

# ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## The Minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held in the Reading Rooms on 5 September 2017 commencing at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs John Kerslake (Chairman), Roy Hartwell, Ian Walsh, Richard Midgley, Di Webley, Susan Martin and Averil Heaton

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

**Parishioners present:** 7

### 32/17 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr Marina Auburn and Police Community Support Officer Andy Potter

### 33/17 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.

Cllr Hartwell declared an interest in appeal reference: APP/K1128/D/17/3178034 (minute item 37/17).

34/17

#### (a) Police Report for August 2017

PCSO Andy Potter provided the following report:-

#### **Ermington**

7/7 Burglary dwelling CR/055464/17  
15/7 Theft of property from car CR/058777/17  
15/7 Burglary dwelling, property stolen from porchway of house CR/060175/17  
20/7 Criminal damage to car CR/060037/17

2/8 Common assault, no further Police action CR/064422/17  
9/8 Possession of an offensive weapon, dealt with by way of restorative justice CR/067086/17  
19/8 Theft of property from a car, enquiries ongoing CR/070399/17  
19/8 Theft of property from a car CR/070542

#### **Lee Mill Ind. Est.**

7/7 Theft of mobile phone CR/055217/17  
7/7 Drink/driver, offender arrested and charged to court CR/055402/17  
9/7 Burglary non-dwelling, enquiries ongoing CR/056094/17  
9/7 Burglary non-dwelling, enquiries ongoing CR/055842/17  
11/7 Making off without payment CR/067605/17 enquiries ongoing CR/067605/17  
11/7 shoplifting, dealt with by way of restorative justice CR/066960/17  
19/7 shoplifting, offender charged to court CR/059682/17  
20/7 Shoplifting, offender cautioned CR/060038/17  
22/7 Making off without payment, enquiries ongoing CR/067611  
24/7 Theft of registration number plate from car CR/061575/17  
25/7 Shoplifting, dealt with by way of fixed penalty fine CR/062306/17  
27/7 Burglary non-dwelling, enquiries ongoing CR/062326/17  
31/7 Criminal damage to car, paintwork scratched CR/063737/17

1/8 Supply of controlled drugs enquiries ongoing CR/068471/17  
7/8 making off without payment CR/067621/17  
11/8 making off without payment CR/067621/17  
25/8 making off without payment CR/072850/17  
25/8 making off without payment CR/073675/17





**34/17 (continued)**  
**(b) District and County Councillor Reports**

*County Councillor R Hosking:*

- DCC have been successful in obtaining £14.6 million funding for two highway projects
- At a meeting with Nick Colton DCC Highways various items relating to Ermington were discussed e.g. move kerb and removal of island at the junction on Town Hill, removal of vegetation around signage at Town Hill.
- Flooding problem at East Flete Western Lodge is being assessed, in order to resolve
- Small drainage scheme is being sourced to resolve issues at Strode
- Replacement road sign is being actioned by Nick Colton on the approach road to Ermington from Yealmpton direction
- The website address for reporting problems with our roads - <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>. It is the most reliable method of getting problems assessed and quickly repaired.
- The website address which show a map showing roadworks across Devon - <https://devon.roadworks.org/>

*District Councillor T Holway:*

- SHDC have assessed whether borrowing money to invest in commercial property is viable, but the decision has been made not to pursue this idea.

**(c) Public Questions**

Mr Toms – thanked Cllr Hosking for organising the removal of vegetation in two areas within the parish.

Mr Sumner – the hedge at “The Spires” requires cutting. Cllr Holway agreed to discuss with the SHDC enforcement department. Cllr Webley pointed out Devon County Homes own part of the hedge which has been cut. Mr Sumner pointed out the agreed plan for the development does highlight what should happen and it is up to SHDC to ensure the developer does what the plans state. *A copy of the information brought to the meeting by Mr Sumner is attached.*  
**ACTION: - Cllr Holway**

Mr Davis – pointed out certain areas are being cut but not others within the “The Spires” development or around the industrial area. Also the area down Town Hill is not being cut. Could clarification be sought? Cllr Holway to seek clarification. **ACTION: - Cllr Holway**

Mr Holliday – concerned about the open space in front of “The Spires” development which was not necessary and was destroying established wildlife habitat. Cllr Kerslake will discuss with the developer. **ACTION: - Cllr Kerslake**

**35/17 ERMINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

**(a) Consultation with parishioners**

Mr Toms – wished to have clarified that at the July 2017 Parish Council meeting, it was agreed that information regarding the proposed new Village Hall would be released to the public domain within a week. This has not happened and therefore the Council is not adhering to their Code of Conduct where parishioners are being given access. Cllr Kerslake wished to refute that. Cllr Kerslake pointed out there had been presentations taking place around the parish and further ones are planned, which have been advertised in the recent Parish Magazine and on notice boards. Cllr Martin stated there is no reason why any of the information cannot be published. Cllr Martin stated once a document has been agreed it would be published, for example the feasibility study. Mr Toms pointed out there were various issues he had concerns with especially on finance. Cllr Kerslake asked if Mr Toms would assist in looking at the costs. Cllr Martin suggested also making the information available on the Parish website for parishioners to access.

Mr Ellis – raised concern on the running cost of the proposed new Village Hall.

Mr Toms – enquired if the field behind the Reading Rooms was being purchased. Cllr Kerslake stated at present it was not being pursued. Mr Toms asked if the new Village Hall was built would the Parish Council withdraw from looking after the field. Cllr Martin stated that this is a question that had not been assessed by the Ermington Village Hall Working Group.

Mr Ellis – asked what was happening with the money raised for the purchase of the field behind the Reading Rooms. Cllr Kerslake stated the money would be put towards the new Village Hall.

**(b) Village Hall Working Group Terms of Reference**

It was agreed that Cllr Kerslake and Cllr Walsh would assess the document.



### **36/17 POSSIBLE TAKEOVER OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES BELOW "THE SPIRES" AND THE SHDC RECREATION GROUND IN ERMINGTON**

To be discussed at a future meeting as a risk assessment needs to be carried out on the on-going running costs of the areas.

### **37/17 READING ROOMS HIRING CHARGES**

An e-mail from ESS which had been circulated, was discussed. The history of hire increases was presented which reflected there had not been an increase since 2012. Discussion ensued and it was agreed by Councillors that the revised charges remain.

### **38/17 ONE COUNCIL FOR SOUTH HAMS AND WEST DEVON PROPOSAL**

Cllr Kerslake - there were various roadshows taking place to explain the process. Information is on display on notice boards around the parish. Cllr Kerslake could not see what the benefits for SHDC parishioners would be. Cllr Holway stated that it has been suggested the extra money would be used in SHDC and not within West Devon Borough Council, but he did not know any details. West Devon Borough Council is in a precarious financial situation and SHDC may have pressure from DCLG (Department Councils Local Government) if we do not voluntarily merge.

Cllr Midgley enquired if the new computer system recently installed at SHDC would be scrapped? Cllr Holway was not aware of this happening and pointed out admin costs would be reduced, and some operations would be more cost effective to administer.

Cllr Walsh – concerned about West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) debt. Cllr Holway stated WDBC had borrowed money to buy their headquarters, but they have resources to pay for that debt.

Cllr Holway - a full Council meeting will take place which will vote on the proposal and if anyone had any questions to contact him.

### **39/17 TO CONFIRM MINUTES**

The minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 July 2017 at 7.30 pm, as previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### **40/17 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY**

24/17 Road signs going down Town Hill are not visible – been actioned by lengthsman

24/17 Drains on the left hand side of Town Hill are blocked – **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

27/17 Trees in playing field – removal of trees is ongoing, Cllr Webley had placed an article in the recent Parish Magazine to explain what was happening. Discussion also took place a suggestion by a parishioner in connection with planting of trees on the playing field.

27/17 River Erme erosion update – survey to be arranged. Japanese knotweed in the area has been discussed with Nick Colton DCC Highways and the resolution is not known at the moment – **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

27/17 Cost of refurbishing road sign on the approach to the village from Yealmpton direction - awaiting a cost from Nick Colton DCC Highways – **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

27/17 Siting of mobile speed sign – area within the village to be sought.

## 41/17 PLANNING

### Planning Application:

Planning Reference: 2778/17/VAR

Proposal: variation of condition 2 (approved plans) following grant of planning consent 21/1923/15/F (Conversion of stone barn to dwelling) to allow for enlarged first floor opening to north west elevation

Location: Higher Preston Barn, Ermington, PL21 9FQ

Recommendation: No comment

### Appeal:

*Cllr Hartwell left the room whilst this item was discussed.*

The following has been made to the Secretary of State:

Appeal reference: APP/K1128/D/17/3178034

Proposal: Householder application for erection of a single storey rear extension

Location: 2 Erme Bridge Cottages, Ermington, PL21 9NN

Appellants Name: Mr T Hopwood

Appeal start date: 21 August 2017

The appeal documents are available for inspection at the relevant address above or on the Council's website, as well as on the Planning Inspectorate's website - <https://acp.planningportal.gov.uk/>

The right to withdraw any representations made so that they are not taken into consideration by the Inspector, within 4 weeks of the appeal's starting date.

It was agreed not to withdraw any representation made by the Parish Council.

The following planning applications were ratified:-

Reference No: 1419/17/FUL - Application for the provision of an Equine Building (resubmission of 1453/16/FUL)  
Location: land at Hunsdon Road, Hunsdon, Ivybridge Recommendation – no comment

Reference No: 1426/17/FUL - Erection of an agricultural building  
Location: Cleeve Farm, Ermington Recommendation – no comment

### Planning Decisions:

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1942/17/FUL Ermington

LOCATION: The Croft Penquit Ermington Devon PL21 0LU

PROPOSAL: Provision of heritage style garage with lockable store and extension of curtilage

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3818/16/HHO Ermington

LOCATION: Springfield Ivybridge PL21 9JR

PROPOSAL: Householder application for proposed first floor extension and two storey side extension to replace single storey side extension.

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1180/17/FUL Ermington

LOCATION: Bandvulc Environmental Ltd East Way Lee Mill PL21 9GE

PROPOSAL: Office extension to existing building

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2255/17/FUL Ermington

LOCATION: Thornham Fields Ivybridge Road Ermington Devon PL21 0LG

PROPOSAL: Application to make a cattle & machinery track into field & extend agricultural building.

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2278/17/NMM Ermington

LOCATION: Proposed Development Site At Sx 623 557 Endsleigh Park South Woodland Farm Ivybridge Devon PL21 9JL

APPLICATION TYPE: Non Material Minor Amendment

PROPOSAL: Application for non material amendment following grant of planning consent 21/2254/15/F

DECISION: Conditional Approval



## 42/17 FINANCE

### PAYMENT(S)

- Caretaker cost – 17 June 2017 – 16 August 2017 (inclusive)	£26.25
- Caretaker cost – 17 June 2017 – 16 August 2017 (inclusive)	£13.13
- Clerk cost – July 2017	£514.88
- Clerk cost – August 2017	£514.88
- EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – July 2017	£30.00
- EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit August 2017	£19.00
- Hedges & Lawns – cutting grass (2 cuts in July 2017)	£110.00
- Hedges & Lawns – cutting grass (2 cuts in August 2017)	£110.00
- Reimbursement to the Clerk – payment to Hostgator re. Parish web site	£114.55
- South West Water – for services at Reading Room	£23.72

### RECEIPT(S)

- HMRC	£409.75
- Hire of Reading Rooms – Wednesday Group	£88.00

### GRANT REQUEST(S)

- None

**Treasurers Account – Balance £77,507.33 as at 14 August 2017**  
**Business Account - Balance £8387.91 as at 9 June 2017**

An estimate of £230 + VAT (maximum) has been received from a Locality Engagement Officer at SHDC for the work that is required to replace the rotten wooden notice board near the Square with a new one - agreed to proceed.  
**ACTION: - Clerk**

Clerk enquired if it would be possible to have training for Cllr Midgley and herself on the management of the website. Agreed to a maximum cost of £50.00.

## 43/17 ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT DOCUMENTS FOR APPROVAL

The following documents had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting:-

- a) Code of Conduct - document is based on the SHDC Code of Conduct.
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Protocol on Filming/Recording Meetings

Councillors approved the documents.

## 44/17 CORRESPONDENCE

Email 06.06.2017 - Trading Standards - National Scams Awareness Month  
Email 06.06.2017 - Recycling Waste Advisor working in the South Hams area  
Email 10.07.2017 - How will Devon's Rural Economy Fare in the Future?  
Email 10.07.2017 - Proposal to create a new council  
Email 11.07.2017 - Devon Air Ambulance Volunteer Vacancies - **notice displayed on notice boards**  
Email 12.07.2017 - Thank you for the grant to the Ermington Village Fund for grant towards fireworks  
Email 18.07.2017 - Drug Awareness and Relationship Performances for Local Teens  
Email 18.07.2017 - The future of council tax in South Hams  
Email 19.07.2017 - How Developers' Contributions are Spent  
Email 20.07.2017 - Consultation on Taxi Licensing Policy  
Email 14.07.2017 - Ermington Parish Council - Reading Rooms hiring costs – **agenda item**  
Email 21.07.2017 - Councillors debate new council idea  
Email 24.07.2017 - Devon Community Together Member Updates  
Email 25.07.2017 - Supporting Health in Ivybridge & District Forum Invitation  
Email 28.07.2017 - One Council Consultation Approved  
Email 31.07.2017 - The next step for the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan  
Email 01.08.2017 - Big Day for Area as Joint Local Plan is Formally Submitted

**44/17 CORRESPONDENCE (continued)**

- Email 31.07.2017 - The next step for the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan
- Email 01.08.2017 - Big Day for Area as Joint Local Plan is Formally Submitted
- Email 02.08.2017 - Taxi licensing policy consultation – update
- Email 02.08.2017 - Healthy People - August 2017
- Email 07.08.2017 - Schedule announced - Rural Futures Conference 2017
- Email 14.08.2017 - Residents in South Hams urged to look out for their voter registration details in the post
- Email 16.08.2017 - One Council Consultation – **copy of information placed in Reading Rooms and available at The Crooked Spire**
- Email 23.08.2017 - Citizens Advice South Hams and SHDC event for Private Landlords in the South Hams in September – **information passed to “The Crooked Spire”**
- Email 24.08.2017- Mr N Toms (parishioner) - July minutes – requesting why some points he had raised at PC meeting had been omitted from minutes
- Email 25.08.2017 - One Council Proposal: Drop-in events – information displayed on notice boards in parish and Reading Rooms
- Email 01.09.2017 - Upcoming Training Course August 2017
- Email 01.09.2017 - Leader of South Hams states the facts!
- Email 04.09.2017 - Mineral Safeguarding SPD
- Email 04.09.2017 - Networking Event - Voluntary and Community Organisations supporting health in the Ivybridge Area
- Email 04.09.2017 - Consultation Open on Kingsbridge Public Spaces

Cllr Holway was thanked for attending the meeting and left at 8.00 pm.  
Cllr Hosking was thanked for attending the meeting and left at 9.20 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 3 October 2017** at **7.30 pm** in the Reading Rooms, Ermington.

Signed:   
(Ermington Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 3 October 2017

Minutes can be viewed on the Ermington Parish website - <http://www.ermingtonparish.com/parish-council/archives/>

3.4 The development will include the completion of the approved landscaping scheme so that the US will be delivered as specified as the works are completed.

3.5 While the ICB will, actually be owned by the adjacent landowners, it is envisaged that the neighbours will discuss, agree and manage the ICB between themselves to ensure that it is presented in a reasonably uniform and presentable condition. It is also envisaged that any points of contention will be mutually agreed without conflict.

11.5.1 This management plan is a requirement of the development planning approval and full adherence to the detailed work programme will be required by the Local Planning Authority.

#### 4 Existing trees

4.1 The tree work and all the site detailed in the landscape scheme/usage protection plan will be undertaken as part of the development.

4.2 Within living memory the trees along Church Road were managed as a hedge thus was maintained as part of the general agricultural management of the field that now forms the site. It is only within the last 15-20 years that the hedge had not been managed and the growth allowed to develop in to their current form as a line of trees.

4.3 In line with the project ecologist's recommendations the trees along the Church Road hedge bank will be returned to a hedge. In order to achieve this the existing trees will be topped to just above bank height and the regrowth will be managed as a hedge.

#### 5 Boundary hedge growth

5.1 As part of the works needed to implement the approved landscape scheme, the developer will carry out the work needed to deliver the boundary hedges as specified. The existing trees will be topped to just above bank height and thereafter the hedges will be maintained as specified.

5.2 The eastern section of northern hedge bank in front of plots 1 and 11 will be maintained at a total height (thereof bank plus hedge growth) of approximately 2.0m. The western section in front of plots 23 - 301 will be maintained at approximately 2.5m adjacent to the site entrance rising to 3.0m at the western end.



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5.3 The northern hedge is currently made up of predominantly Ley sycamores. In order to provide a more diverse species mix the existing trees will be supplemented with additional native species planting using the following mix: Hawthorn - 25%; Hazel - 25%; field maple - 20%; Blackthorn - 15%; Holly - 5%; honey suckle - 10%; dog rose - 5%. In order to further increase the species diversity approximately 25% of the existing sycamores will be killed off using a translocation Glyphosate based herbicide.

5.4 Any plants within the boundary hedge that die, become diseased or badly damaged will be removed and replaced with new planting of the same species in order to ensure the long term integrity of the boundary hedges.

## 5 Grass area

5.1 Once the existing trees have been felled and the hedge planting has been completed, the area inside the northern boundary, extending down the northern end of the western boundary will be seeded. The seed to be applied will be Tuckers Grass Seed mix with 100g/litre of the English Wildflower mix that will be supplied by JH Ambridge.

5.2 The seeding works will be carried out by the developer as part of the general landscape works. The developer will then maintain this area as specified until the individual plots are conveyed to the RSL and the new landowners who will then take over responsibility for the management.

5.3 During preparation and seeding the following points will be followed:

- Scarify off any rich topsoil, as it is full of weed seeds, which will result in a lush growth that will swamp the wildflowers.
- Create a fine zoned bed in the subsoil and lightly sow the seed. Sow evenly (mixing with sawdust helps to spread the seed evenly and helps you to see where you've been).
- Rake in thoroughly and firm down to ensure seeds have a good contact with the soil.
- Keep on top of the weeds and thin out the grass periodically.
- Mow the grass at least three times in the first year to a height of about 5cm (2"); this will also reduce grass competition. It is very important to remove the cuttings as they will increase fertility. Treat the area as you would a lazy lawn and cut it when it looks lumpy, approximately 10 times a year.

5.4 After the first year the grass should be cut once a year in mid-to-late September when the wildflowers have seeded. Weeds should be maintained to prevent excessive competition with the grass and wild flowers. Grass cuttings should be removed to prevent an increase in fertility.



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