCT). From the Deeds, Tozers solicitors were of the opinion that the path was the responsibility of the DCT as it formed part of the property. The DCT had been informed. | |
| 7. Emily Simpson-Horne, Headteacher of the Matford Brook Academy would be the speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting. | |
| 8. Sarah Hicks, new CEO of Westbank Healthy Living, would attend the Parish Council meeting on 3 April to introduce herself. | |
| 9. Costs for a leaflet drop advertising for new Councillors were £110 for printing and £400 for distribution of 2500 leaflets. | |
| 10. A resident had complained about household rubbish being deposited in litter bins and suggested that there should be signage in place to deter this. TDC had confirmed that occasionally household rubbish was deposited in the bins, but that the crews monitored the situation and would inform the Enforcement Officer if the bins were filling up too fast. It was not currently recognised as a major issue and therefore signage was not required. | |
| 11. "The Snack Box" had requested to trade from Deepway Car Park on weekday mornings. This would be on the next agenda for discussion. | JD |
| 12. Delegated Authority in the sum of £500 was used to maintain the dykes in Crockwells Meadow (Fin Regs 4.7.2 refer). | |
| 13. DALC was requesting nominations for the draw for tickets to attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace. Nominees could only be past Chairman. It was suggested that Caroline Aird, a past Chair, was nominated. | JD |
| 14. Following a comment by a member of the public regarding a potential trip hazard, Western Power would attend to the pole opposite Exminster Garage to increase visibility of the stay wire. | |

PROPERTY & AMENITIES MATTERS

23/58 To authorise up to £500, to clear a third of the dykes in Crockwells Meadow

Action

The work was carried out under delegated authority due to timescales.

FINANCE MATTERS

23/59 Accounts for Approval

It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £3980.44.

HH

PLANNING MATTERS

23/60 Planning Applications

1. 22/02402/HOU, 58 Brownlees - Single storey extension and raised decking to rear

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

- To meet Exminster Parish Council's Environment Policy regarding any development within the Parish, it is requested that biodiversity enhancement measures are introduced on the property, ie. bat, bee, bird, hedgehog and insect habitats.
- The contractor should be aware of and understanding of residents accessing their homes in the cul-de-sac during development.

HH

23/61 Planning Decisions

1. 22/02093/TPO, 26 Pridhams Way - T1 and T2, Lime:

- a. Crown lift - give 6 metres clearance above ground level.
- b. Remove all major dead wood.

GRANT OF CONSENT

OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

23/62 To note any matters regarding the Matford development

1. Planning

The response to the Electricity Substation application had been submitted to DCC. The Parish Council had written to TDC to ask when it would be submitting its response and inviting it to consider points raised by Exminster Parish Council when doing so. It appeared that the application did not meet several Local Plan policies.

2. Community Centre

A meeting with the architect for the Community Centre building would take place on Wednesday 8 February.

A meeting to discuss the draft Community Use Agreement for facilities at Matford Brook Academy would take place on Friday 10 February.

Action

3. **To update Council on a meeting held with Fergus Pate, Economy and Delivery Manager at Teignbridge District Council, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk on the 18 January regarding questions surrounding the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).**

Notes from the meeting had been circulated.

The following points were noted in discussion:

- TDC recognised that Exminster was focussed on spending CIL positively and in support of the area's development growth.
- Although TDC were happy to provide informal advice on the legality of projects, ultimately, the Parish Council should seek its own legal advice (to be shared with TDC).

Concern was expressed that this could jeopardise some projects at the outset when, ultimately, they would be in the best interests of the community. However, if TDC were to seek to reclaim funds spent in this way this would generate negative publicity.

- There was a limit to the amount of funding that could be authorised by Officer so some projects would need to go to full council for resolution. However, it was unlikely that TDC would not support projects that it had previously championed.

The prospect of ringfencing CIL for maintenance and sinking funds for a community centre (should the Parish Council agree to take it on) would require a case to be put together as it would exceed the 5-year timescale for holding CIL and the sum involved would be higher than the officer authorisation threshold. Professional advice would need to be sought on this when more detailed building costs were available.

HH

23/63 To update Council on a meeting held by Doddiscombesleigh Parish Council on the 26th January to discuss planning issues at Teignbridge District Council and agree any further action

Notes taken by Cllr May were circulated alongside the draft minutes taken by the Clerk of Doddiscombesleigh Parish Council.

The meeting was well attended with 16 Parishes represented and apologies received from others.

Exminster Parish Council needed to submit a 1-page document outlining the points that particularly impacted the Parish, by 28 February, to the Clerk of Tedburn St Mary. Cllr Churchward had circulated a first draft that Councillors were asked to add to. It was suggested that 6 to 8 key points would be appropriate. Cllr Aird suggested that (lack of) planning enforcement should be a focus.

ALL

The final letter would be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

JD

Action

The Clerk of Tedburn St Mary would then produce a summary document and send all the submissions to TDC.

A further meeting of Parishes would take place on Thursday 25 May at Bishopsteignton to discuss any response received from TDC.

23/64 To update Council on the planned response to Teignbridge District Council on the Local Plan

Cllr Smith outlined the mechanism for responding to the consultation. It was not as straightforward as submitting a report as the Parish Council had done for previous consultations. The responses needed to be submitted online, on a policy-by-policy basis, considering whether each was legal, sound and whether the duty to cooperate had been fulfilled.

Cllrs Churchward and Smith would meet to consider response(s) to be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

KS/SC
JD

Cllr Churchward was concerned that there are currently insufficient staff in the TDC Planning Team, which raises concerns at how the staff will manage the transition to the new policies and enforce the proposed plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

23/65 To consider the following reports submitted by the Environment Working Party (EWP)

1. A summary of results regarding the feasibility of siting a co-bike station or hybrid car club in Dryfield car park

It was agreed that neither the station nor car club were currently feasible.

The car would need to be underwritten and there was insufficient uptake to justify the expenditure on the bike station and maintenance of e-bikes.

However, guidelines had now been drawn-up about how to pursue the project in the future, should the companies who provide such services become more accessible to city-centre fringes and rural areas.

Cllr Churchward suggested that Environment Policy ENV14 was rewritten: *To encourage the provision of electric vehicles and electric bikes in central locations within Exminster village and the Matford development.*

SC/SL

This would be discussed at the EWP meeting before being brought before Council for resolution.

JD

The Clerk would write and inform Co-cars of the decision.

2. A proposal to re-site the waste bin under the Motorway bridge to the bus stop opposite Milbury Farm Meadow

Action

It was believed that the litter bin sited at the Exeter bound bus-stop underneath the motorway bridge was under used and would be better placed at the bus shelter at the bottom of Hospital Drive.

The Clerk explained the history of the provision of the litter bins under the bridge and that TDC were already monitoring the area around the bus stop at Milbury Reach to decide whether a bin was warranted there. This monitoring would take place over a 6-month period and had commenced in November 2022. TDC would also monitor the usage of the bins underneath the bridge.

It was agreed to wait for the outcome of the monitoring before any action was taken.

3. The outcome of discussions at the recent Working Party meeting relating to the Power Allotment, Devon project

A potential location for a Power Allotment had been identified. It was a privately owned field bordered by the railway, Sannerville Way and Station Road. The project had been advised of the location but unfortunately, it was incorrectly stated that it was endorsed by the EWP and Parish Council.

JD

It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange for the endorsement of the Parish Council and EWP to be rescinded so that the proposal was made on a personal basis.

23/66 To discuss how the Council could support any community celebrations to mark the Coronation of King Charles III

The Clerk had researched how other Town and Parish Councils were supporting the event.

On the whole, Councils were encouraging community groups to organise events and providing sponsorship where appropriate.

The following suggestions were made during discussion:

- Advise residents via Facebook about how to arrange a road closure for street parties (and highlight other useful resources).
- Could the Green Spaces Group be involved with the volunteering in the community aspect?
- Replant the Victory Hall Flower Beds.
- Plant a tree.
- Contact the WI, Connect, Churches and Uniform Groups to see if they had events planned.

HH

JD

It was agreed to identify a site to plant a tree to commemorate the day

23/67 Councillors' Reports – for information only

1. Cllr Ladyman thanked attendees of the Wassail.

Action

2. Cllr Madge reported that his article in Scene about the memorial for Exminster Hospital patients had been well received. The dedication ceremony was still to be arranged.

23/68 Public Open Session – (Maximum 10 minutes)

No comments.

The meeting closed at: 21:25

Date of next meeting:

Monday 20 February 2023 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall Annexe

Signed:....Kevin Smith..... Date:...20 February 2023.....