

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Ermington Parish Council Meeting held remotely due to the coronavirus pandemic Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair), Ian Creese, Steve Yates, Claire Cross
Robert Owens, John Dunlop

County Councillor Richard Hosking (*from 8.00 pm to 8.45 pm*)
District Councillor Tom Holway (*from 7.30 pm to 8.00 pm*)
Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Parishioner(s) / Visitor(s):

175/2020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

176/2020 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA

Cllr Cross – planning reference 0887/21/HHO. Cllr Cross will leave the meeting whilst the planning application is discussed.

177/2020 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

There are currently four vacancies – no applications have been received since the last Parish Council meeting.

The notice advertising vacancies can be seen on parish noticeboards, website and in the Ermington Parish Magazine.

178/2020 REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD HOSKING, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

Cllr Hosking has received correspondence and photos in connection with concerns of a recently installed gas supply at 2 Park Hill Cottages, Chapel Street, Ermington PL21 9NF. The supply pipe has been attached to the outside of a high wall directly above the road surface where the highway is narrowing to around 3 meters. The pipe is proud of the wall, in a Conservation Area and regularly used by large agricultural machinery.

Cllr Hosking has been asked if a written response could be given to the Parish Council from Devon County Council Highways, stating that a planning application was not required and it is not a serious hazard and meets all Highways Safety requirements, together with general Health and Safety requirements for neighbouring residents.

159/20 Blocked drains on the left-hand side of Town Hill and Chapel Street, grate needs to be removed to assess the Situation – Cllr Hosking

159/20 River Erme erosion A3121- Cllr Hosking

159/20 Flooding Westlake – Cllr Hosking

159/20 Modbury Cross Woodland Planting update – Cllr Hosking

Cllr Onley - The Erme Bridge (Site 8) to Ermington Woods's footway, the Parish Council is waiting for information on whether the preferred option C is still an option, or it has been ruled out due to cost.

The verge (Site 10) area of land Richard Kingsley-Smith, Devon County Council is refers to in his correspondence is required for a new footway to the bridle-path is between Rectory Cottages and Ring O' Bells Cottage. It is not known who owns this land, a photo of the area will be sent to Cllr Hosking by Cllr Onley to ascertain ownership.

The Parish Council needs to understand Option C for Ermington House scheme. Cllr Hosking will liaise with Richard Kingsley Smith, Devon County Council.

179/2020 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR TOM HOLWAY, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

SHDC – agreed to provide extra locality money for environmental projects, which equates to £1,000 per annum. Also assessing regeneration on a match funding project. Please liaise with Cllr Holway if you need any advice.

Fusion – out door classes commence on 12 April 2021. Outdoor group exercise classes will continue at Ivybridge Leisure Centre and Meadowlands Leisure Centre, until indoor classes are permitted from 17 May.

Up to £600k has been set aside to support business recovery in the South Hams.

Following persistent lobbying by SHDC and other councils, the government is closing the loophole that allowed owners of holiday homes to avoid paying council tax and to receive Covid grants in excess of £11 million.

SHDC is working with Devon County Council for active travel and reducing bad air quality.

Charges for open spaces will remain the same.

If the Ermington Fair takes place, the cost of hiring the playing field will be absorbed by Cllr Holway/SHDC.

162/20 Provision of strong good quality litter bags from SHDC, for parishioners to use when carrying out litter picking in the parish - Cllr Holway

180/2020 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors

Cllr Onley thanked Devon County Council for installing a gate on the footpath near Sequers Bridge

Cllr Onley – would it be possible to have road signs warning motorists of hedgehogs in the area drive and to drive with care. Cllr Hosking pointed out the signs must be authorised by the Department of Transport, and in order for them to consider the request the parish council must provide:

- Maps showing the approximate locations where the signs are to be placed
- Evidence showing that the locations are accident and wildlife hotspots.

Parishioners to provide evidence to Cllr Hosking of the locations of wildlife accidents, which can then be reviewed in order to make an application to the Department for Transport. If authorised, signs can be erected at safe locations when funding becomes available.

181/2020 IDEAS TO REDUCE SPEED OF VEHICLES/ TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY THROUGH THE VILLAGE:

- 20 mph speed limit road signs for the village – **Cllrs Yates** – signs are now in situ within the village. The highway speed limit sign in the hedge near Ermington Primary school is not visible. Resolved Cllr Cross will liaise with the Primary School, asking if the hedge could be trimmed. **ACTION: Cllr Cross**

- Ermington Primary School to be asked to design “20 mph is plenty” signs – **Cllr Cross** – Resolved not to pursue this idea, as no response has been received from the Primary School

- Flashing speed sign near the Ermington Store and More – **Cllr Creese** Cllr Creese will send details of the speed sign manufacture to Nick Colton at DCC Highways. **ACTION: Cllr Creese**

182/2020 REPAIRS TO FLOOR OF READING ROOMS GROUND FLOOR – UPDATE

Repairs to commence on Monday 12 April 2021. Permission has been granted from Ermington Primary School to allow parishioners to park in the school carpark from Friday 2nd April until Sunday 18th April 2021.

Cllr Creese has received confirmation that the builder plans to start as soon as possible.

Letters have been distributed to households near the Reading Rooms, advising them of the work and apolging for any inconvenience this may cause.

183/2020 READING ROOMS FUTURE USE AND ACTIVITIES SURVEY - CLLR YATES

Ermington Parish Church would like to use the Reading Rooms toilets on Sunday mornings – Resolved Cllr Dunlop/Clerk will send a Risk Assessment for their use. **ACTION: Cllr Dunlop/Clerk**

Cllr Yates – to date, 5 responses have been received from the parish website consultation. Questions will also be placed on Ermington facebook.

Discussion ensued on how the Reading Rooms could be used in conjunction with other venues in the village.

Cllr Owens pointed out, currently there is poor access to Reading Rooms. If the Fire Exit in the top room was made larger it could be used for disability access. Could the steps be covered and a disabled access lift installed between the floors? Resolved Cllr Owens will liaise with Ermington Parish Church. **ACTION: Cllr Owens**

184/2020 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Resolved the minutes of Ermington Parish Council meeting held on 2 March 2021 would be signed by the Chair.

185/2020 PLANNING

Reference: 0419/21/HHO

Proposal: Householder application for proposed replacement of flat roof with pitched, garage conversion to accommodation, new porch and updated bungalow external finishes

Site Address: The Croft, Penquit, PL21 0LU

Recommendation: No comment

Cllr Claire Cross left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

Reference: 0887/21/HHO

Proposal: Householder application for single storey rear extension (resubmission of 4244/20/HHO)

Site Address: 2 Erme Bridge Cottages, Ermington, PL21 9NN

Recommendation: Object

The plans PA10 to PA13 referred to in the application are not included with the application.

The drawing of the window opening to the front of the neighbouring property in PA21 is not an accurate representation.

Previous Parish Council objections and the Planning Inspectors decision remain relevant to this application

Cllr Claire Cross re-joined the meeting at 8.55 pm.

Planning Decisions

APPLICATION NUMBER: 2251/20/ARC Ermington

LOCATION: Penquit Cottage Penquit House To Penquit Manor Penquit Devon PL21 0LU

PROPOSAL: Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 and 5 of planning permission 1830/19/HHO

DECISION: Discharge of condition Approved

APPLICATION NUMBER: 4244/20/HHO Ermington

LOCATION: 2 Erme Bridge Cottages Ermington PL21 9NN

PROPOSAL: Householder application for single storey rear extension

DECISION: Refusal

APPLICATION NUMBER: 3326/20/HHO Ermington

LOCATION: 2 Erme Park Ermington PL21 9LY

PROPOSAL: Householder application for modernisation and extension of detached dwelling & garage at front and rear

DECISION: Conditional Approval

APPLICATION NUMBER: 0219/21/PDM Ermington

LOCATION: The Barn Back Lane Ermington PL21 9LR

PROPOSAL: Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed change of use of agricultural building to 1no dwelling house (Class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q (a+b))

DECISION: Prior Approval Required and Given

186/2020 FINANCE

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

Description	Gross	VAT	Nett
Clerk's Salary - March 2021	£606.34	-	-
EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – March 2021	£13.35	£0.65	£13.00
db Computer Repairs – update to parish website February and March 2021	£60.00	-	-
Reimbursement to Clerk for 12 x 1st and 12 x 2 nd class stamps	£36.24	-	-
Reimbursement to Clerk for A4 envelopes	£3.10	£0.52	£2.58
Reimbursement to Clerk for black and colour HP ink cartridges	£49.72	£8.29	£41.43
Reimbursement to Clerk for 3 x condolence books, 2 x loose leaf refills and blue lever arch file	£108.02	£18.01	£90.01
SHDC - Providing 2021/21 payroll service for Parish Clerk	£120.00	£20.00	£100.00
Cllr Ian Creese – replacement plastic sheet to repair the Parish Council notice board in Westlake	£25.00	-	-
Reimbursement to Clerk for purchase of road signs etc from Greenhams	£221.73	£44.35	£177.38
DALC& NALC affiliation fee and DALC Service Charge 2021/2022	£191.97	£21.97	£170.00

Cllr Owen has verified the bank statements and reconciliations, see minute reference - 169/20.

RECEIPT - Interest on Business Bank Account - £0.36
SHDC – COVID Grant - £1,334.00

Grant request from a parishioner who organises litter picking in the parish, towards the purchase of signs. Resolved a grant of £150.00. **ACTION: Clerk**

Resolved Cllr Owen will review the Devon Air Ambulance electricity supply contract. **ACTION: Cllr Owen**

Bank Reconciliations

Treasurers Account: Balance per bank statement as at 15 March 2021		£65,869.16
LESS: any un-presented cheques (negative numbers)	001404	-£7.00
		£0.00
PLUS: any un-banked cash/cheques	N/A	£0.00
		£0.00
Business Account: Balance per bank statement as at 9 February 2021		£45,920.38

Total Funds = £111,782.54

Earmarked Reserves

Repairs to Reading Rooms = £20,000

Precept 2021/2022

£19,440 (reduction of 20%) Band D property will show £51.14 for the Ermington element of the total bill.

This is a decrease of -19.7% or -£12.51 on the 2020/21 Band D figure.

187/2020 REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- a) Churchyard Committee = Cllr Dunlop – *no meetings have taken place since the last parish council meeting.*
- b) Ermington Park & Climate Change = Tree planting & play equipment = Cllr Cross – *42 whips have been planted in the play park. Larger trees to be planted next year by SHDC. Play equipment has been ordered and work to start at the end of April 2021, visual design will be placed near the area. Resolved Cllr Cross to ask Cllr Holway for money towards purchasing a larger tree for play park area. ACTION: Cllrs Cross/Holway*
- c) Road Warden Scheme = Cllr Creese – *whilst assisting with the parish litter picking, it was noted there are blocked drains which he has reported to DCC Highways.*
- d) Assessment of Parish footpaths = Cllr Yates – *no progress*
- e) Footpath from Higher Keaton to Fernham - parishioners enquiries why it is not on OS maps = Cllr Yates – *no progress*
- f) Cycling routes = Cllr Yates – *no progress*
- g) Allotments = Cllr Yates – *landowners who are known to own land in the parish have been approached. To date no land is available for various reasons. Resolved to remove item from the agenda. ACTION: Clerk*

188/2020 ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE POLICY

Three condolences books and two loose leaf inserts have been purchased. Resolved the books and inserts will be stored in the Parish Council filing cabinet in the Reading Rooms.

Resolved to adopt the policy and review annually in April. **ACTION: Clerk**

189/2020 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Some of the correspondence listed below, can be seen on the parish website.

DCC - Devon's latest COVID-19 figures, testing our way out of the pandemic and inspiration from vaccination

SHDC - More Money for More Businesses

Devon Communities Together - Free hospitality and tourism business support event

SHDC - How Much Council Tax South Hams Residents Will Pay Is Confirmed

SHDC - Salcombe projects could keep the town sustainable and viable for years to come

Cllr Holway - What is Devon doing to tackle the climate emergency?

SHDC - Council Tug Has a Shiny New Refit

SHDC - Salcombe projects could keep the town sustainable and viable for years to come

Devon Communities Together - Census support information from Devon Communities Together

DCC - Devon County Council (Traffic Regulation & On-Street Parking Places) Amendment Order reference IMR/B06948-5867

DCC - Your vote is safe in the Devon County Council elections, volunteers needed and more information about standing to be a Devon County Councillor

SHDC - Safe Space On the Beaches for All

SHDC - Money Well Spent to Cross the Dart

DCC - Temporary Traffic Notice - CADLEIGH LANE & WOODLAND ROAD, Ermington (TTRO2139575)

DCC - More outbreaks likely, new films share experiences from vaccination centres and high attendance in Devon schools

Cllr Holway - SHCVS Event / Training Update

SHDC - Business grants deadline, licence refunds and outdoor seating

SHDC - Residents and visitors urged to 'find a bin or take it home' in new litter campaign.

SHDC - OUTDOOR GROUP EXERCISE CLASSES TO KICK OFF PHASED RE-OPENINGS IN WEST DEVON AND SOUTH HAMS ON 29th MARCH

Cllr Holway - SCC's Newsletter 24th March

SHDC - Roadmap out of lockdown for Skateboarding

DCC - If you're eligible then get your vaccination now, Devon's decline in positive COVID-19 cases slows, more people can access rapid tests and a warning to visitors

SHDC - How to Swim Safely This Holiday Season in the South Hams

Cllr Hosking - Managing Coronavirus

SHDC - Respect, Protect, Enjoy - South Hams and West Devon

Devon Communities Together - Latest Covid-19 Updates and Resources from Devon Communities Together

Email from Parishioner - Highway Maintenance Faults (Assess), Issue Location: Chapel Street, Ermington

Calor Gas - Calor Rural Community Fund – 3 weeks to go until applications close

SHDC - Follaton House To Become New Vaccination Centre

DCC - A plea to respect each other, getting help if you need it over Easter and a thank you to those who care

Cllr Hosking - Members' COVID-19 Bulletin: 1 April 2021

189/2020 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE (continued)

Renewal of DALC/NALC membership for 2021/22 will be £191.97 – Resolved to renew membership. **ACTION: Clerk**

- Email from parishioner = Ermington Cricket Club – The Ermington Playing Field, grass cuttings – *Resolved Cllr Creese will ask for grass cuttings to be placed over the fence by river and he will be the link between the cricket club and Parish Council.* **ACTION: Cllr Creese**

- Email from parishioner = Not to develop the Reading Rooms, but to submit plans for new Village Hall. Resolved Cllr Onley will respond. **ACTION: Cllr Onley**

- Email from parishioner = Reading Rooms – concerned over cost of work being carried out on the lower room of the Reading Rooms. Resolved Cllr Onley will respond. **ACTION: Cllr Onley**

- Email from parishioner = Reading Rooms – concern over upcoming works. Resolved Cllr Onley will respond. **ACTION: Cllr Onley**

190/2020 REVIEW ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 2022 AND STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL

No comments made.

191/2020 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held remotely on Zoom due to the Coronavirus pandemic will take place on [4 May 2021](#) at [7.30](#) pm.

The [Annual Parish Meeting](#) will take place on [25 May 2021](#) at [7.30 pm](#). Zoom link or venue and guest speaker to be confirmed in due course. G-UP (Greener Ugborough Parish) to be asked to give a talk on their work to make the Parish more sustainable. **ACTION: Clerk**

Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Denis Onley

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(*Ermington Parish Council Chair*)

Date: 4 May 2021

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

To report issues to the local Police. Members of the public who have a non-urgent matter to bring to the attention of their Local Policing Team, the easiest way of contacting them is

<https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-area/teams/ivybridge/Overview>

or

the contact form: <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-area/teams/ivybridge/Contact>

Devon and Cornwall Alert two way community messaging system - <https://alerts.dc.police.uk/>

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

Find out about possible delays due to roadworks in Devon via an interactive map - <https://apps1.wdm.co.uk/Live/Devon/PBLC/PIP/Map.aspx?cg=sws>

SHDC website to report full bins etc. - <https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit> - click on report from drop down menu.