

## ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### The Minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held in the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 1 September 2015 commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs John Kerslake, Roy Hartwell, Kate Holliday, Di Webley,  
Ian Walsh, Marina Auburn

**Also present:** County Councillor R Hosking  
District Councillor T Holway  
T Drew (Parish Clerk)

**Parishioners present:** 12

**Chairman:** Cllr J Kerslake

#### 33/15 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from PCSO A Potter (Police) and Cllr Bower.

#### 34/15

##### (a) Police Report for July and August 2015

The following report has been received since the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 1 September 2015:-

##### July - Ermington

26/7 common assault, offender arrested and cautioned CR/052057/15

##### July - Lee Mill Ind. Est.

14/7 theft of money, enquiries ongoing CR/048772/15

14/7 fraud, enquiries ongoing CR049398/15

18/7 making off without payment, failed to pay for petrol at garage forecourt no further action, CR050420/15

28/7 drink /driver, arrested and charged to court CR/051678/15

28/7 out raging public decency, enquires ongoing CR/052513/15

30/7 attempt theft from car, enquires ongoing CR/052965

##### August - Ermington

No reported crime

##### August - Lee Mill Ind. Est.

5x shopliftings CR/053519/056764/058148/058621/060256/15

18/8 criminal damage caused to a lorry CR/058262/15

22/8 public order offence, verbal threats, enquiries ongoing CR/059870/15

##### (b) Public Questions

Mr May from Luscombe Maye the agent for Mr R Honey, expressed concern on behalf of his client at the delay in the purchase of the field adjacent to the Reading Rooms, accepting that some of the delay was caused by matters beyond the control of either party. Mr May pointed out that there had been no response from either the Council or its solicitors for more than five months. Cllr Kerslake explained that a letter had been e-mailed to Mrs Bland that afternoon setting out the latest position. Mr May informed the Council that a final decision was required by the end of October 2015.

A parishioner pointed out, money was used to lay a path and for its maintenance around the playing field in 2008 but the path was now overgrown. Cllr Holway will talk to Ross Kennelly at SHDC to ascertain if funding is available. Cllr Hartwell asked if the path should be relaid. The parishioner explained that some areas needed repairing but ideally the path should be relaid using tarmac. **ACTION: Cllr Holway**



**(b) Public Questions (continued)**

A parishioner pointed out that ragwort was growing in hedge by "The Spires", as the plants had now gone to seed there will be an increase of plants next year. Ragwort is a specified weed under the Weeds Act and contains toxins which can have debilitating or fatal consequences, if eaten by horses and other grazing animals.

Another parishioner also pointed out, in addition to the ragwort there were two types of docks growing in the land at the bottom of "The Spires" which was also named in the Weeds Act and stressed that the housing developer should be addressing this.

A parishioner enquired if the Parish Rooms are safe to use? Cllr Kerslake replied there was an agreed plan of action arising from the recent structural surveys. Cllr Auburn pointed out that acrow props are being installed as per the recent structural engineers report.

**(c) District and County Councillor Reports**

District Cllr Holway

There is consultation taking place on the new alcohol and entertainment licensing policy, more information can be found on SHDC web site.

There are amendments to the TAP (Town And Parish) Fund process which is jointly-funded by Devon County Council and South Hams District Council and open to all Town and Parish Councils. The deadline for submission is by 1200 noon on 18 December 2015. Decisions will be made by 14 January 2016. Cllr Holway suggested that the Parish look at the benefits of using the money available to purchase a defibrillator. It was agreed that Cllr Webley and Holliday look at the feasibility of this. **ACTION: Cllrs Webley and Holliday**

The continued participation of Parish Councils at SHDC planning meetings will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting. The trial has been successful, as a result the recommendation will be for this to be permanent.

The "Ermington Tots" group has received money from the locality fund. A further £500 is still available from the locality fund for local groups.

The Government has rescinded recent legislation about Affordable Homes after a High Court ruling. Every development of 2 or more dwellings must have a percentage of Affordable Homes. Those seeking affordable housing must register on [www.devonhomechoice.com](http://www.devonhomechoice.com) and those seeking help to buy must use [www.helptobuy.org.uk](http://www.helptobuy.org.uk).

The SHDC planning department was currently under strength, some planning work had been handled by Plymouth City Council.

– a parishioner stated that 25% of the Sycamore needs to be removed and replaced with Hawthorn on the hedge at "The Spires"

- a parishioner pointed out that the entrance to "The Spires" is did not conform to the official guidelines for splay. Cllr Kerslake explained that he had written to the Highways Dept. at D.C.C. and they had confirmed in writing that it did conform. Cllr Hosking supported the view. It was agreed that Mr Jackson from D.D.C. Highways Dept. would be invited to look at the entrance during his forthcoming visit to Ermington. Cllr Kerslake explained that he had also raised the matter of the delay in the repositioning of the speed bumps and despite a response stating that the matter would be dealt without further delay the matter was still outstanding. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**



(c) **District and County Councillor Reports (continued)**

– at the junction where the Totnes road meets the Plymouth road it is nearly impossible to look back due to the growth on the hedge. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

Discussion ensued in connection with operating a one way system in this area. Cllr Auburn agreed to draft a response in connection with introducing a one way system. **ACTION: Cllr Auburn**

The road sign at the junction also requires rectifying. Cllr Hosking will report this to DCC Highways. **ACTION Cllr Hosking**

County Councillor Hosking

SHDC recently appointed Locality Officer is Tom Pollard. Tom Pollard will be introducing himself in the near future. SHDC will forward an email to Parish Clerks and Councillors to use in relation to locality work and a briefing took place at the Parish Council Event held on 29 July 2015 at Follaton House.

DCC are reducing grass cutting of verges due to lack of funding.

There will be a significant investment in the infrastructural in Devon, Railway link. The Dawlish line will be main route in and out of South West but there will be second route through the County.

Negotiations with BT over Broadband Phase 2 had not come to fruition, therefore DCC decided to invite tenders. Worcester-based Airband a specialist in high speed wireless broadband for rural areas will go forward with Phase 2 of the fast broadband programme. Phase one is continuing. For more information please go to DCC Web Site – Connecting Devon and Somerset.

No huge changes on DCC consultation on minerals.

The following questions were asked to Cllr Hosking by parishioners:-

– a parishioner recently replaced sign at East Worthele and requested a costing on how much it would cost DCC to send someone out and replace sign. Information be sent to the Clerk. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

**35/15 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT – Declaration of Interests**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct members were invited to declare any personal, disclosable pecuniary or prejudicial interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in items to be considered at a council meeting. No such declarations were made.

**36/15 TO CONFIRM MINUTES**

The minutes of Ermington Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2015 at 7.30 pm, were confirmed and signed.



### **37/15    MATTERS ARISING**

24/15 Lowering of the speed limit on the A3121 - Cllr Hosking stated it was a complex situation, 40 mph limit was a special order not a standard speed restriction along that road. Cllr Kerslake asked if the area could be reassessed to take into consideration the junctions and bridge. Cllr Hosking replied that on an "A" road there would not normally be a speed restriction. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking will liaise with DCC Highways**

24 /15 & 27/15 Trees causing visibility issues near Endsleigh Garden Centre slip road – Cllr Hosking reported he had met with DCC Highways and had checked the area, it was deemed safe and the trees do not require cutting. Cllr Walsh and Cllr Auburn stated there was a blind spot, Cllr Walsh who will to prepare a response to DCC Highways. Cllr Hosking will report back to DCC Highways. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking and Cllr Walsh**

27/15 Erosion of the Erme river bank – a letter had been sent from the Parish Council detailing work carried out now would save the DCC Highways a lot of money in the future, Nick Colton from DCC Highways had stated that he would raise the matters with his manager. Currently there is no update. Cllr Hosking has also discussed the situation with DCC and is awaiting a response. **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

27/15 "Speed Watch Area", update – Cllr Hartwell still had no update on the 20 mph limit.

27/15 "The Spires", hedge cutting – the hedge by "The Spires" has been trimmed but the road narrow sign is still obscured, which needs to be addressed. **ACTION: Cllr Holway**

29/15 Japanese Knotweed public footpath from Chapel Street – Cllr Auburn pointed out this area was treated about two years ago. At the time the landowner cannot be identified, Cllr Auburn will make further enquires at SHDC. Cllr Auburn will also enquire if P3 money can be used to deal with the situation. **ACTION: Cllr Auburn**

### **38/15    PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application number: 21/1626/15/F

Description: Extension to existing structure, alterations to storage barn and container. Creation of 2no. shelter

Application address: Field at SX639 529, Totnes Road, Ermington

No objection

Application number: 21/1707/15/F

Description: Alterations to adjoining farmhouse for residential use. Conversion of barn to residential use. Change of use of existing farm shed for equestrian use (stables)

Application address: Brook Farm, Ivybridge, PL21 9LE

No objection – conditional use

Application number: - 21/1800/15/F

Description: Erection of dairy unit comprising, dairy building (parlour, bulk tank, wash room), collecting yard and slurry pit

Application address: Higher Ludbrook Farm, Ludbrook, Ivybridge, PL21 0LL

Support

Application number: 21/1794/15/F

Description: Proposed extension to existing industrial building

Application address: Howards Accident Repair Centre, Strashleigh View, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Lee Mill, PL21 9GS

No objection



### **38/15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS (continued)**

Planning applications to be ratified:-

Application Number: 21/1338/15/F

Proposal: Retrospective application for relocation of solar panels and inverter station (amendments to consent 21/2606/12/F)

Location: Solar PV array at Luson Farm, Ermington, SX623 529

No objection: ratified

Application Number: 21\_49/1216/15/AD

Proposal: Advertisement consent for upgraded signage to Click and Collect facility

Location: Tesco, Central Avenue, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Lee Mill, Ivybridge PL21 9PE

No objection: ratified

Application number: 21/1218/15/F

Description: Proposed Customer Collection Pod and Canopy

Application address: Tesco, Central Avenue, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Lee Mill, Ivybridge PL21 9PE

No objection: ratified

### **39/15 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

e-mail 16/07/2015 from D.C.C. = Parish Paths Partnership Newsletter July 2015

e-mail 29/07/2015 from S.H.D.C. = South Hams Locality Team

e-mail 31/07/2015 from S.H.D.C. = Locality Presentation and Officer Details

e-mail 03/08/2015 from S.H.D.C. = Affordable Rural Housing – A Practical Guide for Parish Councils

e-mail 06/08/2015 from S.H.D.C. = Planning and Standards Presentations

e-mail 06/08/2015 from S.H.D.C. = Consultation on prior notification change of use applications

e-mail 11/08/2014 from D.C.C. = Bus Service Changes: South Hams

e-mail 12/08/2015 from Wakehams of Modbury = Road crossings = to carry out two separate crossings of the public highway. These crossings are for the provision of water to agricultural land. One crossing is adjacent to the radio mast on top of the hill behind Ermington, and the second will be across the by-road known as Keaton Lane. The work will be carried out under licence from Devon County Council and by a registered contractor.

It is planned to carry out the works in two parts, therefore only closing one section of road at a time. All relevant parties including SHDC will be notified. Signage will be in place to assist road users for the duration of the works.

The work is planned for the 26th October 2015, weather permitting, or at the earliest opportunity thereafter.

e-mail 20/08/2015 from S.H.D.C. = Temporary Traffic Notice - A379 Goutford Gate, Modbury, Ermington, Holbeton (TTRO1512083)

e-mail 24/08/2015 from D.C.C. = Devon Minerals Plan Consultation



#### 40/15 FINANCE

##### **PAYMENTS**

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| - Salary for Caretaker – 17 June 2015 – 16 July 2015 (inclusive)                                | £16.00  |
| - Salary for Caretaker – 17 July 2015 – 16 August 2015 (inclusive)                              | £24.00  |
| - Salary for Clerk – July 2015  | £476.67 |
| - Salary for Clerk – August 2015  | £476.67 |
| - Reimbursement to Clerk for Parish Web site domain   | £76.23  |
| - EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – July 2015   | £25.00  |
| - EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – August 2015   | £25.00  |
| - South West Water – monthly Direct Debit – July 2015   | £20.00  |
| - South West Water – monthly Direct Debit – August 2015   | £20.00  |
| - Hedges & Lawns – grass cutting on playing field next to Ermington Church = 10 July 2015       | £47.50  |
| - Hedges & Lawns – grass cutting on playing field next to Ermington Church = 9 August 2015      | £47.50  |
| - Devon Communities Together annual membership  | £50.00  |
| - Grant Thornton – annual audit of accounts 2014/2015   | £120.00 |
| - Mark Chapman – electrical condition report of Reading Rooms & installation of earth electrode | £468.00 |

##### **INCOME**

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| - VAT repayment | £571.88 |
|-----------------|---------|

*Treasurer's Account – Balance £58,068.22 as at 13 August 2015*

*Business Account - Balance £8,379.52 as at 9 June 2015*

##### **GRANT REQUESTS**

None

#### 41/15 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES AND EVENTS ATTENDED

Cllr Holliday attended a Parish Council Event held at SHDC, Follaton House on 29 July 2015 – slides from the meeting have been circulated to all Councillors.

#### 42/15 PARISH ROOMS – Update

Two building companies have been approached for quotes to deal with the recommendation from the structural survey report.

A report had been received from Chapman Electrical (SW) Ltd that detailed work required to the electrics in the Parish Rooms. Quotes are to be obtained to carry out the work.

A meeting with Highways, DCC and SHDC to discuss the proposed new village hall site will take place in the next few days. A positive outcome to the meeting would allow the Parish Council to undertake a full consultation.

Councillors thanked Cllr Webley for painting the Parish Rooms toilet.

##### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 6 October at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms, Ermington.

The Meeting closed at 9.26 pm.

Signed:   
(Ermington Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 6 October 2015