

Please note that this meeting was not quorate and therefore no formal decisions were made.

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ermington Parish Council Meeting held remotely on Zoom due to the Coronavirus pandemic
On 1 December 2020 at 7.30 pm - **CANCELLED AS NOT QUORATE**

Present: Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair) and Ian Creese
County Councillor Richard Hosking (*from 8.21 pm to 8.55 pm*)
District Councillor Tom Holway (*from 7.30 pm to 8.55 pm*)
Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk)

Parishioner(s)/Visitor(s): 2

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllrs Stephen Yates, John Dunlop and Claire Cross

The following reports were received from Cllr Hosking and Holway:

REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD HOSKING, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

1. We emerge from Lockdown at 1-minute past midnight on the morning of Wednesday 2nd December into Tier 2 restrictions. I have forwarded details of the change in restrictions to each Parish.
2. There will be a review on 16th December, and we are all hoping that this will result in Devon moving into Tier 1. There have been 614 cases confirmed in Devon in the week to 29th November bringing the total number of confirmed cases in the County to 8,158. There are also 12 deaths confirmed in the week to 20th November.
3. The Government has now made funding available for families facing hardship over the Christmas break. This will be co-ordinated by Neil.Hawke@southwestdevon.gov.uk. An online application form can be found on the South Hams Website <https://southhams.gov.uk/help> and the helpline telephone number is (01803) 861297.
4. This additional funding has freed up money Devon County Council had allocated for this purpose, and we are able to offer grants of £300 to £700 for Parish Councils and voluntary bodies to help those obliged to self-isolate or quarantine and guidance including how to apply is provided on the Devon County website at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/>
5. The Chancellor has announced further measures to protect jobs and help the self-employed in the Winter Economy Plan. This includes extension of the Furlough scheme, potentially until March 2021, and other grants and reliefs. A new grant is available for businesses who are not subject to Non-Domestic Rating who have suffered significant financial impact or have been closed between £500 and £934.
6. Guidance on how to obtain help is available for Parishioners through;
 - a) the Citizens Advice Bureau 0344 411 1444
 - and soft touch signposting for businesses through;
 - b) the Heart of the Southwest Local Enterprise Partnership 03456 047047
7. We have received a report on a parking enforcement visit to the junction of Fawns Close and Bunkers Hill. The enforcement officers reported that they were quite busy and have confirmed their intention to visit again to try and ensure that thoroughfares are kept open through the critical drop off and pick up times at Ermington County Primary School. It appears that Fawns Close is not an adopted road and I am advised it is owned by South Hams District Council.
8. Pleased to have supported at the South Hams Highways and Traffic Orders meeting on 6th November the provision of a second lane to assist traffic turning left at the approach to the A38 westbound slipway junction at the Endsleigh end of the bridge over the A38 as you approach Ivybridge on Ermington Road. I am advised that the additional lane will accommodate four cars. I requested that it be doubled in length in anticipation of increased traffic use of this junction in future years, but was advised this was not possible.

REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD HOSKING, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS (continued)

9. I attended an online consultation and supported the provision of a new east bound A38 exit road to a new roundabout at the South West end of Beech Lane at Lee Mill. The intention is to cut off or restrict to local traffic/public transport the existing east bound slip road that continues through the residential area in Plymouth Road, Lee Mill.

10. Pleased to have been able to provide Ermington Parish Council with a contact with regard to the School Crossing Patrols and Volunteer School Crossing Marshals and other options for schools regarding their request for assistance in equipping and paying for a warden.

Pleased to answer any questions.

090/20 Blocked drains on the left-hand side of Town Hill and Chapel Street. Grate to be removed to assess the situation. Ongoing

090/20 River Erme erosion A3121 - aerial survey is due, when completed an assessment of movement of riverbank will be confirmed. Ongoing

090/20 Flooding Westlake – Cllr Hosking to discuss with Nick Colton, DCC Highways. Ongoing

090/20 River Erme erosion A3121 - aerial survey is due, when completed an assessment of movement of riverbank will be confirmed. Ongoing

090/20 Playing field application to be a Village Green. Cllr Hosking awaiting decision from Devon County Council Solicitor. Ongoing – a report is being prepared by the DCC Solicitor

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR TOM HOLWAY, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

Due to COVID-19 guidance, a number of South Hams District Council drivers and crews on waste and recycling collections have had to self isolate. There may be delays to bin and sack deliveries, and delays to emptying recycling banks. If your collection is missed, please bring the bins or sacks back in until your next scheduled collection. Household waste created in this period will be taken on your next collection day. Collecting 4 weeks of waste in some areas will be a challenge. To help the crews out, please use the recycling centres for garden waste and recycling if you can. We ask parishioners to be patient and understanding during this difficult time.

SHDC is available to support volunteers during this coronavirus (COVID-19)

091/20 Footpath to be reinstated around the playing field which is owned by SHDC - Cllr Holway pointed out, SHDC parishes are being encouraged to take on playing fields. There is £500 available for Ermington, and if there are no other requirements in the parish, the money could be used for the work required on the path.

South Hams District Council – Council Tax Base for 2021/2022 – currently no information available from SHDC

OPEN FORUM - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARISH COUNCILLORS, COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Onley asked Cllr Hosking what action could be taken, with the flooding problems raised by the owners of Flete Eastern Lodge. Cllr Hosking stated there is correspondence between the solicitors of the owners of Flete Eastern Lodge and Devon County Council solicitors. Attempts have been made to clean the drain systems, but sometimes there are circumstances which do not permit work being carried out e.g. Japanese Knotweed.

The owners of Flete Eastern Lodge, informed those present of the issues of flooding they have had over a long period of time. Cllr Hosking made a note of the comments made by the owners and will report them to DCC Highways. He pointed out that DCC has purchased land adjacent to the site, which may help with the situation in the future.

Cllr Onley suggested a site meeting to look at the situation.

Teresa Drew
Parish Clerk