

87/16 **ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT 2017/18**

Cllr Kerslake had circulated a budget and explanatory note to councillors which had been drafted following a meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Councillors discussed the recommendation from the Finance Sub-Committee that the current precept be increased by £3000 to £24500. This would require a parish rate for a Band D property of £64.62 per year representing an increase of £8.29 per year or, 16p per week. Parish and town council precepts will not be subject to referenda. Taking these factors into account and the desirability of building up a fund to help finance the construction of a new village hall, the Finance Sub-Committee view was that it would be prudent to increase the Precept as recommended.

A vote was taken. 6 Councillors were in favour of accepting the recommendation. 1 Councillor objected supporting a 5% increase only. An increase of £3000 was therefore agreed.

88/16 **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APRIL 2017) – quest speaker/format ideas**

Various ideas were discussed and it was agreed to arrange for a speaker to talk about Recycling. **ACTION: Clerk**

89/16 **ERMINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Kerslake had circulated a terms of reference document dealing with the tasks required of the working group for the next phase of the project. Cllrs Auburn and Martin had drafted a document in response which had also been circulated. It was agreed that the working group would provide a view on the documents before a final decision was taken on the way forward and tasks to be performed.

Two Councillors will be part of the working group.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 7 March 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Reading Rooms, Ermington.

Cllr Holway was thanked for attending the meeting and left at 8.00 pm.
Cllr Hosking arrived at 7.45 pm and left at 8.05 pm and was thanked for attending

The meeting closed at 9.42pm.

Signed:
(Ermington Parish Council Chairman)

Date: 7 March 2017

Minutes can be viewed on the Ermington Parish Web Site and a paper copy at "The Crooked Spire", Ermington

85/16 CORRESPONDENCE

Email 10/01/2017 – Devon Countryside Access Forum = Devon Countryside Access Forum - seeking new members
Email 11/01/2017 - Rural Vulnerability Service = Rural Broadband - January 2017
Email 11/01/2017 - Devon & Somerset Trading Standards Service = Avian Influenza
Email 11/01/2017 – SHDC = District Councillors and MP Secure £1.8 Million for Communities
Email 11/01/2017 – SHDC = Ivybridge Cluster Area - TAP Fund Applications
Email 11/01/2017 - Public Sector Executive Online = The Emergency App - be prepared
Email 16/01/2017 - Kier Services = A38 Cadleigh to Ivybridge emergency patching 16.01.2017
Email 16/01/2017 - National Grid Community Relations team = National Grid overhead power line refurbishment - briefing meeting – **Clerk attended meeting**
Email 16/01/2017 – Modbury Caring = Modbury Caring new website link
Email 17/01/2017 – Roger Austin = Drains and Blocked culverts – **Clerk responded**
Email 17/01/2017 – SHDC = Councillors will recommend not to set up a company
Email – Devon Highways = W17969059 - Thank you for the following report: Problem: Flooding & Blocked Drains, Town Hill Ermington
Date reported: 17/01/2017 18:47:00
Email 18/01/2017 – Modbury Caring = Modbury Caring January Newsletter
Email 18/01/2017 - CPRE Devon Director =CPRE Devon seminar - New Housing & The Plymouth & SW Devon Joint Local Plan
Email 20/01/2017 – SHDC = Could you be a Councillor?
Email 23/01/2017 - Info - Devon Communities = Britain on Film on Tour - Now available for Village Halls and Community Groups
Email 24/01/2017 - Customer Service Centre Roads & Transport Team = Highway Community Enhancement Fund
Email 26/01/2017 – SHDC = Proposed Changes to South Hams Parking Permits
Email 26/01/2017 – SHDC = Outcome of the TAP Fund Decision Meetings
Email 27/01/2017 – DCC = Help your community, make a difference in schools, solar power in our communities...
Email 30/01/2017 – SHDC = South Hams & West Devon Council News - South Hams District Council Update
Email 30/01/2017 - South Hams CVS = South Hams & West Devon Council Homeless Strategy 2017 - 2022 Public Consultation
Email 31/01/2017 - Upcoming Information & Advice Surgeries
Email 01/02/2017 = Healthy People - January 2017

86/16 FINANCE

The following payments were approved:-

PAYMENT(S)

- Caretaker cost - 17 December 2016 – 16 January 2017 (inclusive)	£12.00
- Clerk cost – January 2017	£498.33
- EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – January 2017	£32.00
- T J Electrical Services – installation of 2 sockets in kitchen area of Reading Rooms and dedicated outlet for water boiler	£228.64
- Mr Holt – purchase of kitchen units for Reading Rooms	£1040.02
- Dart Fire Protection – servicing of fire extinguishers/purchase of 2 water replacement extinguishers in Reading Rooms	£161.28
- Mr G Elliott – paint for the Reading Rooms	£13.99

RECEIPT(S)

- EDF refund	£18.05
- Mrs Cross – Ermington Tots (hire of Reading Rooms)	£42.50

GRANT REQUEST(S)

- None.

Treasurer's Account – Balance £75,477.87 as at 13 January 2017

Business Account - Balance £8,385.81 as at 9 December 2016

(d) **Lee Mill Solar Roof Project - Sophie Phillips, South Dartmoor Community Energy (SDCE) continued**

The aim is to find at least five roofs suitable for PV, to then run a community share offer to raise the finance to install the panels. The businesses would receive reduced rate renewable electricity and all profits from the sale of the electricity would be invested into a community fund used to increase the sustainability of the local area. Therefore if Councillors or parishioners could help in passing on information to owners of industrial units and businesses the group would be grateful.

To book a visit or to seek advice please call 0800 112 3044 or katie@southdartmoorcommunityenergy.org, Monday – Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.

81/16 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 Walsh – declared an interest in Planning Application - 3818/16/HHO (see 84/16).
Cllr Hartwell – declared an interest in planning application 4019/16/HHO (see 84/16).

82/16 TO CONFIRM MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 January 2017 at 7.30 pm, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

83/16 PAST SUBJECT MATTERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPORT ONLY

73/16 Re-siting of "bend" sign at junction of A379/A3121 (near Hollowcombe) – Cllr Hosking is liaising with Nick Colton (Devon Highways).

73/16 Replacement of Ermington/Ugborough/Exeter sign on the approach to Ermington (A3121) – Cllr Hosking is liaising with Nick Colton (Devon Highway).

73/16 River Erme erosion – Councillor Hosking was asked to look again at the prospect of seeking a long term solution to the problem notwithstanding legal advice on liability for any damage to the highway. It was emphasized again that pragmatism was key to the avoidance of the potential for major costs in the future. Cllr Hosking agreed to arrange a meeting with the principal parties involved to explore what else needed to be done bearing in mind that some work had been undertaken.

84/16 PLANNING

Cllr Walsh left the room whilst the following plan was discussed:-

Planning application: - 3818/16/HHO
Premises address: - Springfield, Hunsdon Road, Ivybridge, PL21 9JR
Proposal: - Proposed first floor extension & two storey side extension to replace single storey side extension
Recommendation = No comments to make

Cllr Hartwell left the room whilst the following plan was discussed:-

Planning application: - 4019/16/HHO
Premises address: - 2 Erme Bridge Cottages, Ermington, PL21 9NN
Proposal: - Householder application for erection of a single storey rear extension
Recommendation = Site visit to be arranged – ACTION Clerk

Reference No: 2208/16/FUL
Location: Land at Sx 621 558, Cornwood Road, Ivybridge
Proposal: READVERTISEMENT (Revised Documentation Received) Demolition of existing bungalow, erection of 38 dwellings, provision of new access and erection of 3m high, solid timber acoustic fence on boundary with A38
Recommendation = No comment

It was agreed that the following application be deferred for discussion at the March 2017 meeting:-

Planning application: - 3252/16/HHO
Premises address: - Ludbrook Manor, Ermington Ivybridge PL21 0LJ
Proposal: - Householder application for extensions to dwelling



(b) Public Questions

The Clerk reported that two parishioners had contacted her to explain the urgency of the need to clean the culvert under the A3121. Nick Colton (Devon Highways) had been contacted and is making arrangements for an external contractor to come with a large jetter to shift the silt.

Cllr Hartwell asked Cllr Hosking if there were any plans for a Civil Enforcement Officer to enforce the restrictions now that the double yellow lines are in situ near Fawns Close. Cllr Hosking advised Nick Colton (Devon Highways) be contacted to deal with the matter.

Cllr Webley asked if Devon Highways could assess the flooding and condition of the road surface on the road from Keaton to Ermington as it is in poor repair. Cllr Hosking will report the issue to Nick Colton (Devon Highways). **ACTION: Cllr Hosking**

(c) District and County Councillor Reports

County Councillor Hosking:-

Pothole fund has been allocated again for this year – report of potholes in the parish was requested using the Devon County Council website.

The school funding allocation reassessment had resulted in a greater allocation per pupil in smaller schools. DCC would be making representations that the overall funding levels were still too low in relation to the rest of the country

£22m reduction in central government support funding, a 4.99% increase in Council Tax is proposed. There will be a need for Parish Councils to take on additional responsibilities.

District Councillor Holway reported:-

SHDC & West Devon DC had decided not to form a Local Authority Controlled Company

The Joint Local Plan was progressing to final consultation. Development was concentrated in Plymouth, with no targets for villages.

TAP funding for the lawn mower has been agreed with a suggestion that it be stored in Ermington. Cllr Kerslake suggested liaising with the cricket club and it was agreed that the club should take ownership of the machine.

Nick Colton (Devon Highways) is meeting local parishioners in connection with flooding issues near Fawns Farm, Ermington.

(d) Lee Mill Solar Roof Project - Sophie Phillips, South Dartmoor Community Energy (SDCE)

Sophie Phillips gave a ten minute presentation on the purpose of the not for profit organisation which grew out of the PL21 group.

Sophie explained that SDCE was a community benefit society helping local communities to become more energy efficient and involved in renewable energy projects. Part of the national Big Energy Saving Network and available to give householders help and information about saving energy, changing tariffs to minimise costs and even applying for grants. All the advice is free and impartial and can include home visits if necessary. Help is focussed on supporting people who have not switched suppliers before, who lack internet access, who have health issues or low incomes and will include practical support to help people reduce their bills. This can include advice on choosing the best energy tariff, help with switching supplier, information about smart meters and details of energy efficiency offers.

SDCE was awarded a grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund to carry out a feasibility study to look at the potential for community owned solar PV on some of the roofs at Lee Mill Industrial Estate at no cost to the companies.

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Meeting of Ermington Parish Council held in the Reading Rooms on 7 February 2017 commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs John Kerlake (Chairman), Roy Hartwell (Deputy Chairman), Marina Auburn, Ian Walsh, Richard Midgley, Susan Martin and Di Webley.

Also present: County Councillor Richard Hosking
District Councillor T Holway
Police Community Support Officer Andy Potter & PC 1704 Charlotte MATHERS
T Drew (Parish Clerk)

Parishioners present: 10

Cllr Kerlake expressed the Council's sincere thanks and appreciation to Cllr. Webley for organising the refurbishment of the kitchen area and to parishioners who had painted the Reading Rooms.

The Council also expressed its gratitude to Cllr Bower for organising the Steve Knightley concert evening to raise money for the village hall project.

Cllr Kerlake welcomed Sophie Phillips from South Dartmoor Community Energy to the meeting, also PC Charlotte Mathers.

79/16 APOLOGIES

Cllr Bower.

80/16

(a) Police Report for January 2017

Ermington

Overnight 17th / 18th series of vehicle crime

1 car stolen CR/004218/17

4 vehicle interferences [car searched, no property taken] CR/004182/004368/004373/004567/17

4 theft from cars CR/004363/004383/004630/004988/17

Lee Mill Industrial Estate

No reported crime

(b) Public Questions

Mr Toms thanked Cllr Webley for the hard work she does for the Parish and the Police for the recent apprehension of individuals who had been stealing from local farms.

Cllr Webley asked for details of the impact of reductions in the numbers PCSOs recently reported in the press. PC Potter was not able to clarify the position.

Mr Toms was concerned that over the last couple of years there had been an increase in Ermington's Precept. Cllr Kerlake explained that there was a need to build up a fund to help finance a new Village Hall. In the event that a decision was taken not to proceed with the project the funds could usefully be used towards refurbishment of the Reading Rooms. Cllr Holway confirmed that money could be kept in reserve for future projects.

