

EXMOOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (draft) MINUTES

Thursday 28th January 2021 7.30pm via Zoom

Present: Parish Councillors: Cllrs: F Schott (FS), A Vigars (AV), J Chanter (JC), A Chapman (AC), T Gowlland (TG)

County Councillor Mrs Frances Nicholson (FN) & District Councillor Mr Steven Pugsley (SP), Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) C Hornsby

Public: One

01/21 Questions from the public: None

02/21 Apologies of Absence: None

03/21 Declarations of notifiable interest: None

04/21 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 26/11/2020: Proposed by JC and 2nd by AV as a true and correct record. Chair signed and will forward to the clerk.

05/21 Matters arising from the minutes of 26/11/2020: None

06/21 Business Continuity Motion: Items carried out due to cancellation of September parish council meeting.

07/21 District and County council reports: FN – (i) Bin collection will need to be out from 6am and if a collection is missed it will not be recollected that week, please take back in and put out the following week. This takes effect from the 1st February 2021. (ii) Exmoor Panel meeting stated that the Winstitchen road works due in the spring will now be in the next tax year, FN to tell Highways it is unnecessary as the water is not causing a problem. (iii) SP stated that the Third Lockdown grants are available from the District Council - go to <https://www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk/business-rates/national-lockdown-support-grant/> or contact Cllr Steven Pugsley via SW&TDC for more details. (iv) SP stated that the ENPA planning training for Cllrs went well and the recording is available. There will be more specialised training in the future and if any one has anything specific to let SP know. (v) SP also spoke about the Exmoor Panel meeting – The Devon and Somerset Fire Rescue service attended and stated that cars parked in pinch points on roads that block engines from getting through will not stop the engine getting through, it will ‘push’ the car out of the way! Jane Lilly the Village Agent also spoke about CV19 issues in the area and ENPA stated that unless there were clear legal reasons why not, trail hunting on Exmoor will be allowed to continue.

08/21 Community Issues raised due to CV19: The clerk is keeping councillors up to date with newsletters from County and District Councils. There was no news from the parish.

09/21 Planning: None

10/21 Finance to include:

- (i) Bank reconciliation £ 5,382.03 (unbanked cheques £813.00)
- (ii) Invoices; Clerk reimbursement: stamps £7.80 and Zoom conference monthly sub £14.39; Website renewal £29.95. The new Website is in the process of finishing and £103 will be due in May. Total **£52.14 Mrs C Hornsby Chq No 273**
- (iii) Spray purchase: RFO asked the Chair if the council would consider a £30 – donation/gift to TG. She purchased the spray for the weeds however, she misplaced the receipt. All Agreed to pay as a gift/donation. Clerk to organise **£30 T Gowlland Chq No 271**
- (iv) CLOWNS donation £75 all agreed **CLOWNS £75 Chq No 272**
- (v) Precept paper work submitted – will be paid in April.

11/21 Highways: (i) AV reported a pothole on the South Molton road, via the Somerset County Councils (SCC) Road Defect Website <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-pothole-or-road-defect/>

(ii) AV reported that there were issues with people driving too fast on the Cloven Rocks bend. He asked FN if some warning can be placed there as in the dark it is easy to take too fast and come off the road and hit the bridge. FN to enquire. (iii) Dunmoor water running across road so culvert might be blocked, opposite Dunmoor Gate. FN will ask and also requested the clerk to inform Highways too

12/21 Village parking Updates on state of parking in the village – FS reported that he had not had any more updates since his last conversation with the ENPA over an extra parking area in the village. It was agreed by AV and TG to organise boulders for the bend in the road during the next month and FN reminded the cllrs to make sure they are 1m from the road. Cllrs confirmed they would do this.

13/21 Parish Maintenance (i) Tubs of flowers on the bend update - see 12/21 above. (ii) Leaves on path – AC noted that the road sweeper had been through and it looked much better. Spraying will happen in the spring.

14/21 Correspondence Pinkworthy and Driver Farm SSSI - Clerk read out a letter from Natural England and will forward to cllrs and post on website.

15/21 Report from Simonsbath & Exmoor Heritage Trust: (i) Audience Development is in final draft and will be available for cllrs to view once it is completed. (ii) the transfer of White Rock Cottage and The Old School is still progressing. Bank a/c has been delayed due to CV19 and banks being reluctant to start new accounts but this is nearing completion.

16/21 Chairman's Notices: None

17/21 Items for next Agenda: Nothing extra to normal agenda

18/21 Date and time of next meeting: TBC for 25th March 2021

There being no further business the chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.25pm

Signed (Chair)Date.....