

# **EXMOOR PARISH COUNCIL Emergency Planning Meeting DRAFT**

## **MINUTES**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 5.30pm at The Old School, Simonsbath**

**Present: Parish Councillors – F Schott (Chair), R Fisher RF, J Wright JW, C O'Connor CO, Clerk R Tomalin. Members of the Public: none**

The meeting started at 5.32pm.

**45/26 Questions from the public:** None

**46/26 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr T Gowlland

**47/26 Declarations of notifiable interest:** None

**48/26 Planning:** (i) Full Planning Permission **EXM/26/049/FULL, Driver Farm Simonsbath Minehead TA24 7LH** Application Under Regulation 3 of The Town & Country Planning General Regulations 1992 for the proposed change of use of barn to comprise flexible educational space, office accommodation, non-serviced short term let visitor accommodation, and toilet and shower facilities, together with, creation of tented camping area and vehicle parking area and associated works – Cllrs discussed the Transport Statement (TS). The overriding assumption in the TS is that traffic flows will be reduced and as such there is no need for extensive surveys or localised improvements. The baseline used for this assumption is incorrect; even when the previous tenant was in situ his movements were few and far between. Crashmap data shows one accident at the site location but this does not record near misses. The vegetation is noted as needing maintenance to improve visibility but who will maintain this regularly. There is no mention of the access track meeting the B3358 at an angle which severely restricts visibility of oncoming traffic. There is also no data of the number of vehicles passing along the B3358 or their speed. Cllrs agreed to object again to the proposal in its current form until a traffic survey has been conducted and options have been explored to create a wider splay at the track entrance. The PC reiterates its supports for the regenerate of Driver but only if this can be achieved with proper and safe access for all road users.

(ii) Full Planning Permission **EXM/26/077/FULL, Driver Farm Simonsbath Minehead TA24 7LH** Application Under Regulation 3 of The Town & Country Planning General Regulations 1992 for the proposed installation of PV array, battery storage and new generator, replacement of asbestos slate roof with natural slate and replacement windows and doors, and erection of rear porch, gable end lean-to, together with installation of package treatment plant. Cllrs discussed the application and agreed to support it but were perplexed as to why the PV panels were being removed from the south east roof elevation and being relocated onto the south west stable roof, with new ground-mounted arrays in the garden. Cllrs noted that new hedges / hedge banks will be planted but these will take some time to grow to provide adequate screening.

**49/26 Chair's Notices:** (i) Cllrs reviewed the photographs of the green salt bins on Halse Lane and agreed to move forward with the purchase of two (ii) Due to an error while paying in the cheque for the hire of WRC the bank has destroyed the cheque. Cllrs **APPROVED** a replacement; **Simonsbath & Exmoor Heritage Trust £200 Chq 352** (replaces Chq 348) (iii) Rumble Strips – Traffic Management responded quickly to the faded rumble strips report; these will be reviewed and added to the works programme

**50/26 Date and time of next meeting:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 6.02pm

Signed.....Date.....