

# ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Reading Rooms on 2 November 2021 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair), Robert Owens, Ian Creese, John Dunlop  
 County Councillor Dan Thomas (*from 9.00 pm to 9.16 pm*)  
 District Councillor Tom Holway (*from 8.45 pm to 9.00 pm*)  
 Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

**Parishioner(s) / Visitor(s):** 1

**095/2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**096/2021 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA**

None.

**097/2021 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors**

**Public Questions**

None.

**Report from County Councillor Daniel Thomas:**

**Coronavirus Vaccination Programme**

**Vaccination data for Devon**

- 1,827,549 doses have been given between 8 December 2020 and 24 October 2021, vaccination data published by NHS England and NHS Improvement shows. **NHS figures are using updated (2020) ONS population statistics, which means some percentages have changed from earlier weeks:**

Age group	Number of 1st doses given	Number of 2nd doses given	Approx % of age group received at least one dose*	Approx % of age group received both doses
80+	79,242	78,463	95% or above for people aged 50 and over	90% or above for people aged 40 and over
75-79	60,994	60,564		
70-74	76,846	76,213		
65-69	72,555	71,654		
60-64	79,987	77,646		
55-59	86,153	84,300		
50-54	80,482	78,637		
45-49	65,288	63,138	91.1%	
40-44	60,526	57,741	96.4%	
35-39	60,801	56,791	92.0%	86.0%
30-34	60,558	54,874	89.1%	80.7%
25-29	55,508	48,745	81.9%	72.0%
18-24	83,865	71,627	83.6%	71.4%
All under 18	21,637	2,207	9.5%	1.0%
<b>Total (% 16+)</b>	<b>944,442</b>	<b>883,107</b>	<b>93.8%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>

## Report from County Councillor Daniel Thomas: (continued)

### Highways – 20mph zones:

At October's full Council, a motion was moved as follows:

*In response to the growing demand for safer vehicle speeds in town and village centres and along residential roads, this Council will now consider further applications for 20 mph pilot schemes that can be implemented in parallel with the Newton Abbot pilot scheme to ensure a more timely response to supporting Active Travel measures that need reduced vehicular speeds to be implemented and effective.*

Unfortunately, it was defeated and the Newton Abbot pilot scheme, which has been discussed for over 2 years and is yet to start, remains something of a stumbling block.

*Instead, Elected Members are invited to make representations for communities that they would wish to see considered for 20 mph speed limits pending any change in County Policy.*

I would urge the Parish Council to continue to suggest such any areas and I will attempt to lobby on your behalf.

### Supporting Devon Residents into homes of their own

At October's full Council, a notion of motion (which I support) was sent to be discussed by Cabinet as follows:

Devon County Council calls on the Government to:

1. End the tax dodge loop-hole of second home owners switching from Council Tax to Business Rates and then claiming 'small business' exemption, so they pay nothing at all.
2. To re-extend the notice period given to tenants to 6 months
3. Maintain the Local Housing Allowances at Covid-levels (plus cost-of living increases) to support families into homes and that the County Council will:
  1. Work with Devon's District, City and Borough councils to establish a 'housing taskforce' working across the county to tackle the flight to Air BnB and holiday rentals
  2. Support the provision of urgently needed rented housing on County owned land

This will come back to the next full Council meeting with a Cabinet recommendation.

- Correspondence received from a parishioner re: Ermington School - It has been agreed that all road markings will be repainted. That work has been ordered and should therefore happen this financial year. Nick Colton, DCC Highways, is looking at the signage issues both immediately below the school and the lack of signage at the top of Bunker's Hill.
- Recent flooding on the A3121 between Town Hill and Bunker's Hill – Nick Colton, DCC Highways has raised this as a defect.

080/21 Make the footpath safer from opposite Plantation House to the bus stop near Flete House entrance - *PROW Plantation House to Sequers Bridge: Cllr Thomas has emailed Paul McFadden, the local footpaths warden for your Parish, to ask his advice and asked whether he could pass his details onto Cllr Owens.*

080/21 Drains near the new roundabout at Hollowcombe were blocked which caused flooding during a recent rainfall - *Cllr Denis Onley has had a lengthy email from Richard Kingsley Smith at Devon County Council and Cllr Thomas has spoken to Nick Colton, DCC Highways, who has spoken to the design engineer too.*

080/21 Bottom of Westover Hill near the entrance to Endsleigh Garden Centre, the trees on the bank of the slip road are causing poor visibility - *Nick Colton, DCC Highways has informed Cllr Thomas that the trees are in Cllr Roger Croad's Ivybridge Division and as such, the parishioners needs to contact Cllr Croad in the first instance.*

080/21 Turning from the slip road to Westover Hill the footpath is not conforming to regulations - *This is Cllr Croad's division, which means that neither Nick Colton, DCC Highways or Cllr Thomas can get involved. RESOLVED the Clerk will copy emails sent to Cllr Croad, in connection with the footpath.*

080/21 Parishioner asked for clarification on why the road from the junction from Hunsdon Road to Strashleigh has been resurfaced? - *This road was so badly riddled with potholes that it needed to be resurfaced (the potholes were too deep to be individually repaired). It was paid for out of County Hall Capital Funding. It must have been approved before Cllr Thomas election as he was not consulted.*

## Report from County Councillor Daniel Thomas: (continued)

005/21 Blocked drains on the left-hand side of Town Hill and Chapel Street, grate needs to be removed to assess the Situation - drains on the list to be dealt with by DCC Highways. The list contains some 500 gullies to be attended to and the list may take up to a year to complete.

005/21 River Erme erosion A3121 – Nick Colton, DCC Highways has assured Cllr Thomas that while there are no answers yet, he is aware of a regular string of internal emails being sent.

005/21 Flooding Westlake – problem is caused by a single culvert with multiple gullies and grids. In heavy rain, they fill with detritus and block. Nick Colton, DCC Highways has informed Cllr Thomas that a meeting took place some 3 years ago with him, local landowner, Cllr Creese and the former Devon County Councillor Richard Hosking. No tangible progress was made at that stage. RESOLVED a meeting will be arranged with Nick Colton, DCC Highways, local landowner, Cllr Creese and Cllr Thomas to attend a new meeting to kick start matters.

005/21 Modbury Cross Woodland Planting – one of the DCC landscape officers is working on a planting plan, Cllr Thomas is waiting for a copy, which he will pass to the Parish Council as soon as he can.

## Report from District Councillor Tom Holway:

SHDC Councillors visited Chelson Meadow to see the way in which recycling is separated into different streams, before being sold for recycling. Councillors were impressed by the efficiency of the plant.

### **098/2021 VACANCIES FOR SIX PARISH COUNCILLORS - TO CONSIDER AND IF AGREED, APPROVE ANY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR CO-OPTION ONTO THE COUNCIL**

No applications have been received since the last Parish Council meeting. The notice advertising vacancies can be seen on parish notice boards, Ermington Parish website and in the Ermington Parish Magazine.

### **099/202 SPEEDING IN THE VILLAGE**

Cllr Creese will now arrange for a date and time to install the flashing speed sign in the village, with Cllr Holway. The first place for the sign will be on the A3121.

Waiting for the new flashing sign from DCC Highways to replace the current sign near the Ermington Store and More.

### **100/2021 READING ROOMS:**

- Work is continuing with the refurbishment of the Reading Rooms, lower room - Cllr Creese.

- RESOLVED to reopen the upper Reading Room for bookings.

### **101/2021 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

RESOLVED to approve and Chair Cllr Onley to sign, the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 19 October 2021 as previously circulated.

### **102/2021 PLANNING**

The following planning application was discussed, but had not been placed on the Agenda. This meant that any decision could not be final. Deferral to the next meeting would mean that the decision would be outside the statutory time limit for response. The rules allowed the Clerk as the Proper Officer to respond under delegated authority in line with discussions at this meeting. The plans would be placed on 4 December 2021 Parish Council Meeting agenda for ratification.

Reference: 3510/21/FUL

Proposal: Application for extension and modifications to existing farmhouse, demolition of existing barn/store, erection of new store and annexed accommodation (resubmission of 1064/21/HHO)

Site Address: Brook Farm, Ivybridge, PL21 9LE

Recommendation: No comment

## 103/2021 FINANCE

RESOLVED to agree the following:

i) Bank balances – Business Account as at 9 September 2021 - £45,923.05  
Treasurers Account as at 13 October 2021 - £76,515.22

ii) Banked receipts – Bank Interest (Business Account) 09/09/2021- £0.39

iii) RESOLVED to make the following payments:

Description	Gross	VAT	Net
Parish Clerk – October 2021 salary and home allowance	£606.34	-	-
EDF – Devon Air Ambulance	£23.63	£1.13	£22.50

iv) Grant Requests - None

v) RESOLVED to approve the following Financial Statement and Earmarked Reserves

Financial Statement			
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 September 2021 :		£45,923.05	
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 13 October 2021:			£76,515.22
		Total Funds =	£122,438.27
Less: any un-presented cheques	001404	-£7.00	2020/2021 cheque not cashed in January 2021
	001446	-£1,000.00	
Plus: any un-banked cash/cheques	£0.00	£0.00	
Earmarked Reserves			
Repairs to Reading Rooms, Ermington		-£20,000	
		<b>Total uncommitted Funds =</b>	<b>£101,431.27</b>

(vi) Budget for 2021/2022 was reviewed against spend/income.

(vi) RESOLVED the budget for 2022/2023 – please see attached.

(vi) RESOLVED to decrease the precept for 2022/2023 to £18,274.

## 104/2021 REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- Churchyard liaison = *A dialogue is taking place with Ermington church to improve access from the Reading Rooms top room to the churchyard.*
- Ermington Park = **Claire Cross (parishioner)**
- Climate Change and Biodiversity = **Cllr Onley**
- Road Warden Scheme update = **Cllr Creese – the parish grit bins have been checked**
- Assessment of Parish footpaths = **Cllr Owens – Footpath from Higher Keaton to Fernham - parishioners have enquired why this footpath is not on current OS maps. Cllr Owens will be surveying the footpaths over the summer and will liaise with the Devon County Council PP3 Officer. No further development.**

## 105/2021 REVIEW GDPR POLICIES:

The following documents were reviewed:

Review Grant Awarding Policy and Procedure  
Review Freedom of Information and Publication Scheme  
Review Training Policy  
Review Complaints Policy

No amendments made.

**106/2021 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

Some of the correspondence listed below can be viewed on the parish website:-

- Parishioner - Signage Ermington, repainting road signs, hedgehog signs
- SHDC - Devon councils & charities lead Shop4good campaign to help the climate
- SHDC - New funding for local businesses launched
- SHDC - Bigbury Net Zero: Beach Assembly 6th Nov midday
- Zoom Details for IDALC AGM and Ordinary Meeting - 2 November 2021
- SHDC – winter closure of Ermington Village Toilets. Would the Parish Council arrange to have them cleaned from November 2021 to the end of February 2022? – RESOLVED the Parish Council will not clean the toilets. Clerk to inform SHDC. **ACTION: Clerk**

01/11/2021 - Telephone call from a parishioner to the Parish Clerk in connection with speeding through Ermington.

**107/2021 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Parish Council Meeting to be held in the Reading Rooms will take place on 7 December 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.19 pm.

*Denis Onley*

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(Ermington Parish Council Chair)

Date: 7 December 2021

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

To report highway issues - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

SHDC website to report issues - <https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

## Ermington Parish Council - Budgets

Codes from Spreadsheet	EXPENDITURE	Budget 2022/23	Spend year to date against budget (including VAT)	Underspend/Overspend against budget
	<b>1. Property Running Costs</b>			
RR1	Electricity	300		300
RR6	Water	150		150
RR4	Insurance	900		900
RR2	Cleaning/Assistance with Hiring of Reading Rooms	500		500
RR3	Fire Inspect/PAT Test	200		200
RR5	Maint/Repairs	5000		5000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>7050</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7050</b>
	<b>2. Admin Running Costs</b>			
AD1	Clerk Salary	8500		8500
AD3	Payroll Services	140		140
AD4	Subscriptions	300		300
AD5	Misc expenses/Training/Travel/Data Protection	1000		1000
AD6	Stationery, office supplies, postage etc.	500		500
AD7	External Audits	400		400
AD8	Parish Web Site	500		500
PE	Parish Election	100		100
DAA	Air Ambulance night landing site - playing field Ermington	200		200
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>11640</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>11640</b>
	<b>3. Land Running Costs</b>			
CM1	Grass cutting/ditch cleaning /purchasing of play equipment, benches for play park, road signs	200		200
LM	Lengthsman	800		800
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1000</b>
	<b>Total Running Costs</b>	<b>19690</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19690</b>
	<b>4. Community Grants/Donations</b>			
CHRCHYD	4.1 Churchyard	1200		1200
P3	4.2 P3	500		500
CM	4.3 Misc & Donations	1500		1500
S106	Community Shop	0		0
DEFIB	4.4 Defibrillator running costs	130		130
	<b>Total Comm/Grants/Donations</b>	<b>3330</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3330</b>
	<b>5. S137 Grants/Donations</b>			
S137	Donations	50		50
	<b>Total S137</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>50</b>
	<b>Total Grants/Donations</b>	<b>3380</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3380</b>
	<b>6. Village Hall Project</b>			
SFVHP	Professional/Planning Fees	0		0
SFH	Solicitors Fees	0		0
EPP - costs	Ermington Parish Projects - costs	0		0
	<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£23,070.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£23,070.00</b>
	<b>INCOME</b>			
		Precept = £18,274		
P	Precept	18274		18274
RR	Hire of Reading Rooms	200		200
P3	P3	300		300
BI	Bank Interest - Business Account	10		10
EDF CREDIT	EDF Refund	0		0
VAT Refund	VAT Refund	1800		1800
AD & CM	Locality Grants, SHDC, DCC received (AD & CM)	500		500
EPP - income	Ermington Parish Projects - income	0		0
AA - income	Air Ambulance	0		0
Misc Income		0		0
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£21,084.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£21,084.00</b>
	<b>Surplus/Loss</b>	<b>-£1,986.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	
	<b>Trans to/from Reserves</b>	<b>£10,000.00</b>		
	<b>Earmarked Reserves - Repairs to Reading Rooms</b>	<b>£20,000.00</b>		
	<b>Earmarked Reserves - Village Hall</b>			