

Chairman: Kevin Smith

**Action**

**23/69 Present**

Cllr Brian Aird (BA), Cllr Sheila Churchward (SC), Cllr Derek Madge (DM), Cllr Lisa May (LM), 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 Councillor: Charles Nuttall (CN)

Public: 1

**23/70 Apologies accepted from**

Cllr Sarah Ladyman (SL) – personal reasons

**23/71 Declaration of interest on Agenda Items**

None declared.

**23/72 Dispensation requests regarding Code of Conduct**

None received.

**23/73 Public open session**

No comments.

**23/74 To confirm the Draft Minutes of the EPC Meeting held on 6 February 2023 are an accurate record**

Resolved.

**23/75 Clerk's Report**

1. March Parish Council meetings would continue to be held in the Victory Hall Annexe.
2. A resident had informed the Parish Council that a petition to limit the weight of HGVs transiting Exminster Village had been sent to the Right Honourable Mark Harper MP, Secretary of State for Transport.
3. The Parish Council's nomination to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party had been unsuccessful in the draw.

**Action**

4. Having contacted several village organisations, it did not appear that any specific events were planned for the Coronation. A proposal from the Green Spaces Group was being put together.
5. A leaflet to encourage residents to stand for election to the Parish Council would be distributed to all households.
6. The Electoral Commission would hold a pre-election webinar on Tuesday 7 March (12- 1pm) for candidates considering standing for election in May (and their agents).

**23/76 To note receipt of the monthly Police report**

In January 2023 there were 11 offences recorded.

Assaults 2

Burglary (Business) 1

Driving offence 1

Sexual offences (non-assault) 2

Theft 5

There were 22 other non-offence incidents in January responded to by the Police. This included road traffic incidents, concerns for welfare, and anti-social behaviour.

PC Hawkins attended Exminster Parish Council's meeting in January and also visited Exminster Primary school.

In addition to this, two visits to Exminster had been made with speed detection equipment, monitoring speed at various locations within the village.

The Clerk would ask for further information on the crime statistics, as Councillors were concerned about them, and find out the results of the speed monitoring exercises.

JD

**PROPERTY & AMENITIES MATTERS**

**23/77 To update Council on matters relating to the following Trusts**

Cllr Smith reported as a Parish Council representative on both Trusts.

**1. Victory Hall Trust**

- There was a vacancy for a Parish Council representative on the Trust.
- The Trust had received a grant to support it during Covid, but bookings are still very slow returning to pre-pandemic levels.
- Hire rates had had to be increased due to rising fuel costs etc.

**Action**

- The AGM was held in September due to a delay in ratifying the annual accounts. No new Trustees came forward and the existing trustees were re-appointed. Mrs Caroline Aird was voted in as the Chair.
- The vacancy for an administrator had now been filled.
- Trustees were considering improvements that could be made to the hall to invest for the future.
- A grant was received from Cavanna Homes for a new oven, and it was likely that further work would take place to the kitchen to make it more useful for hirers.
- Work to upgrade the lighting system for the stage was considered necessary.
- The boiler problems are re-occurring and should it need to be replaced possible consideration could be given to re-housing it outside the kitchen.
- Westbank would be encouraged to continue to run the community coffee shop in the Annexe.

**2. Deepway Centre Trust**

- Mrs Caroline Aird was the Chair of the Trust.
- Meetings continued to take place on a monthly basis.
- The maintenance problems encountered at Deepway were very similar to those of the Victory Hall.
- Work needed to take place to the garden as it was extremely muddy. Alternative designs were being explored.

**23/78 To consider a request from the 'Snack Box' to use the Deepway Centre car park for trading on weekday mornings**

The trading times requested were 8am to 2pm.

It was noted that the vans that currently traded at Deepway visited only once a week in the evenings whereas this would be daily and during the busiest time in the car park.

There was an overarching concern about safety:

Exminster School encouraged parents to park at Deepway and walk their children to school. Therefore, there was a large amount of foot traffic both in the car park and crossing over Deepway Lane that was narrow and without a pavement in places. Any increase in vehicle movements up and down the lane would increase the risk of accidents. Parents dropping children off at pre-school also used the car park.

**Action**

Potential customers of the food van would be using the lane in the morning whilst it was at its busiest with other cars and pedestrians.

JD

It was resolved to decline the request to trade, on the basis applied for, for the aforementioned reasons.

**23/79 To approve a request from the Green Space Group to site various nesting boxes in the village**

The nest boxes would be made at New Leaf, funded by the donation from the late Peter Chandler's family, and would be sited at various locations in the village. Green Spaces Group members would install and monitor the boxes, with assistance from Riviera Tree Services to fix the larger Tawny Owl Box.

It was resolved to approve the installations on Parish Council owned land.

**FINANCE MATTERS**

**23/80 RFO's report**

**1. Direct Debit payments in January**

NatWest Bankline	£6.40
Utility Warehouse	£311.04
EE	£31.46
NEST	£172.62

**2. S137 limit 2023/24**

The limit for expenditure under section 137 in 2023/24 would be £9.93 per elector.

**23/81 To consider appointing new bank signatories**

The Chairman explained that the purpose of appointing a further signatory was to help with the transition to a new Council in May and continuity of business.

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Smyth as a bank signatory.

A new Internal Controller would need to be appointed to replace Cllr Smyth, as Internal Controllers could not be bank signatories.

HH

**23/82 Payments for approval**

It was resolved to approve payments in the sum of £6512.72

HH

**23/83 Draft accounts for January 2023**

**1. Budget Comparison Report**

Noted.

**Action**

**2. Balance Sheet**

Noted.

**PLANNING MATTERS**

**23/84 Planning Applications – Cllr Churchward**

**1. 23/00114/OUT | Outline - agricultural workers dwelling (all matters reserved for future consideration) | Land Known As Candy's Meadow Exminster Devon EX6 8AY**

It was resolved to support the application subject to the following conditions:

- The dwelling should remain an affordable home for an agricultural worker in perpetuity, and not be developed as a privately marketable dwelling.
- The development should follow the draft Local Plan 2020-2040 Design principles: 1 Climate Resilience, 2 Context and 3 Identity. The new home will then be fit for purpose and adaptable over its lifetime.
- There should be no further development, enlargement or other alteration, addition of oil storage tanks, large sheds, greenhouses, etc unless approved by the Local Planning Authority.
- The countryside around the dwelling should remain attractive and retain or enhance biodiversity, in line with Exminster Parish Council's Environmental Policy and TDC Policies EN8 and EN9.

**2. 23/00218/HOU | Remodelling and extension to include raising of ridge height and revised roof form, and addition of two storey gable features to front and rear (revised scheme) | Redlands Deepway Gardens Exminster Devon EX6 8BE**

It was resolved to object to the application with the following comments.

- The development did not perform well against the criteria in EXM3 – Quality of Design; TDC Policies: S1 – Sustainable Development; S2 – Quality Development; S11 – Pollution; with particular regard to the light pollution from the extremely large first floor windows; WE8 - Domestic Extensions, Ancillary Domestic Curtilage Buildings and Boundary Treatments;
- No mitigation had been suggested for the development to have environment enhancement for the site. Therefore, to meet Exminster Parish Council's Environment Policy, it is requested that biodiversity enhancement measures are introduced on the property, ie: bat, bee, bird and other wildlife habitats (hedgehogs/insects).

HH

**Action**

Cllrs Aird, Nuttall and May left the meeting at 20:35.

**23/85 Planning Decisions**

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

Noted.

**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

**23/86 To approve a letter to be submitted to Teignbridge District Council planning office outlining historical planning issues**

Cllr Churchward had circulated a draft response.

The following amendments were proposed at the meeting:

- An expansion on the point regarding repeated retrospective planning permission for Kenbury Woods and Trood Lane Landfill sites, to include that TDC should address the situation.
- Regarding the electricity substation – express *disappointment* rather than *anger*.
- Regarding the lack of invitation to Councillors to undertake a site visit to Matford – amend to: identify *development issues of compliance with the approved plans*.

It was resolved to approve the letter as circulated including amendments made at the meeting and further points raised by Cllr Nuttall. Authority was delegated to the Clerk and Cllr Churchward to finalise and send the response.

HH

**23/87 To update on the response to the Teignbridge District Council Local Plan 2020-2040 Proposed Submission (Regulation 19) Consultation**

Cllrs Smith and Churchward would bring the proposed response to the Parish Council meeting on 6 March.

JD

It was envisaged that comments would be made on the soundness of the plan, predominantly relating to the settlement limit and the impact of the proposed Peamore development.

The Green Spaces Group and Environment Working Party had considered environmental aspects of the draft plan.

**23/88 To note any planning matters regarding the Matford development**

Deferred.

1. **Planning**
2. **Community Centre**

**Action**

**23/89 To authorise up to £1000 to commission Consult QRD to advise on financials for the Community Centre to support a future request regarding Community Infrastructure Levy to be made to Teignbridge District Council**

Deferred.

**23/90 Councillors' Reports – for information only**

1. Cllr Churchward reported that the DCC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plan consultation was live. James Diamond from the Environment Working Party was reviewing it and would present findings at the Parish Council meeting on 20 March. JD
2. Cllr Churchward reported that the Chair of the Environment Working Party, David Nappin, had organised an Energy Saving Workshop in the Methodist Hall on Thursday 23 March at 7pm.

**23/91 Public Open Session**

Comments:

1. Could the public be advised of the Police Crime Report so that they could take preventative action if needed? JD

The meeting closed at 20:53

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 6 March 2023 at 19:30 in the Victory Hall Annexe

Signed:...Kevin Smith..... Date:.....6 March 2023.....