

ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Reading Rooms on 5 March 2024 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Denis Onley (Chair), Robert Owens, Patricia Hannam, John Dunlop and Ian Creese
Devon County Councillor Dan Thomas
District Councillor Alison Dewynter
Teresa Drew (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

Parishioner(s) / Visitor(s): 7

132/2023 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

133/2023 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST(S) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA

None.

134/2023 VACANCIES FOR FIVE PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Onley pointed out, SHDC has given advice to the Parish Council to have their own procedure/policy for co-option. Cllr Owens stated that as there is no written policy for co-opting, a policy is written and at the next meeting adopted. Then invite parishioners to apply via the policy.

Cllr Dunlop stressed there was a co-option policy, albeit not written down but had been followed for many years. Cllr Onley agreed the current policy is written down and adopted, so everyone is aware of the process. Cllr Hannam suggested it would be helpful if a procedure is published, so parishioners are aware. Cllr Creese pointed out he had been co-opted as stated in the January 2024 minutes, but there is a need to ensure parishioners are aware of the co-option policy.

Cllr Owens proposal was seconded by Cllr Creese. Three councillors voted to have a written policy to be submitted and adopted at the next meeting. One Councillor did not vote. Cllr Owens and Dunlop will prepare a policy to be submitted at the next meeting. **ACTION: Cllrs Owens and Dunlop**

135/2023 REPORT FROM DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAN THOMAS INCLUDING ITEMS FROM PAST MEETINGS

- Bus service in Ermington
- Public footpath gate entrance opposite Plantation House
- A3121 Speed limit (variation of DCC policy)
- Potholes in Westlake and Luson and flooding in Westlake

Herein my report from County Hall, concerning the recent budget meeting and Devolution proposals.

The budget for 2024/25 has been agreed, with another 4.99% rise in council tax. Bands are below:

Key Table 2 – Precept & Council Tax

TOTAL SPENDING TO BE MET FROM COUNCIL TAX

| | £ |
|---|-----------------------|
| County Council Budget funded by District Councils' collection funds | 529,198,103.08 |
| Net Surplus on Council Tax collection in previous years | (5,223,838.10) |
| Total to be met from Council Tax Precepts in 2024/25 | 523,974,264.98 |

COUNTY COUNCIL TAX DUE FOR EACH PROPERTY VALUATION BAND

| Valuation Band | Government Multiplier | | Adult Social Care Precept | General Expenditure | 2024/25 Council Tax Devon CC |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| | Ratio | % of Band D | £ | £ | £ |
| A | 6/9 | 66.7 | 165.06 | 978.72 | 1,143.78 |
| B | 7/9 | 77.8 | 192.57 | 1,141.84 | 1,334.41 |
| C | 8/9 | 88.9 | 220.08 | 1,304.96 | 1,525.04 |
| D | 1 | 100.0 | 247.59 | 1,468.08 | 1,715.67 |
| E | 11/9 | 122.2 | 302.61 | 1,794.32 | 2,096.93 |
| F | 13/9 | 144.4 | 357.63 | 2,120.56 | 2,478.19 |
| G | 15/9 | 166.7 | 412.65 | 2,446.80 | 2,859.45 |
| H | 18/9 | 200.0 | 495.18 | 2,936.16 | 3,431.34 |

The County Council Tax for Band D represents an increase of 4.99% on the 2023/24 amount.

The budget for 2024/25 has been agreed, with another 4.99% rise in council tax. Bands are below:

The headline spending figures, with this year's figures shown on the left, are below:

| 2023/24 Adjusted Budget | | Changes | 2024/25 Budget |
|-------------------------|---|---------|----------------|
| £'000 | | £'000 | £'000 |
| 340,245 | Integrated Adult Social Care | 20,501 | 360,746 |
| 206,278 | Children and Young People's Futures | 21,507 | 227,785 |
| 21,678 | Public Health, Communities & Prosperity | (755) | 20,923 |
| 49,755 | Corporate Services | (1,310) | 48,445 |
| 81,619 | Climate Change, Environment & Transport | 3,863 | 85,482 |

As you can see, the vast majority of spending continues to be on adult and children's services. There is just under 5% more for the whole department that covers highways, suggesting another tough year ahead.

A fully costed opposition amendment for an extra £2million on roads, split into £1.5m for potholes and £0.5m for road lining, was defeated on party lines.

The small piece of good news is that Locality Funding seems to have gone back up to £8k per Cllr.

Public asked to have their say on Devon and Torbay devolution deal

A six-week public consultation was launched on Monday 12 February, on the draft proposal to create a Combined County Authority (CCA) for Devon and Torbay to oversee new powers and funding transferred from Government.

People are being invited to have their say on how the CCA would work, the powers that it would have and the functions it would be responsible for. These include investment in local economic growth, delivering affordable housing, improving public transport, and meeting net zero ambitions.

Further information about our joint consultation with Torbay Council and details of how to respond are available at www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk

- *Enforcement of hedge height "The Spires" Church Road - Hedge - Enforcement ref. 028091* An enforcement officer to write to the landowners of these 7 properties to advise them of the requirements of the 2012 planning permission for this development (application ref: 21/1425/12/F) and their evident ongoing individual breach of the hedge maintenance (required by Condition 10).

News from South Hams DC that is relevant to Ermington PC and residents:**1. Community Library Support Fund (Closes 31 Mar 24)**

In response to mobile libraries being decommissioned at the end of February 2024, a fund has been set up to enable the provision of more community spaces for local people to expand their love of reading.

People with an existing book swap or library, or those who are planning to create one, can apply for a grant of between £100 and £300 which can be used for shelving, seating, books, lighting etc.

More information and a link to the fund are here:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/communities/community-library-support-fund>

2. Small Grants for Village Halls

DEFRA has reopened its funded grant scheme for those managing rural community buildings. This time, the award threshold is lower to support smaller projects and make it accessible to more groups. Grants of between £2000 and £5000 and up to 20% of eligible project costs are on offer to new applicants who wish to undertake smaller projects such as disability access, toilet upgrades and new kitchens.

<https://acre.org.uk/press-release-small-grants-made-available-to-village-halls-in-england/>

3. Grants to Support Individuals and Families in Need

Grants of up to £2,000 are available to charities, housing associations, schools and social services providing support for individuals and families across the UK who are in financial need.

The Cosaraf Charitable Foundation's Hardship Grants will support individuals and families who have exhausted all other sources of funding and are struggling with everyday costs, such as basic living expenses, household items and utilities, work- or education-related expenses, or rent arrears.

Applications can be made at any time and are assessed every six weeks.

<https://www.cosaraf.org/what-we-do/hardship-grants/>

4. Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation on the control of alcohol in public places

A PSPO is designed to reduce the risk of anti-social behaviour in an area which could have a harmful effect on the quality of life for those in the local community. It can ban or restrict certain things, or need specific things to be done, in this case the control of alcohol in public areas.

PSPOs last for three years before they need to be reviewed and the current orders run out in July. We now need to consult on the next set for the following three-year period.

The review affects five PSPOs in the following towns: Totnes; Dartmouth; Ivybridge; Kingsbridge; Salcombe.

Resident are encouraged to contribute to the consultation. [visit the consultation to have your say](#), which runs until Tuesday 19 March.

5. £300 Energy Vouchers for South Hams Residents

South Hams residents could get help worth £300 towards the cost of energy bills by talking to Citizens Advice South Hams. Our independent specialist advisers can also help with complex billing issues, resolving matters directly with energy providers; help deal with energy supplier issues, including billing and meter problems; help householders understand how to make their homes more energy efficient and look at fuel bills and household finances to help save money. All advice is free, independent and confidential. Contact Citizens Advice on 0808-278-7948.

6. South Hams Housing Offer

The South Hams Housing Offer is available to help communities deliver more affordable homes in their area by supporting established groups and offering assistance to new groups wanting to set up community housing organisations.

More at this website: <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/south-hams-housing-offer>

7. Changes to the way you can vote in the UK

Voters can now apply online to vote by post or by proxy.

Voters' identities will be checked as part of the application process. Both online and paper applications will need ID verification (except for emergency proxy votes)

There is now a limit to the amount of people voters can be proxy for. They can act as a proxy for two people.

If they vote on behalf of UK voters who live overseas, they can act as a proxy for up to four people (but only two of those can live in the UK)

Find out more on the [Electoral Commission website](#)

8. Garden Waste Service

South Hams residents can sign up to or renew their garden waste collection for the coming year. The cost is going up this year but there is a lower fee for those who sign up before 31 March 2024. The fee of £52 (for those who sign up between 15 Feb and 31 March 2024) or £55 (for those who sign up after 31 March 2024), will cover collection of one brown wheelie bin. There is a maximum of two subscriptions per household. Collections are fortnightly except 20 Dec to 20 Jan when the service is suspended.

Sign up here www.southhams.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Or call 01803 861234.

137/2023 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors

Cllr Onley was impressed about the cycling ideas received in an email from Gemma Bristow Gemma Bristow, Active Travel & Digital Connectivity lead at SHDC. Was there any action/help the parish council could provide for the route from Ivybridge to Ermington? Cllr Dewynter stated there would be a £6,000 cost for a pre plan.

Cllr Owens suggested there would be a route from Ivybridge to Keaton bridge and the leat from Keaton bridge to Ermington could be purchased and used. Cllr Onley asked Cllr Dewynter to ensure those involved were aware the parish council would support the idea. The Clerk pointed out the leat passed under at least three bridges and water from a pond/lake and run off from lanes and fields also entered the leat.

Cllr Owens asked if the car park near Ermington Mill Industrial Estate could be used as a public car park. Cllr Dewynter will liaise with SHDC. **ACTION: Cllr Dewynter**

A parishioner stated they had applied to be co-opted onto the parish council and pointed out that currently there are currently not enough parish councillors to support the regular monthly meetings, except for August when there is no meeting. There are regulations which state how co-option is made and how the number of parish councillors on councils is dealt with. The parishioner showed the Chairman an email from the Deputy Monitoring Officer of SHDC stating that if the EPC co-option policy was not clear then applications should follow Devon Association of Local Councils guidelines. Cllr Onley stated that the two applications scheduled for consideration at the meeting would not be considered, as it was agreed to confirm the procedure for co-option.

A parishioner enquired if the DALC and NALC co-option policies could be adhered to. Discussion ensued and it was stressed by Cllr Onley that a policy would be written and published, and Cllr Hannam reminded those present that at the beginning of this meeting this was agreed, and that the parish council were going to formalise a procedure.

137/2023 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - Questions and Comments from Members of the Public to Parish Councillors, County and District Councillors (continued)

A parishioner had sent an email to parish councillors, which suggested the use of the car park near Ermington Industrial Estate was suggested. Ermington is used by drivers as a "rat run" and the volume through the village has significantly increased. They enquired as to what has happened since their email in October 2023, there are minutes but no action? Cllr Onley suggested that the parishioner who is a member of EE contacted the District Councillor. The parish council is dealing with reducing the speed to 30mph on the A3121, below the village which was agreed with Devon County Council a month ago. The parishioner asked if average speed cameras could be considered and why are the police not visiting the village.

Cllr Dunlop stated that during October 2023 there had been a speed enforcement officer in the village. Cllr Onley pointed out; Devon County Council Highways are the governing body who need to be consulted.

Cllr Owens informed those present, that letters had been sent by the Community Speed Watch to those who exceed the speed limits.

A parishioner who had lived in the village all their life, was concerned about the speed of traffic through the village and the quantity which had vastly increased.

Cllr Hannam asked if there was anything that could be done to ensure those driving through the village understood this is a community. Cllr Thomas replied that due to him convincing various County Councillors at meetings at Devon County Council that the 30 mph on the A3121 can be implemented. Cllr Hannam asked whose responsibility it was for erecting signage to inform drivers who turn down Bunkers Hill, that there is a primary school. Cllr Thomas will speak to DCC Highways to ascertain if a sign could be placed notifying drivers of the school. **ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

A parishioner would like to repair a bench halfway down on Town Hill, their labour would be free, but the replacement items would cost £60 - £70. **RESOLVED** to place on the next parish council meeting for agreement. **ACTION: Clerk**

A parishioner had witnessed SHDC refuse waste lorries driving through the village as a shortcut. **RESOLVED** Cllr Dewynter to speak to the waste and recycling department at SHDC. **ACTION: Cllr Dewynter**

A parishioner was impressed with the repairs to potholes around Westlake which had recently been repaired, using cold tar as this kind of repair would not last long. Also, why can't the contractors be asked to repair potholes adjacent to ones that are on the list for repair. Cllr Thomas stated that the contractors can be asked if pothole(s) is adjacent to one that is being filled.

A parishioner who had used the bus from Plymouth to Totnes on a Friday was very busy, therefore, parishioners are using the bus. There is a need for flashing signs that there are children at school drop/pick up times at the school. Cllr Thomas suggested a Lollipop person. Cllr Owens suggested contacting the school and asking them to consider a Lollipop person at the necessary times. **ACTION: Cllr Onley/Clerk**

A parishioner suggested that visibility at the Cadleigh junction to Ivybridge could be improved if/when the planning application for new homes commences.

Cllr Hannam attended an online meeting in connection with the Torbay and Devon devolution deal and encouraged people to look at it. Cllr Thomas pointed out it would have another layer above the parish council.

138/2023 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the Parish Council Meeting minutes of 16 January 2024 (as previously circulated).

139/2023 PROPOSAL FOR CADLEIGH MANOR FOR FOUR SELF-BUILD SERVICED PLOTS FOR 'PASSIVHAUS' ECO-HOMES

A document received by Mr and Mrs Murphy was circulated prior to the meeting. It is proposed to build 4 Eco-Homes on brown field land adjacent to their home in Cadleigh, located on the North side of the A38 at the junction cream coloured house. The proposed plan is to build four homes. The homes will have four bedrooms and the land will be landscaped. The architect will tie the buildings into buildings within the Cadleigh area by using similar slate and they had tried to cover everything to make sure that the homes are ECO-Homes.

Cllr Hannam enquired if the plots that would be for sale, are given a particular brief for the owners to design their own home within the parameters. The owner pointed out it would be a self-build/custom build. Cllr Hannam enquired about the water and if each plot has their own treatment plant. The owner stated each property would have their own treatment plant. Cllr Hannam pointed out that the buildings would be very close to Ivybridge, and enquired if there would be any impact on adjacent fields as being classified as brown fields. The owner pointed out the adjacent land is agricultural land, there is no reason for a developer to build on it.

140/2023 PLANNING

Reference: 0201/24/FUL Site Address: Cleeve House, Cleeve, Ivybridge, PL21 0LP
Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to equestrian, with associated sand school & signage (retrospective) (resubmission of 2063/23/FUL)
Recommendation: No comment

Reference: 0430/24/FUL Site Address: 5 Unit, 4 Cadleigh Close, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Lee Mill, PL21 9GB
Proposal: Change of use from B8 (storage & distribution) to Sui Generis (dog daycare business), & erection of fencing
Recommendation: No comment

Planning Appeal

Appeal A Ref: APP/K1128/W/23/3325992 Land West of Parkhill Cottages, Chapel Street, Ermington, Devon PL21 9NF

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant permission in principle.
- The application Ref 0907/23/PIP, dated 13 February 2023, was refused by notice dated 17 April 2023.
- The development proposed is described as 'Planning in Principle for the Erection of up to 2no Dwellings'.

Decision - The appeal is dismissed.

Planning Appeal

Appeal A Ref: APP/K1128/W/23/3320840 Yeo Farm, Ermington Road, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 0LF

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant approval required under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).
- The application Ref 1042/22/PDM, dated 9 March 2022, was refused by notice dated 28 October 2022.
- The development proposed is the conversion of farm store and workshop to a Class C3 dwellinghouse.

Appeal B Ref: APP/K1128/W/23/3323793 Yeo Farm, Ermington Road, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 0LF

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant approval required under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).
- The appeal is made by Mr Gareth Derrick against the decision of South Hams District Council.
- The application Ref 0757/23/PDM, dated 28 February 2023, was refused by notice dated 3 May 2023.
- The development proposed is the conversion of the Shippen Barn to a Class C3 dwellinghouse.

Decisions

1. APPEAL A – The appeal is allowed and approval is granted under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for the conversion of farm store and workshop to a Class C3 dwellinghouse at Yeo Farm, Ermington Road, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 0LF in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref 1042/22/PDM, dated 9 March 2022, and the plans submitted with it, subject to the following condition:

1) The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: D8111S-001 - Existing Site Plans; D8111S-002 Existing Plans; D8111S-003 Existing Elevations; D8107S-004 - Proposed Site Plans; D8111S-005 Rev B - Proposed Plans; D8111S-006 Rev B - Proposed Elevations; D8111S-007 Rev B – Proposed Sections.

2. APPEAL B - The appeal is allowed, and approval is granted under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Appeal Decisions APP/K1128/W/23/3323793)

Planning Decision

2910/23/CLP Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Use
Decision: Cert of Lawfulness (Proposed)

Site Address: Burbilan, Chapel Street, Ermington, PL21 9ND

141/2023 FINANCE

RESOLVED to agree the following:

Bank balances:- Treasurers Account on 14 February 2024 = £64,628.20
Business Bank Account 9 January 2024 = £46,399.89

(ii) Receipt(s):- Bank Interest (Business Account) 09/01/2024 = £47.88

(iii) Payments:- RESOLVED to make the following payments

| Description | Gross | VAT | Net |
|---|---------|-------|--------|
| Parish Clerk – January 2024 salary and working at home allowance | £781.73 | - | - |
| Parish Clerk – February 2024 salary and working at home allowance | £781.73 | - | - |
| DB Computer Repairs – maintenance of parish council website January 2024 | £45.00 | - | - |
| DB Computer Repairs – maintenance of parish council website February 2024 | £45.00 | - | - |
| eDF – Devon Air Ambulance Lights = 21 October 2023 – 17 January 2024 | £56.07 | £2.67 | £53.40 |
| eDF – Devon Air Ambulance Lights = 18 January – 22 January 2024 | £3.15 | £0.15 | £3.00 |
| Source for Business – water Reading Rooms 1 December 2023 – 2 February 2024 (estimated) | £35.33 | - | - |

(iv) Grant Request(s) - None

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

Financial Statement

Lloyds Bank Business Account bank statement as at 9 January 2024: **£46,399.89**
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account bank statement as at 14 February 2024: **£64,628.20**

Less: any unrepresented cheques £0.00

Total Funds = £111,028.09
Earmarked Reserves

Repairs to Reading Rooms, Ermington **-£20,000**

Total uncommitted Funds = £91,028.09

(vi) Parish Councillors reviewed spend and income to date, against budget 2023/2024 - no issues raised.

(vii) Financial Regulations requirement: *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 and Hannam to verify the bank statements and reconciliations. **ACTION: Cllrs Owens Hannam / Clerk**

142/23 REDOCATION OF THE INTERIOR OF THE READING ROOMS – Cllr Creese

Two quotes received and awaiting a third to be discussed at the next meeting and agreed which company will be used. **ACTION: Cllr Creese**

143/23 RESOLVE TO PURCHASE AN ADDITIONAL SPEED MONITORING CAMERA – Cllr Creese

RESOLVED to purchase another camera to be placed by the Ermington Store and More. **ACTION: Cllr Creese**

144/23 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY - 6 JUNE 2024

Parish Council would welcome any thoughts from parishioners.

145/23 CLIMATE CRISIS ADAPTATION – Cllr Hannam

Cllr Hannam attended a Sustainable South Hams (SSH) online meeting. There is a Climate Policy, but we are in a situation where the climate is changing, for example there has been twice the amount of rainfall in February 2024 than average. This has had an impact on Ermington e.g. flooding increase, potholes, shortage of water in the summer. Cllr Hannam enquired what kind of lead and support could the parish council take for the community to adapt. If it gets hotter could the church be used as a cool place, in the same way as the Hub is being used as a warm place. If the gulf stream shifts, which it is predicted to do, the South Hams climate will be more like Newfoundland or Norway in the summer. Asking for the parish council to have an agenda in the future to discuss climate change, as is not going away. SSH is looking to make some mechanism to get parish councils together to look at climate adaptation.

Cllr Onley pointed out there is a County Resilience Forum for planning for emergencies so it would tie up with other organisations on how to help. There are plans out there but with different scenarios e.g. COVID but in our sphere of Influence not sure what we could include. Cllr Hannam pointed out the SSH will work at local level and look at the river especially the River Erme near the A3121 opposite Plantation House where it is very close to the road. There will be information produced by SSH and be circulated to parish councillors. RESOLVED Cllr Hannam on behalf of the parish council will indicate to SSH that it is supportive and will work with them to produce a plan. **ACTION: Cllr Hannam**

Proposed that Town and Parish Councils on the River Erme catchment that we share information on planning applications in relation to water. For example, are there water management plans – how will storm water be managed, water conservation, soak aways. The parish council environmental response to planning applications requires amendment but not to take the applicant to task as this is SHDC responsibility. RESOLVED Cllr Hannam will assess the current parish council environmental response to incorporate the new advice from the Westcountry Rivers Trust approach. **ACTION: Cllr Hannam**

146/23 ERMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 2025 AND STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL

RESOLVED to adopt the EPC Risk Assessment for Year Ending March 2025 and Statement of Internal Control.

147/23 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2024

RESOLVED Cllr Hannam will source a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 21 May 2024. **ACTION: Cllr Hannam**

148/2023 REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

(a) Ermington Parish Church Liaison = **Cllr Owens** – funding for under seat heating in the church has reached its cost target. Solar panels are to be installed above the church. A working party is being organised to clean up the churchyard and is being planned for 12 March 2024.

(b) Community Speed Watch (CSW) report = **Cllr Owens** – a number of speed watches have taken place around the village. Those caught speeding have been sent letters. A new site near Bunkers Hill to be utilised for taking speed readings. One new volunteer is now assisting with speed watching.

(c) Ermington Environmental Group, Climate Change and Biodiversity Plan, River Erme Catchment = **Cllr Hannam** – The plan is still being drafted but is in a format that has action points and needs to be agreed with EE that can go into the public domain. There is a talk tomorrow evening about gardens and gardening called “New Shoots”, 9 April a talk about Swifts and the importance of swift boxes. On 7th May a talk on converting bins to composting. A parishioner who is looking after the bank near Town Hill area will have additional help. Litter picking along the river Erme has been planned for 18 May 2024. The working party will deal Himalayan balsam from Fawns Close to Sequer’s bridge. EE are taking part in a fun day on 15 June. Community garden planned for the village. Defra is

consulting on 27 applications to designate new sites as bathing waters, which includes Coastguards Beach, River Erme, Devon. The consultation questionnaire is on the website <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/water/consultation-on-designation-of-27-sites-as-bathing/> or email bathingwater@defra.gov.uk by 10 March - The NFU has complained to Defra about this short timeframe.

There are three places where South West Water discharges water in Ermington and it is suggested to ask South West Water for a copy of the permits. RESOLVED to write to South West Water asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act. **ACTION: Cllr Hannam/Clerk**

The Climate Change and Biodiversity Plan to be a future agenda item once the format has been agreed by EE.
ACTION: Cllr Hannam

148/2023 REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY (continued)

(d) Road Warden Scheme and maintenance of the speed cameras = **Cllr Creese** circulated the recent speed camera data which is available to view on the website. Cllr Creese assessed the data to ascertain if there is a specific time of day when speeding takes place. The times where speeding occurs most often are in the morning and evening times, which is commuting, and school pick up/drop off times.

(e) Assessment of Parish footpaths = **Cllr Owens** – footpath 6 the tree blocking the path has been removed. Footpath 10 the track needs to be relayed.

(f) Public Transport and activate travel options = **Cllr Owens** – looking at trying to link Ivybridge to Ermington and a circular route to link local communities. RESOLVED Cllr Dunlop will look at Public Transport. **ACTION: Cllr Dunlop**

149/2023 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

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

Email from parishioner - Formal Complaint
Email from parishioner - Statement of Intent
Email from parishioner - Parish council application
Email from parishioner - Injury Road Accident A3121
Email from parishioner - Ermington Parish Council
DCC - Temporary Traffic Order - ROAD FROM CROWNHILL CROSS TO STRODE CROSS, STRODE, Ermington (TTRO2455445)
SHDC - Case Reference 028192
SHDC - Planning Inspectorate APP/K1128/W/23/3320840: Yeo Farm, PL21 0LF
SHDC - Planning Inspectorate APP/K1128/W/23/3325992: Land West of Park Hill Cottages, PL21 9NF
Email from parishioner - Fly tipping
Email from parishioner – Pothole (Fawn's Close car parking area)
DCC - Temporary Traffic Notice - UGBOROUGH ROAD TO STRODE HOUSE, Ermington (TTRO2455278)
DCC - Drainage system and related activities along the A3121
eDF – electricity Reading Rooms, Direct Debit change from £27.00 to £19.00 with effect from 13 March 2024
South West Water -Notification of Road Closure – Work Ref: LM213MB10404918 Westlake Cross to Lanbrook Cross, Westlake – 14 May 2024
Email – re. D&CPCSW comment re. Ermington School
SHDC - 026660 case closed
SHDC - Application Number: 0491/24/PHH, Proposal: Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed single storey rear extension 4 metres high x 2 metres to eaves, Location: 11 Erme Park Ermington PL21 9LY = notification for information only.

Keep Britain Tidy - Don't Forget - Let Us Know How Your Town or Parish Council is Taking Part in the #GBSpringClean! Great British Spring Clean returns from 15 - 31 March 2024.

Parishioner – Cllr Creese met with a parishioner to discuss the fact that an agricultural field had been changed to equestrian use. Cllr Creese has liaised with SHDC Enforcement, are not able to take action.

Steady on your feet link - <https://www.steadyonyourfeet.org/> (available on the EPC website)

E-mail - Parish Council representative on the South Devon AONB (National Landscape) Partnership South Devon AONB - Parish Council representative – RESOLVED the Clerk to email Peter Hinchliffe the new AONB/National Landscapes Parish Councils rep, to seek 30by30 funding or equivalent to include the River Erme catchment between the Natural Landscapes & Dartmoor National Park boundaries. **ACTION: Clerk**

150/2023 TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND VENUE

Due to the Clerk's availability, it was RESOLVED the next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the Reading Rooms, on **Tuesday 30 April 2024**.

The meeting closed at 10.40 pm.

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

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

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

DRAFT