

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in the Reading Rooms on 20 September at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair), Ian Creese, Robert Owens, John Dunlop
District Councillor Tom Holway (*from 7.30 pm to 8.00 pm*)
Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Parishioner(s) / Visitor(s): 11

059/2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from County Councillor Dan Thomas and Parish Councillor Steve Yates.

060/2021 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr Owen declared an interest in agenda item 14 (iv) Ermington Churchyard to develop the 'Living Churchyard' Project.

061/2021 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors

Public Questions

Parishioners concerns about which areas of the churchyard will be left for rewilding. They would oppose rewilding, if the front of the churchyard is left to grow wild around the headstones.

Cllr Owens – confirmed the front of the churchyard would be kept in good condition for those who visit graves.

Parishioner – suggested contacting Lynne Kenderdine of the Avon Valley Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Group, but stressed docks and nettles have to be controlled.

Parishioner – asked what the outcome was of the tree issue at Westlake. Cllr Holway – SHDC Tree Officer has been to the area and there are no concerns and no Tree Preservation Orders in the area.

Cllr Onley asked for further concerns to be reported, using a grid reference or "what 3words" reference.

Parishioner – reference planning application number 2564/21/AGR, open invitation for the owners of the property to receive feedback prior to submitting planning application (see attached information).

County Councillor Daniel Thomas – emailed the following report:

Covid-19

The 'Bad' News – an Enhanced Response Area (ERA).

On August 27th, DCC received the news that Devon (along with Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly) was now designated an ERA due to high cases. This means that the government has prioritised the 'far' South West for additional support to reduce case rates. It doesn't mean another local lockdown, but it does mean that authorities across the south west have more flexibility to introduce additional public health measures if considered necessary, to those in other parts of the country.

The advice from County Hall is to

- Limit your social contacts to stop the virus spreading
- meet others outside, because that's safer than meeting inside
- continue to wear face coverings when indoors in public places
- wash your hands properly and regularly
- have the jab if you are an adult and haven't yet had it. Please have both doses as soon as you can. If you're aged 16 to 18, please take up the vaccination when offered to you
- self-isolate if told to do so by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate and arranging a PCR test if you show any symptoms of having the virus – the high temperature, new and continuous cough, or change of your usual sense of taste or smell

County Councillor Daniel Thomas – emailed the following report: (continued)

The good news:

- Uptake of the vaccine among 16/17-year-olds has been high
- A study led by the University of Oxford has found the risk of a blood clot or stroke is much higher with a covid infection than following vaccination.
- More than 1.7m doses of the Covid-19 vaccine have been given in Devon
- Between 8 December and 22 August **917,236** first doses have been given while **809,425** second doses have been given; a total of **1,726,661** doses.
- People who have both vaccine doses or are under 18 don't have to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19.
- You can book an appointment online or by calling 119.

Vaccination data for Devon

- 922,860 people in Devon received a first vaccine dose between 8 December and 29 August, vaccination [data published](#) by NHS England and NHS Improvement shows, broken down as follows:

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+	76,640	75,077	95% or above for people aged 50 and over	90% or above for people aged 50 and over
75-79	58,458	57,973		
70-74	77,503	76,756		
65-69	72,131	71,179		
60-64	79,153	76,547		
55-59	85,663	83,420		
50-54	80,864	78,598		

45-49	66,465	63,324	89.6%	85.4%
40-44	59,336	55,454	96.2%	89.8%
35-39	59,764	52,615	91.2%	80.3%
30-34	59,127	48,286	89.6%	73.2%
25-29	53,941	37,910	77.8%	54.7%
18-24	78,879	48,238	78.6%	48.0%
Under 18	14,906	2,805	6.6%	1.2%
Total (% 16+)	922,860	828,182	92.4%	82.9%

Connecting Devon and Somerset

This scheme, to improve mobile phone coverage in rural parts of Devon and Somerset, is being expanded.

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced that its Mobile Boost Programme, which aims to upgrade indoor 4G coverage in “not-spot” areas, now includes a greater choice of equipment. It’s targeting small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage or have access to only one provider and are currently struggling with connectivity. Businesses and households can apply for a voucher of up to £1,200 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a registered supplier. For a list of registered suppliers and an application form, visit www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/the-cds-mobile-booster-voucher-scheme-guide/

Dartmoor National Park Authority

[A consultation is about to begin on updating the Park’s byelaws. Headlines include a restriction on the number of dogs a person may walk, camping policy, drones and use of fires/bbqs.](#)

County Councillor Daniel Thomas – emailed the following report: (continued)

Outstanding items from previous elected County Councillor for review:

005/21 Blocked drains on the left-hand side of Town Hill and Chapel Street, grate needs to be removed to assess the Situation

005/21 River Erme erosion A312

005/21 Flooding Westlake

005/21 Modbury Cross Woodland Planting - update

District Councillor Tom Holway Report

- Ongoing issue with SHDC Refuse Collection. The contractor has issues with staff being off work due to the COVID situation and a lack of HGV drivers. Please report waste disposal issues on the SHDC website or contact Cllr Holway.
- Grants may be available for those who have poor broadband in the parish.
- SHDC have consulted on grass cutting. There is concern about not letting grass grow in places, which will inhibit the vision for drivers and pedestrians.

042/2021 Mature trees being felled near Tod Moor, Westlake, is this allowed – *SHDC Tree Officer has been to the area and there are no concerns and Tree Preservation Orders in the area.*

042/2021 Clarification on why the trees were cut and the debris left near Upton Farm – *unable to find the area of concern.*

064/2021 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

There are currently five vacancies – no applications have been received since the last Parish Council meeting. The notice advertising vacancies can be seen on parish noticeboards, Ermington Parish website and in the Ermington Parish Magazine.

065/20 SPEEDING IN ERMINGTON - FUNDING FOR SPEED DATA COLLECTING STRIPS

A request has been made to purchase strips which collect data, which can then be used to back up the council to have speed humps and other measures installed. A parishioner is happy to lead on this and organise these strips and is asking for the cost. Cost of the strips is £525.00 for 3 sets. The intention being, to put the strips in the 3 hot spots (i.e. bunkers hill, town hill and the part of road that passes outside the shop.)

066/2021 UPDATE ON FLASHING SPEED SIGN NEAR ERMINGTON STORE AND MORE – Cllr Creese

Cllr Creese reported that the brackets have been received to mount the signs shared with Yealmpton and Ugborough Parish Councils on the A3121. Flashing signs to be placed on entrance to village from the Ivybridge Direction and A3121.

The necessary repairs required for the flashing speed sign by the Ermington Store and More, is being pursued by Nick Colton, DCC Highways.

067/2021 READING ROOMS: REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE, PROGRESS AND ACTIONS REQUIRED

Cllr Creese reported that the lower room has been decorated, new skirting boards installed, new toilet and new flooring has been delivered.

- RESOLVED to purchase a smoke detector for the upper room. **ACTION: Clerk**

068/2021 READING ROOMS – PURCHASE OF TRESTLE TABLES FOR LOWER READING ROOM

Quotes have been received for the purchase of folding tables 4 x 1.8 m, cost £500. RESOLVED to purchase a total of six tables at a cost of £900. **ACTION: Clerk**

RESOLVED to purchase twenty four chairs at a cost of £1,000. **ACTION: Clerk**

See budget attached to June 2021 minutes.

069/2021 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

It was RESOLVED to approve and Chair Cllr Onley to sign the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 6 July 2021 as previously circulated.

070/2021 PLANNING

Reference: 3180/21/FUL

Proposal: Conversion of stone barn into residential dwelling

Site Address: Penquit Mill Barn, Strode, PL21 0LY

Recommendation: - OBJECTION – no evidence of an existing building

Standing orders were suspended at 8.00 pm

The applicant of the planning application explained the historical evidence and the reason for the planning application. Various points were raised by Parish Councillors which have been raised by individual and can be seen on the SHDC planning portal.

Standing orders were reinstated at 8.20 pm

To ratify the following planning applications:

Planning reference: 2109/21/HHO

Site Address: 15 Pinwill Crescent, Ermington, PL21 9FS

Description: Householder application for proposed single storey rear extension

Recommendation: No comment to make

Planning Reference: 0391/21/HHO

Proposal: READVERTISEMENT (Revised plan received) Householder application for change of both roof end hips to gable walls with a new rear dormer

Site Address: The Cottage, Beech Road, Lee Mill, PL21 9HL

Recommendation: No comment to make

Planning Reference: 2556/21/HHO

Proposal: Householder application for proposed alterations to drawing room roof to connect roof to the main house and associated internal alterations

Site Address: Ludd House, Ermington, Ivybridge, PL21 0LZ

Recommendation: No comment to make

Reference: 2830/21/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building consent for partial removal and reinstatement of stonework and associated repairs to listed threshing barn, insertion of conservation roof lights and new window to existing opening in horse engine room

Site Address: Strashleigh Farm, Ivybridge, PL21 9JP

Recommendation: No comment to make

Reference: 2703/21/VAR

Proposal: Application for variation of condition 2 (ancillary use) of planning consent 1424/20/HHO to allow use as holiday let

Site Address: The Croft, Penquit, PL21 0LU

Recommendation: No comment to make

070/2021 PLANNING (continued)

Reference: 2999/21/FUL

Proposal: Change of Use to sewage treatment works and showmen's yard to open airstorage and distribution (Use Class B8)

Site Address: Land at SX 602 556, Lee Mill, Ivybridge, PL21 9EF

Recommendation: No comment to make

Reference: 2830/21/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building consent for partial removal and reinstatement of stonework and associated repairs to listed threshing barn, insertion of conservation roof lights and new window to existing opening in horse engine room

Site Address: Strashleigh Farm, Ivybridge, PL21 9JP

Recommendation: No comment to make

Appeal Decision

Appeal Ref: APP/K1128/D/21/3271219

2 Erme Bridge Cottages, Totnes Road to School Road, Ermington PL21 9NN

Planning Application Ref: 4244/20/HHO – DISMISSED

Planning Decisions

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2109/21/HHO Ermington

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2564/21/AGR Ermington

DECISION: Ag Determination details not required

APPLICATION NUMBER: 1627/21/HHO Ermington

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 0391/21/HHO Ermington

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 4026/20/FUL Ermington

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3609/20/PDM Ermington

DECISION: Prior Approval Required and Given

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2950/21/ARC Ermington

DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

Withdrawn Planning application

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2703/21/VAR 212703 Ermington and Ugborough

LOCATION: The Croft Penquit PL21 0LU

PROPOSAL: Application for variation of condition 2 (ancillary use) of planning consent 1424/20/HHO to allow use as holiday let

DECISION: Withdrawn

071/21 CLIMATE & ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL

RESOLVED to support the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill as per Peter Scott of SHCAN (South Hams Climate Action Network) email request. Response of support to copied to Sir Gary Streeter MP. **ACTION: Clerk**

072/2021 FINANCE

RESOLVED to agree the following:

(i) Bank balances of: Business Account as at 9 July 2021- £45,922.27
Treasurers Account as at 13 August 2021 - £70,374.41

(ii) Banked receipts since July 2021 meeting - Bank Interest - £0.38 (09/07/2021)
- Bank interest - £0.39 (09/08/2021)
- VAT Refund - £1,579.79

072/2021 FINANCE (continued)

(iii) RESOLVED to make the following payments: -

Description	Gross	VAT	Nett
Clerk's Salary – July 2021	£606.34		
Clerk's Salary – August 2021	£606.34		
EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – July 2021	£12.35	£0.65	£13.00
EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – August 2021	£12.35	£0.65	£13.00
Reimbursement to Clerk – HostGator \$128.88 (£94.34 plus £2.82 sterling transaction fee) Hatchling plan which supports hosting for one domain name	£97.16	-	-
EDF Energy – Devon Air Ambulance Lights, Playing Field – 13/04/2021 – 23/07/2021	£52.80	£2.64	£55.44
V Yates – deep clean of Ermington Reading Rooms and toilet	£50.00	-	-
DB Computer Repairs – August & September 2021 website maintenance	£60.00	-	-
Source for Business – services at Reading Rooms 21 May – 31 August 2021 (estimated)	£50.02	-	-

(iv) Grant Requests: Ermington Parish Magazine – grant application form had been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to meeting – RESOLVED a grant of £1,000 with the proviso that there is a review of the cost of adverts, acknowledgement of funding by the Parish Council and the Parish Council have access to a two page entry when requested. **ACTION: Clerk**

Ermington Churchyard to develop the 'Living Churchyard' Project – RESOLVED a grant of £750 for environmental improvements and ecological management. **ACTION Clerk**

(v) Financial Standing Orders requirement:

2.2 Every six months and at each financial year end, a member other than a cheque signatory shall be appointed to verify bank reconciliations (for all accounts) produced by the RFO. The member shall sign the original bank statements (or similar document) as evidence of verification. This activity shall on conclusion be reported, including any exceptions, to and noted by the Council.

Resolved Cllr Owens will verify bank reconciliations. **ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Owens**

(vi) Reviewed spend against budget

(vii) RESOLVED to approve the Financial Statement and Earmarked Reserves

Financial Statement			
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 June 2021 :		£45,921.89	
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 15 June 2021:			£70,868.75
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 July 2021 :		£45,922.27	
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 13 July 2021:			£68,898.06
Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 August 2021 :		£45,922.66	
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 13 August 2021:			£70,374.41
		Total Funds =	£116,297.07
Less: any un-presented cheques			
	001404	-£7.00	2020/2021 cheque not cashed in January 2021
	001437	-£606.34	
	001438	-£97.16	
	001439	-£50.00	
	001440	-£1,335.33	
Plus: any un-banked cash/cheques	£0.00	£0.00	
Earmarked Reserves			
Repairs to Reading Rooms, Ermington			-£20,000
		Total uncommitted Funds =	£94,201.24

073/2021 REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- a) Church liaison = **British Legion Poppy Wreath has been ordered. Cllr Owens will lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.**
- b) Ermington Park = **Claire Cross (parishioner)**
- c) Climate Change and Biodiversity = **Cllr Onley**
- d) Road Warden Scheme update = **Cllr Creese is continuing with litter picking in the parish**
- e) Assessment of Parish footpaths = **Cllr Owens – need to think what can be done for pedestrians exiting the footpath and stepping onto the highway (A3121) near Plantation House.**
- f) Footpath from Higher Keaton to Fernham = **Cllr Owens - parishioners have enquired why this footpath is not on current OS maps, Cllr Owens will be surveying the footpaths over the summer and liaise with PP3 officer re PROW reregistration process.**

073/21 REVIEW REVISED RISK ASSESSMENT OF READING ROOMS AND HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY – Cllr Yates

RESOLVED to agree the risk assessment of Reading Rooms and Health and Safety Policy.

074/2021 REVIEW ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RESOLVED to agree the Ermington Parish Council Financial Regulations.

075/2021 RIVER ERME POLLUTION – LETTER FROM CLLR SHERRELL CHAIRMAN OF HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLVED Cllr Dunlop will attend a meeting at Holbeton Village Hall on Thursday 23 September 2021 at 7.30 pm, which is being organised by Holbeton Parish Council. Sir Gary Streeter MP and a representative from South West Water will be in attendance.

076/2021 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

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

- Sir Gary Streeter - EV's have their own charging points – Cllr Onley asked Cllr Holway if an electric charging point could be installed somewhere in the Ermington Industrial Estate and for SHDC to liaise with DCC regarding one in the primary school car park. Cllr Holway reported that SHDC are working with the relevant authorities, to install charging point for those who are unable to charge their vehicle(s) near their home. **ACTION: Clerk to inform Sir Gary Streeter.**

- The DCC Reconnect Rebuild Recover Community Fund will provide grant funding of up to £1,000 for smaller projects and between £1,000 and £3,000 for larger projects that help local people to reconnect, rebuild and recover their community-led facilities and/or social activities.

SHDC - Spinning, Climbing or Gliding? What New Play Equipment Do You Choose For Woodlands Park (The Spinney)?

SHDC - Community Led Electric Car and Bike Club - Survey Launched

SHDC - Managing Council green spaces to enhance biodiversity value – Consultation

DCC - National Bus Strategy - Stakeholder Consultation

SHDC - £127,000 Business Boost for Local Towns

GOV.UK - Letting you know about changes to the venue check-in regulations

SHDC - Better Lives for All – consultation now open for comment

SHDC - COVID-19 self-isolation affects South Hams Waste & Recycling Service

Clerk - Police and crime plan engagement session presentation

SHDC - Join the conversation about our vision for South Hams

Letter from Sir Gary Streeter MP (*an agenda item*)

SHDC - UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF ATMOS SITE - Totnes

Devon County Council – Tour of Britain Cycle Race: Devon stage

Cllr Holway - Funding available to help Devon's communities reconnect, rebuild and recover

SHDC - Planning Validation Checklist Consultation

Cllr Holway - Charities' chance to cash in on criminal's loot

SHDC - We're Listening – Influence Decisions for South Hams

SHDC - Apply for a Tesco grant to help tackle food insecurity.

DCC - Tour of Britain Devon Stage - Ermington 6 Sept 2021

Holbeton Parish Council – Cllr Sherrell - River Erme Pollution

CrimeStoppers Rural Crime Campaign - Please feel free to share

Ermington Church – grant request for maintenance of churchyard

SHDC - South Hams Chairman sends sympathies to city of Plymouth

Devon Communities - Reconnect Rebuild Recover Community Fund

SHDC - Section 106 Contributions for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

SHDC – Garden Waste Collections Impacted by Driver Shortages

Cllr Holway - New Coworking Hub in Modbury

DCC - Temporary Traffic Order - Tour of Britain (TTRO2141719)

SHDC - Award-winning Team Supports South Hams Businesses Through Challenging Times

Cllr Holway - Felled Trees, Tod Moor side of Westlake - SX 623 538

Ivybridge Town Council - Permission to wear chains

Devon Air Ambulance Polite Request to all Parish / Community Magazines

Rambles Association - An update from Don't Lose Your Way

SHDC - Help us make a buzz in Totnes

Peter Scott - CEE Bill motion at Parish Council

SHDC - Community Broadband

Cllr D Thomas - Parsonage Farm Ermington

SHDC - Temporary suspension of Garden Waste Collections

SHDC - eCargo bike grant now available

DCC - A38 Tree works in Devon
SHDC - The Electric Car Challenge
SHDC - Holding Waste Contractor to Account
SHDC - Developer Contributions Benefit South Hams SHDC - Request for a TPO (ref: <1742809>) South Hams District Council No. 1044 Tree Preservation Order 2021, Ermington House Care Home, Ermington, PL21 0LQ Confirmed as Served
SHDC - Better Lives For All - Councillors Discuss 20 Year Plan
SHDC - Consultation on draft Gambling Statement of Principles - Responses to the consultation must be received no later than 24th October 2021.
Cllr Holway - Modern Slavery Project Aidant 6th-17th September 2021: Focus On Adults Trafficked to UK for Sexual Exploitation/Exploited In The UK
SHDC - Gambling Policy Under Review
Devon & Cornwall Police - Devon and Cornwall Police are recruiting now for Special Constables!
Cllr Holway - Sharing essential safety information in Gas Safety Week 2021
SHDC - Do you need better broadband?
SHDC - GET ACTIVE WITH A 'MIDWEEK MILE' THIS NATIONAL FITNESS DAY
South Devon AONB - Join The Rivers Trust's State of Our Rivers Report: stakeholder webinar
SHDC - Garden waste suspension to continue in South Hams

Planning Ref 2827/21/TPO – Parish Tree Warden will assess and respond

Parishioner - Articulated lorry stuck in Ermington (19 July 2021)
Parishioner - Grant Request from Ermington Parish Magazine
Parishioner - Ermington Parish Council - Ermington House
Parishioner - Ermington House
Parishioner - Planning App. 3180/21/FUL
Parishioner - speeding in Ermington - money for speed data collecting strips

077/2021 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting to be held in the Reading Rooms will take place on [5 October 2021](#) at [7.30](#) pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Denis Onley

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(*Ermington Parish Council Chair*)

Date: 20 October 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> - click on report from drop down menu

Tallet Meadow Farm / Budlake Linhay proposal

We purchased Budlake Linhay / Barn & a 5ha field (Tallet Meadow) in November 2019 which had planning permission allowing us to convert to a 4 bed roomed dwelling. The aim was to live there and create a farm business while encouraging the biodiversity of the area. It soon became clear that if we converted and lived in the Linhay we would need an agricultural barn to use as workshop and stores for Tallet Meadow Farm. Since SHDC has declared a Climate and Biodiversity emergency we reflected on our options. The most sustainable path would be to build a modern dwelling incorporating low carbon footprint technologies and to renovate the Linhay using it as an agricultural barn while preserving it as a heritage asset in Ermington. We intend to submit plans in October 2021 to SHDC for a low visual impact dwelling.



We would welcome the opportunity to share our plans with Councillors and residents of Ermington and seek their feedback and hopefully their support for our proposals. Please email us at mwalkone@gmail.com to arrange a time to view our plans.



A renovated Budlake Linhay

A sustainable / low carbon dwelling



During the last 22months we have attempted to increase the variety of habitats for both flora & fauna ;
Planted over 1000 native trees
Replaced a grubbed out hedge
Created several wildlife ponds
Established an orchard of over 100 apple varieties many local to Devon
Sweet chestnut, walnut and cob nut trees and been planted

In the next few months wildflower seed will be sown in 3 areas, reinstatement of a second hedge / wildlife corridor and more apple & nut trees will be planted.