

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Ermington Parish Council Meeting held remotely due to the coronavirus pandemic Tuesday 2 February 2021 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair), Ian Creese, John Dunlop, Steve Yates,
District Councillor Tom Holway (*from 7.30 pm to 7.42 pm*)
Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Parishioner(s) / Visitor(s): 1

139/2020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – County Councillor Richard Hosking and Cllr Claire Cross

140/2020 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA

None.

141/2020 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

There are currently five vacancies.

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

An application has been received which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting from Mr R Owens. It was agreed to interview the applicant after the meeting.

142/2020 REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR RICHARD HOSKING, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

The following emailed report was received from Cllr Hosking:

1. Ivybridge Library have now reintroduced a Choose and Collect Lifeline service. Details available on their website.
2. The vaccination programme is now well under way with over 9 million people having received their first dose. Concern now focused on variants and their potential to evade vaccine established immunity.
3. The DCC budget proposed by Cabinet is £587.5 m, up 6.6%, requiring an increase of Council Tax of 4.99%. This will seek the approval of Full Council on 18th February 2021.

127/20 Blocked drains on the left-hand side of Town Hill and Chapel Street, grate needs to be removed to assess the situation. DCC Highways have it on their list of jobs.

127/20 River Erme erosion A3121

127/20 Flooding Westlake – Cllr Hosking to waiting for a response from DCC Highways, but due to the COVID restrictions unable to have a site meeting.

143/2020 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR TOM HOLWAY, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

- Full SHDC meeting next week, when there will be discussion on green regeneration and recovery from COVID.
- SHDC small businesses who are having issues with applying for the grant please contact Cllr Holway.
- Information concerning various scams are being circulated by the police, the recent one is in connection with National Insurance Number.
- Ivybridge has support for the building of ALDI in the town.
- Awaiting for contractors to repaint the yellow lines at the entrance to Fawn's Close.

144/2020 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors

Cllr Onley - the salt/grit bin on the Ermington Mill industrial estate needs replenishing.

Cllr Dunlop – the salt/grit bin is in a bad state and needs replacing.

Cllr Holway will speak to the SHDC Asset Department at. **ACTION: Cllr Holway**

145/2020 IDEAS TO REDUCE SPEED OF VEHICLES/ TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY THROUGH THE VILLAGE

- Quotes for 20 mph speed limit road signs for the village locations – **resolved to order 15 signs as per the sign below, but omit “by order of “. ACTION: Cllr Yates**



- Ermington Primary School to be asked to design “20 mph is plenty” signs – **Cllr Cross – awaiting a response from the Primary School**

- Failed flashing speed sign near the Ermington Store and More from street lighting department – **Cllr Creese – DCC Highways it arranging for the failed sign to be replaced.**

146/2020 UPDATE ON THE REPAIRS TO FLOOR, OF READING ROOMS GROUND FLOOR

Cllr Creese has received an email from AMBC Building Contractors Ltd (who had quoted £6,550.00 + vat @ 20%), confirming repairs to floor in the ground floor room of Reading Rooms will take place during school holidays.

Cllr Yates has spoken to the owner of Reading Room Cottage to inform them of the planned repairs.

147/2020 FUTURE OF THE READING ROOM

Resolved to wait until COVID restrictions were lifted and the repairs to the lower ground floor were completed prior to consulting parishioners on the future of the Reading Rooms.

Resolved Cllr Yates will assess ideas, on how consultation with parishioners will take place. **ACTION: Cllr Yates**

148/2020 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Resolved to approve the minutes of Ermington Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2021 would be signed by the Chair.

149/2020 PLANNING

Reference: 0065/21/FUL

Proposal Site: Provision of an agricultural building

Address: Teal Barn, Burraton, Devon

Recommendation: No comment

For information only:

Applicant: Mr & Mrs J Hoare

Application Number: 0219/21/PDM


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

Location: The Barn, Back Lane, Ermington, PL21 9LR

150/2020 FINANCE

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

Description	Gross	VAT	Nett
Clerk's Salary - January 2021	£606.34	-	-
EDF Energy – monthly Direct Debit – January 2021	£24.00	£1.20	£22.80
EDF Energy – Devon Air Ambulance Lights, Playing Field – Standing charge 5/11/2020 - 22/01/2021	£66.36	£3.32	£63.04
TJ Electrical – Reading Rooms Portable Appliance Testing – see report below.	£60.00	-	-




T J Electrical Services
passion and quality in everything we do


Portable Appliance Testing Report

Reference number: PATR012 | Date: 01/02/2021

Contractor Details		Installation Address		Client Address	
Company name: T J Electrical Phone: 07962034507 Contractor name: Tom Aftek	10 Smeaton Square Plymouth Devon PL3 6NU	Ermington Parish Clerk: Ermington Reading Rooms Ermington	Ermington Parish Clerk: Ermington Reading Rooms Ermington		

Appliances								
ID	Appliance description	Appliance location	Class	Visual Inspection (Pass / Fail)	Test		Next test date	Comment
					Earth (Ω)	Insulation (MΩ)		
1	Vacuum cleaner	Hall	Class 2	Pass	N/A	200	01/02/23	
2	Microwave	Hall	Class 1	Pass	0.03	30	01/02/23	
3	Water heater	Hall	Class 1	Fail	0.30	0.7	29/01/21	low insulation resistance
4	Lincat water heater	Hall	Class 1	Pass	0.05	2.42	01/02/23	
5	Dehumidifier	Hall	Class 2	Pass	N/A	70	01/02/23	

Declaration	
Engineer name:	Tom Aftek
Signature:	



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Bank Reconciliations

Treasurers Account: Balance per bank statement as at 13 January 2021			£68,256.49
LESS: any un-presented cheques (negative numbers)	001400	-£250.00	
	001402	-£31.32	
	001404	-£7.00	
	001405	£60.00	
	001406	-£268.76	
			-£497.08
PLUS: any un-banked cash/cheques	N/A		£0.00
Business Account: Balance per bank statement as at 09 December 2020			£45,919.60
			Total = £113,679.01
Earmarked Reserve - Repairs to Reading Rooms - £20,000			
Precept = £19,440 - 2021/2022			
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.			

Resolved to remove the water heater from the Reading Rooms, as it had failed the Portable Appliance Test – **ACTION: Cllr Creese**

RECEIPT(S) – Refund from EDF Energy - £125.83.

GRANT REQUEST - Kingsbridge Gymnastics Club – Resolved not to give a grant.

Resolved to apply for the latest Village Hall Support Grant for the Reading Rooms.

151/2020 **REPORTS ON LOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:**

- a) Churchyard Committee = Cllr Dunlop – *no meetings have taken place.*
- b) Ermington Park & Climate Change - Tree planting & play equipment = Cllr Cross – *Cllrs Cross and Onley have met contractors and Cllr Cross will attend the panel to assess the play equipment designs.*
- b) Road Warden Scheme = Cllr Creese – *the drains in Westlake have been kept clear by Cllr Creese, which has resulted in less flooding. The road at Hollowcombe Cross will be closed from 1 March 2021 in order to complete the new road layout.*
- c) Assessment of Parish footpaths = Cllr Yates - *awaiting for dry weather to carry out an assessment of parish footpaths.*
- d) Footpath from Higher Keaton to Fernham - parishioners enquiries why it is not on OS maps = Cllr Yates
- e) Cycling routes = Cllr Yates
- f) Allotments – Cllr Yates – *seeking land in the parish for allotments.*

152/2020 **MODBURY CROSS WOODLAND PLANTING – Cllr Onley**

DCC have purchased four pieces of land near Flete Eastern Lodge (the whole field was not for sale), which is not part of Modbury Cross Safer Road Fund project. The land purchased is to offset habitat loss as a result of the Jetty Marsh road scheme (planning requirement). DCC are required to plant native broadleaf woodland and wet woodland, willow carr and marshy habitat.

It is DCC policy to secure a 5 year maintenance contract (post planting) to ensure the planting establishes itself and fulfils its ecological function. After 5 year, DCC will adopt a natural regeneration approach except where DCC needs to make sure trees don't establish and interfere with over and underground services.

DCC does not own land along the river. On plot 4, it is not possible to plant to the edge of the river because of underground services constraints and the footpath. The proposed planting will create natural land cover that will slow down and absorb as much run off as possible.

The plan is to fence all the plots, as DCC are creating a new ecological habitat. Some of the land purchased is by nature suitable for wet woodland and it will prove difficult to offer suitable access. DCC PROW team is being consulted on future possible access.

The River Erme gets very close to the A3121 Footpath 12 entrance gate and the area regularly floods. It has been previously suggested, moving the entrance to the footpath further along the A3121 towards High Barn and providing a pedestrian footpath and refuge, which would now be possible on this land. This will be raised with DCC PROW and Highways teams.

DCC ecologist confirmed the presence of Himalayan Balsam but didn't find any Japanese Knotweed during their phase one habitat survey in Summer 2020, but that is not to say that it isn't there. Unfortunately, the woodland creation scheme funding cannot cater for the kind of highways improvement and repairs.

The historic water pipe connecting Flete House to Flete Eastern Lodge and Southley runs through this land. It causes a sump which could be utilised to produce a wetland area into which run off water from the highway could be diverted. DCC are investigating the location of the pipe and we will look at opportunities for wetland creation in plot 4.

Unfortunately an orchard creation does not offer the same ecological functions as broadleaved and wet woodlands and is not possible.

153/2020 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

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

SHDC - Your Covid Heroes Who Went Above And Beyond
SHDC - Latest on Ivybridge Regeneration Project
SHDC - Statement on Kingsbridge Explosion
Ermington Village Fund – thank you for the donation towards village Christmas lights
Devon Communities Together - Take a look at how DCT supported communities from Oct-Dec '20
Youth Mental Health Foundation - Introducing the Youth Mental Health Foundation
Kingsbridge Gymnastic Club - Help appreciated for our project
Warning - NHS / Coronavirus Scam
SHDC - You Count – Sign Up For Election Roles Now
Cllr Holway - Trading Standards - Covid scams article
Devon Communities Together - Latest Covid-19 Updates and Resources from Devon Communities Together
DCC - Devon's case numbers fall, vaccination centre volunteers needed and calls for care workers to be better paid
SHDC - Spending Local - Making Change Happen
SHDC - 2021/22 Budget Consultation
SHDC - Parking Proposals – Have Your Say
SHDC - Business Grant Application Support
DCC - Trading Standards consumer news
SHDC - Oil Spill at Salcombe Harbour Under Control
SHDC - Flags at Half Mast in Honour of Captain Sir Tom Moore
Email - Application to be a Parish Councillor

154/2020 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting to be held remotely on Zoom due to the Coronavirus pandemic will take place on [2nd March 2021](#) at [7.30](#) pm.

Meeting closed at 8.16 pm.

Denis Onley

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(Ermington Parish Council Chair)

Date: 2 March 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>

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.