

Exford Parish Council
Draft Minutes of Parish Council meeting

Held on: 26th July 2016 at Exford Memorial Hall 7.30pm

Attendance: Kathryn Tucker, Joan Atkins, Derek Lloyd, Brian Martin,
Judy Skinner, Cllr Frances Nicholson, Cllr. Steven Pugsley. Clerk: Jane Laycock.

Members of Public: Oliver Edwards

Apologies for Absence: Mike Ellicott, Jeremy Hickman.

Declarations of Interest

None

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24th May 2016

Minutes were signed off as a true record (proposed DL, seconded JS).

Matters Arising

Actions from minutes of meeting held on 24th May:

1. Leat Wall. FN reported that County Highways do not regard this as dangerous and it is therefore a low priority. OE stated that he has photographic evidence of the vehicle which originally damaged the wall. OE will email FN and the PC with this. FN agreed to take this forward. **Action 1.** OE and FN to progress.
2. Horse Warning Sign. Clerk reported that the previous sign was irreparable. It was agreed that new signs are required for Church Hill and the road to Dulverton beyond Chibbet Post. **Action 2.** Clerk to contact CH to arrange.
3. Village Tea Party. Clerk reported that the total contribution from the PC was £360.76. It was agreed that the whole event was a great success and that Carole Boyles and her team of volunteers should be congratulated. **Action 3.** Clerk to write letter.
4. Drains. Drain by the Hunt Stables repaired. Drains along Park Street will be repaired shortly.
5. Court Farm Footpath. Agreement confirmed to ENPA.
6. Exford Toilets Signage. ME dealing with ENPA.
7. Village Green Entrance. JS reported that due to illness Dave Skinner has been unable to progress this. OE suggested that he could dig out the muddy area and cover with stones. This offer was accepted unanimously. **Action 4.** OE to liaise with ME and John Atkins.
8. PC Insurance. Clerk confirmed that the current insurers have reduced the premium by £220.

Highways

Raised path

Concerns have been raised regarding the overgrown state of the raised path towards Edgcott and from Joneys Steep to Luckesses. Although apparently trimmed by CH this is clearly insufficient and causing a potential danger to pedestrians. ME has already contacted CH and FN agreed to follow up.

Action 5. ME to continue with CH contact. FN to follow up if no action taken.

Overhanging branches

OE stated that the overhanging branches along the road to Westermill are causing problems to delivery drivers who are refusing to take their vehicles along there. This is the responsibility of individual landowners. FN stated that CH will contact landowners who are not taking action.

Action 6. OE to provide addresses to KT in order that the PC can make initial contact.

Drains

Blocked drain by youth hostel. The drain at the top of Muddicombe Lane just before White Cross has dropped.

Action 7. Clerk to contact CH.

KT mentioned the verges towards Winsford need trimming. FN confirmed that CH will complete all verge trims by mid-August.

Complaints have been received about worn road markings in the centre of the village. JH has contacted CH and will follow up.

Exford Toilets

Clerk reported on behalf of ME that the toilet build is now virtually complete and we are just awaiting completion of the solar panel installation and outside light. The car park entrance will be made good.

A quote has been obtained from the company who already clean the ENPA toilets and also work for other local authorities. Once weekly clean £10 to include cleaning materials. Proposed BM, seconded JA, agreed unanimously. Some concerns were raised regarding the need for more frequent cleans in the peak summer months and it was agreed to monitor the situation.

Action 8. Clerk to confirm with contractors.

Village Green/Play Area

BM reported that the annual safety check by Playdale on the play equipment will take place within the next week. Further fund raising is still needed to purchase loose granulated rubber fill to replace the woodchip in the play area. This will provide a longer term, cost effective solution. To date £1750 has been raised towards the £2400 required. Any contributions welcomed.

KT suggested BM puts article in Across Exmoor.

Action 9. BM to do article.

QE II Field

BM reported that a replacement exterior door has been installed on the small pavilion. Thanks to Will Lock. Much of the exterior lighting has been upgraded and extended. Thanks to Paul and Vince Jones. The cost has been shared between the Cricket and Youth Clubs.

As previously reported, the PC submitted an application to WSDC seeking to continue the 100% rate relief status of the grounds. The Clerk has received a letter advising that WSDC have granted full 80% mandatory charity rate relief plus 80% discretionary charity top up relief (a total of 96% relief). This leaves us with a bill of £39.76 out of a possible £994. A good result in the current economic climate.

There is a new regular booking of the main pavilion by Ben and Karen Herman for a parents and children morning which started on July 14th and will hopefully be every 2 weeks.

Finance

The bank reconciliation for 26th July was produced showing current account funds available of £20943.06 (including a net balance of £13502.54 re Exford Toilets building fund) with £7586.77 held in reserve. List of cheques issued for payment 25/05/16-26/07/16 produced.

Planning

KT reported on the following planning applications and decisions:

Planning meeting 24th May 2016

6/13/16/103 Field at Chibbet Post, Exford. Proposed installation of a mobile telecommunications pole and ancillary equipment (12m high timber pole above ground, supporting radio equipment and cabinet). All councillors present voted in favour of the application and accepted that this was in the early provisional stages. ENP approved 20/06/16.

6/13/16/104 Hill Farm, Bonny Lane, Exford. Proposed installation of a mobile telecommunications pole and ancillary equipment (12m high timber pole above ground, supporting radio equipment and cabinet). All councillors present voted in favour of the application and accepted that this was in the early provisional stages. ENP approved 20/06/16.

Planning meeting 10th June 2016

6/13/16/105 Newland House, Newland Lane, Exford. Proposed retention of 2 agricultural buildings (6.1mx4.8m) and 1 equestrian building (4mx3m). Councillors reluctantly approved this application however they were concerned that it has only now come to the attention of the PC. This is strictly a retrospective application and it is not the first time that the PC has had to deal with a similar issue at this property. ENP approved 08/07/16.

Planning meeting 15th July 2016

6/13/16/106 Land at Mill Lane House, Ornott Farm, Exford. Proposed installation of a mobile telecommunications pole and ancillary equipment (12m high timber pole above ground, supporting radio equipment and cabinet). Councillors are not against Airband in principle but owing to the proximity of the property in this application, could the pole and equipment be re-sited on the other side of the hedge and further south west down the slope.

Clerk's Report

List of email correspondence received to date provided.

The date of the planned PC meeting for November 2016 has had to be amended due to a double booking at the village hall. This will now take place on Tuesday 29th November.

Cutcombe PC have installed CCTV cameras at Wheddon Cross as a crime prevention measure.

These have already been used with some success and as this is also a main route from several adjoining parishes, including Exford, they have asked if we would make a nominal £25 contribution towards the first year's operation of the scheme. Proposed by BM, seconded, DL. Agreed unanimously.

Action 10. Clerk to contact Cutcombe PC and make payment.

ME and BM have had a meeting with Matt Harley, Nigel Stone and David Whyborn of ENPA regarding the feasibility of building 4 small workshops on the Auction Field. This project is still at an early stage and more will be reported at the next PC meeting.

Public Forum

The new beech hedge on the village green needs strimming around the base of the new trees.

Action 11. ME to contact Countrywide Maintenance to arrange.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

ACTION POINT SUMMARY

- 1. Leat Wall.** OE and FN to progress.
- 2. Horse Warning Sign.** Clerk to contact CH to arrange.
- 3. Village Tea Party.** Clerk to write letter.
- 4. Village Green Entrance.** OE to liaise with ME and John Atkins to arrange.
- 5. Raised Path.** ME to follow up with CH.
- 6. Overhanging Branches.** OE to provide addresses to KT.
- 7. Drains.** Clerk to contact CH.
- 8. Exford Toilets Cleaning.** Clerk to confirm with contractors.
- 9. Play Area.** BM to do article.
- 10. CCTV Cameras.** Clerk to contact.
- 11. Beech Hedge.** ME to contact Countrywide.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th September 2016 at Exford Memorial Hall. 7.30pm.

FURTHER COPIES OF THESE MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT EXMOOR STORES AND ONLINE AT www.exfordparishcouncil.org

