

Exford Parish Council
Draft Minutes of Parish Council meeting

Held on: 24th May 2016 at Exford Memorial Hall 7.30pm

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

Members of Public: None

Apologies for Absence: Jeremy Hickman, Cllr. Frances Nicholson.

Declarations of Interest

None

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 22nd March 2016

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

Matters Arising

Actions from minutes of meeting held on 22nd March:

1. Litter Pick. Easter egg arranged.
2. Historic Signposts. See agenda item 'Highways' below.
3. Leat Wall. FN to follow up with Highways. **Action 1.** Clerk to email FN.
4. Horses Warning Sign. DL progressing. **Action 2.** Clerk to email JH re whereabouts of sign recovered from village litter pick.
5. Additional Bank Account. Clerk to progress.
6. Play Area Surface/ Fundraising. See agenda item 'Village Green/Play Area' below.
7. Village Green Entrance. See agenda item 'Village Green/Play Area' below.
8. Annual Parish Meeting of Electors. Taken place.

Village Tea Party (HM The Queen's Birthday Celebrations)

Report received from the organizing committee:

Event will be held on the village green (in marquees) from 3pm to 5pm on 12th June 2016.

High Tea with bring and share food and free cups of tea. Help required to serve refreshments.

Band called 'Spinach With Norman' will be playing (cost £250).

Events include: sing along, races for children, tug of war, bouncy castle and competitions.

List of food required to donate is available at Exmoor Stores.

Further suggestions welcomed to make the day memorable. See Carole or Sally at Exmoor Stores.

Total ticket take up as at 18/5/16: 110 (capacity 200).

Action 3. Clerk to liaise with committee re finance.

Highways

Historic Signposts Project

DL produced a list of signposts ranked in order of importance and also in order of priority for painting and repairs. ME thanked DL for his work on this and asked that he continues to keep the PC informed. ME expressed his concern that progress appears to be slowing and SP stated that he will attempt to raise this with ENPA.

Drains

Issues were raised regarding a large hole by the drain near the Hunt Stables. Also the 5 drains along Park Street between Exmoor Stores and Coombe Lane which have sunk.

Action 4. Clerk to contact Highways (copy to FN).

Court Farm Footpath

Letter received from ENPA regarding moving the official line of the public footpath by 5 mtrs to incorporate use of the private bridge to cross the river at Court Farm. This is a regularisation of a long standing situation and was agreed unanimously.

Action 5. Clerk to confirm agreement to ENPA.

Exford Toilets

ME confirmed that funding is now in place and the builder has been instructed. The anticipated 6 week build is due to start imminently.

ENPA have agreed to provide new signage.

Action 6. ME to follow up with ENPA.

QEII Playing Field

BM reported that a Management Committee meeting was held on 12th April. The annual accounts were presented by the Clerk and the minutes and accounts have been published on the PC website. It was proposed that the User Group Agreements should be extended from a 12 month to a 5 year period. The Cricket and Croquet Clubs agreed but the Youth Club retained their 12 month agreement. The annual fire safety check was carried out on May 4th.

A replacement exterior door is required for the small pavilion. Will Lock is sourcing and fitting this and James Winzer will repaint it. BM thanked both for their work.

Will Lock has bought the materials and built 3 benches to replace the existing one outside the pavilions. Cost to be split between Cricket and Youth Clubs. BM again thanked Will Lock.

Outcome of the PC's application to WSDC to continue 100% rate relief for the grounds is awaited.

Village Green/Play Area

Play Area

BM reported that the problem with the roundabout was repaired by Playdale at no cost to the PC. For insurance purposes the play equipment needs to be examined on a weekly basis. BM has been doing this and is now keeping a weekly record. If he is unable to do this, another councillor will be requested to carry out the check.

As approved at the last PC meeting, BM is raising funds to purchase loose granulated rubber fill to replace the current woodchip. This will provide a longer term, cost effective solution. To date £750 has been raised towards the £2400 required. It was suggested that contact could also be made with the Somerset Community Foundation and also FN regarding further contributions.

ME proposed that the PC could make a donation of up to £1000 towards the purchase. Seconded KT. Agreed unanimously.

Village Green

ME reported that obtaining a load of aggregate and rolling this in appears to be the best solution for the problems at the entrance. JA and JS agreed to get John Atkins and Dave Skinner to inspect the area and obtain quotes.

Action 7. JA and JS to progress and report back.

The pits on the village green are going to be dug out and Mike Stanbury has agreed to bring a load of soil to fill the areas back up again.

Finance

The bank reconciliation for 24th May was produced showing current account funds available of £27493.49 (including £15000 received from ENPA re Exford Toilets building fund) with £7585.83 held in reserve. List of cheques issued for payment 23/03/16-24/05/16 produced.

Clerk reported that the PC insurance is due for renewal on 1st June. A more competitive quote has been obtained from Zurich Insurance, saving £220. It was agreed that unless the current insurers can meet this quote that the PC change insurer.

Action 8. Clerk to follow up.

Planning

KT reported on the following planning applications:

Planning meeting 31st March 2016

6/13/16/102 White Horse Stables, Exford. Proposed conversion of first floor storage area above stables into affordable home for local person including relocation of attached hay store.

All councillors present support the application as a local needs affordable property and recommend approval.

Planning Decisions

6/13/16/101 Exemead Stables, Exford. Erection of agricultural building (133 sq. mtrs) (Full)

Approved 4/4/16. The existing temporary buildings to be removed entirely from the holding outlined within 3 months of first use of building hereby approved. The building to be used solely for purposes of agriculture or horticulture.

6/13/15/114 Monkham Lodge, Exford. Proposed agricultural/equestrian barn (283 sq. mtrs). As per additional and amended plans and information. (Full).

Approved 5/4/16. Although the PC objected to the proposals, the planning committee considered that the impact of the barn was acceptable.

Clerk's Report

List of email correspondence received to date provided.

Public Forum

ME reported that a letter of apology has been received from the organisers of the recent Exmoor Beauty cycle race. Following a number of complaints from villagers of reckless behaviour from the competitors, the PC had written to the race organisers (Final Corner Ltd) raising their concerns.

BM asked that any suggestions for alterations or additions to the new PC website should be passed to either himself or to the Clerk.

Meeting closed 8.45pm

ACTION POINT SUMMARY

- 1. Leat Wall.** Clerk to email FN.
- 2. Horses Warning Sign.** Clerk to email JH.
- 3. Village Tea Party.** Clerk to liaise with committee re finance.
- 4. Drains.** Clerk to contact Highways.
- 5. Court Farm Footpath.** Clerk to confirm agreement to ENPA.
- 6. Exford Toilets Signage.** ME to follow up with ENPA.
- 7. Village Green Entrance.** JA and JS to progress inspection and quotes.
- 8. PC Insurance.** Clerk to follow up.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th July 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

