

# ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held in the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 3 March 2015 commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs John Kerlake, Di Webley, Marina Auburn, Roy Hartwell, Ian Walsh, Kate Holliday, Lesley Crocker and Grant Elliott

**Also present:** District Councillors L Ward and T Holway  
PCSO 30540 A Potter (Police)  
T Drew (Parish Clerk)

**Parishioners present:** 13

**Chairman:** Cllr J Kerlake

### 141/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from County Councillor R Hosking and Cllr John Bower.

### 142/14 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.

### 143/14 TO CONFIRM MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Ermington Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 February 2015 were confirmed and signed.

### 144/14

#### (a) Police Report

The following Ermington Parish Council police report was received from PCSO 30540 Andy Potter for February 2015:

Ermington

4th possession on a controlled drug, motorist stop-checked driving through Ermington found to be in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis, received a caution CR/008142/15

Lee Mill Ind. Est.

8th criminal damage to car, paintwork scratched CR/009308/15

10th shop lifting, enquiries ongoing CR/009594/15

11th theft of kayaking equipment, enquiries ongoing CR/008519/15

11th fraud, enquiries ongoing



**(b) Public Questions**

A parishioner raised a safety concern regarding the debris in the road near Kings Acre. In addition, Cllr Auburn reported her concern with regard to the amount of debris left on roads as a result of hedge cutting around the parish.

A parishioner asked why a sign stating public right of way near East Worthele Farm had been painted over.  
**ACTION: Clerk to clarify**

A parishioner raised concern over the inconsiderate parking of a recent hirer of the Parish Rooms. The solution suggested was that hirers would, in future, be reminded of the need to park so as not to cause any obstruction to others.  
**ACTION: Clerk**

A parishioner had a meeting with Cllr Hosking and Nick Colton (D.C.C. Highways) regarding safety concerns of trees bordering a lane which had been raised by another parishioner. As a result of that meeting, they had received a letter from Highways, but the map sent with the letter had shown the trees were on their neighbour's field. During the meeting the parishioner had also pointed out where the gutters were located and issues which had arisen due to D.C.C. Highways having concreted over drains.

Parishioners raised a number of points in connection with the plans to refurbish and extend the Reading Rooms together with purchase of the adjacent field. These are summarised as follows:

- What would happen if money raised so far was not used to buy the field?
- Issues currently under consideration in connection with the project had already been explored and parishioners had indicated their desire to develop the Reading Rooms.
- The problem of car parking was not new and had featured in consultations on the project.
- The parish magazine had, some time ago, published the Council's intention to purchase the field.
- Parishioners had not been kept up to date with developments

In response the Chairman made the following points:

- The decision the Council will make on the provision of a village hall will be huge.
- It will involve a very large amount of money.
- Once the decision is made to purchase the field there would be no going back once the transaction had been completed.
- The decision had to be right and needed to take account of:
  - i. Potential Users of the facility.
  - ii. Restrictions that might prevent its use by particular groups and thus act as a barrier to the Council's ability to rent it out (Parking in particular)
  - iii. The availability of grants to help finance the build where the proposed use of the building was a key factor.
  - iv. The cost of the build (Predicted to be high for the Reading Rooms)
  - v. The views of parishioners.
- The Council had reached a critical point on the project in that the legal and design work was more or less complete.
- The Council had decided to put the existing plans on "pause" whilst it looked at an alternative option.
- When the feasibility of the other option is confirmed both options would be reviewed in consultation with parishioners and other interested parties.
- The Council would seek to obtain the views of a large percentage of parishioners.
- The details of the options available would be put to parishioners with a full analysis of the pros, cons and costs of both options together with their impact on council tax.

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

The Chairman went on to explain that parishioners had not been brought up to date because it had not been deemed appropriate whilst preliminary discussions were taking place on other options. Following a number of meetings with the planning authority the Council now had a clearer idea on what might be possible. A letter would now be prepared for publication in the parish magazine and on the website setting out the current position in some detail.

**ACTION: Chairman**

With regard to the sums of money already raised in the Community the Chairman explained that this amounted to around £11500. In addition £20000 had been provided from the developers of "The Spires" (BDW) under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act. These sums had been "ring fenced" in the accounts with the intention of using the money to purchase the field. The Chairman emphasised however that the £20000 was listed in the Section 106 Agreement as a "Market" contribution for the continuance of Ermington Sustainable Saturdays (ESS). If the Council decided to build a village hall on a new site the £20000 would be used to help finance that build.

A parishioner asked if consideration could be given to have a First Responder Scheme in Ermington and that they have a contact at the South Western Ambulance Service. The Chairman asked the parishioner to send contact details to the Clerk.

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

District Cllr Ward reported:

At its meeting on 12 February 2015, the Council agreed a nil increase in Council Tax for 2015/16 and the Council has therefore accepted a one-off Council Tax Freeze Grant from Central Government;

- The Council has also agreed to send a letter of representation to the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) expressing concern regarding the complexity of the Government's new arrangements for Parish Council audits, which will place a much greater burden on Parish Councils and their Clerks;
- The timetable for 'Our Plan' has been extended. By extending the timetable, there will be more opportunities for people to shape the future content of 'Our Plan'. The revised timetable can be found on the Council website.

**What is Community Trigger?**

The Community Trigger is a process which allows members of the community to ask the Community Safety Partnership to review their responses to complaints of anti-social behaviour. The Trigger is designed to ensure we work together to try and resolve certain repeat incidents of anti-social behaviour. We will do this by talking about the problem, sharing information and using our resources to try and reach an agreeable outcome. The Trigger should be used if no action has been taken as a result of someone reporting anti-social behaviour. The Trigger cannot be used to report general acts of crime, including hate crime, and is not intended to replace the existing complaints procedures in place at individual organisations. It will also not prevent someone from making a separate complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman or Independent Police Complaints Commission.

**Do you qualify for a community trigger?**

To qualify for the community trigger please use the guidance below:

- You have complained to the council, police or a registered housing provider (social landlord) and have reported three separate incidents of anti-social behaviour in the last six months and no action has been taken as a result of you reporting anti-social behaviour.
- Your application for a community trigger is within six months of the report of anti-social behaviour.

To use the Community Trigger, you can complete an online form, email, write a letter or call. Telephone: 01626 361101 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Email: [communitysafety@teignbridge.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@teignbridge.gov.uk).

You may also write a letter and post it to: Community Safety Officer, Teignbridge District Council, Forde House, Newton Abbot TQ12 4XX



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

District Cllr Holway reported:

S.H.D.C. has been looking at leisure plans for the next five years, and the Leisure Centre in Ivybridge is being maintained.

The Devon Building Control Partnership is made up of six councillors, two councillors from South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council and Teignbridge District Council. The Partnership is administered by Teignbridge District Council and meetings are held bi-annually.

The main responsibilities of the Partnership are to:-

- Agree the appointment of the Head of Partnership.
- Agree budgets, monitor performance, approve the Statement of Accounts and agree any distribution of surpluses/deficits in the Trading Account.
- Monitor the development and business plans of the Partnership.
- Agree the Partnership's (Action) Improvement Plan.
- Monitor service delivery, value for money and performance of the Partnership.
- Monitor the service delivery and cost-effectiveness of the Host Council.

S.H.D.C. has arranged a candidate evening for those who may wish to stand to be a councillor in the forthcoming local election. Cllr Holway pointed out, it was not necessary to be affiliated to a particular party to stand as a councillor.

**145/14 MATTERS ARISING**

131/14 = PCSO 30540 Andy Potter has visited the landowner and viewed location with him, where 4x4's had damaged fences along the Langbrook and Whipples Lane. In addition he has communicated with the Public Rights of Way Warden who was aware of the problem and will attempt to resolve it.

131/14 (a) = Reinstatement of signage on green lane between Langbrook and Whipples Lane. Cllr Ward pointed out the lane cannot be obstructed.

121/14 (b) = A meeting is being arranged for March 2015, with the landowner, South West Water, Cllr Holway and a concerned parishioner - **Cllr Holway & Clerk**

134/14 = In response to a parishioner query regarding the cost of monthly direct debit to South West Water for the Parish Rooms, the feasibility of a water meter has been explored and it was **agreed** to pay for a water meter to be installed. Clerk to liaise with South West Water - **Clerk**

135/14 = Road Warden volunteer(s) – Cllr Auburn had a few volunteers for the Road Warden Scheme who will fix small potholes, trim hedges, carry out weeding and clean road signs.

121/14 (c) = Cllr Webley reported the parishioners who had volunteered to be Lengthsmen have recently completed their Chapter Training 8 course organised by D.C.C. It was agreed to pay for their mileage to and from the training venue - **Cllr Webley & Clerk**

124/14 "Speed Watch Area" – Cllr Hartwell is still asking for volunteers to do the training and will produce a poster to promote the "Speed Watch Area" incentive which will be included in the next edition of the Parish Magazine and on the Ermington Parish website – **Cllr Hartwell**



**145/14    MATTERS ARISING (continued)**

124/14 = Cllr Holway is still pursuing why saplings had been placed and the grass removed from the hedge by "The Spires". The owners of the hedge will have to ensure it is maintained and trimmed and were aware that the developers will be vacating the site. Therefore any hedge issues need to be assessed properly -  
**Cllr Holway**

**Parish Rooms - Forward Plan** – The Chairman reported that he was in contact with the Environment Agency about flooding but that the Agency's target for reply was three weeks. He reported that the Working Group had considered a forward plan at its meeting on 25 February and the Parish Council is asked to ratify the Group's recommendation that a land survey of an alternative site be undertaken for "Area A" at a quoted price of £695 subject to parishioners being informed of our outline plans. This was **agreed**. In the meantime it was **agreed** that the current plans for the Reading Rooms be placed on "hold".

**146/14    PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application number: 21/0228/15/F – **No objection**

Description: Construction of canopy roof over existing coach washdown area

Application address: Unit A, Kingsley Close, East Way, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Ivybridge PL21 9LL

Application number: 21/0173/15/F – **No objection**

Description: Householder application for construction of double garage

Application address: Penquit Cottage, Penquit, Ivybridge, PL21 0LU

Work to Tree Preservation Order Trees – **Support** = after consulting with Ro Hughes (Parish Tree Warden) South Hams District Council (Parish of Ermington) (No.8) Tree Preservation Order 2004

Application Number: 21/0338/15/TW

Site: Strode Cottage, Strode, Ivybridge, PL21 0LY

**147/14    CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

Application No.: 21/2945/14/F = **Granted permission**

Date Received: 10 November 2014

Proposal: Householder application for alterations and extension to dwelling

Location: Pillars Barn, Burraton, Ivybridge, PL21 9LA

Appeal Ref: APP/K1128/A/14/2222185 = **The appeal is dismissed**

Heavilands Barn, Hunsdon Road, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 9JR

**148/14    FINANCE**

<i>PAYMENTS</i> - Salary for Caretaker – 17 January 2015 – 16 February 2015 (inclusive)	£14.00
- Reimbursement to Caretaker for light bulbs purchased from D J Shepherd	£2.80
- Salary for Clerk – February 2015	£400.00
- EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – February 2015	£25.00
- Landscape Construction & Design (P3 work to improve access at UCR in the Parish of Ermington)	£480.00

<i>INCOME</i> - Cycling Group – hire of Parish Rooms (22 February 2015)	£13.00
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*GRANT REQUESTS* - None received.

*Treasurer's Account – Balance £54,400.26 as at 13 February 2015*

*Business Account - Balance £8,378.46 as at 9 March 2015*



**149/14    REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES AND EVENTS ATTENDED**

Cllr Webley reported a total of £2,000 from the TAP (Town & Parish) fund for Ermington, Holbeton, Modbury and Ugborough Parishes to obtain wheelbarrows shovels, brooms, drain rods and the like individually, and possibly pumping equipment and hoses jointly, had been agreed.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place after the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 7 April 2015 in the Parish Rooms, Ermington.

Cllrs Ward and Holway left the meeting at 8.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed:  .....

(Ermington Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 7 April 2015