

## EXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of a Council Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Bridgetown Village Hall at 8:00pm.

### **Present:**

Mr Guy Thomas-Everard (Chair), Ms Tonia Matthews, Mr Robert Takle, Mr Steve Rowe, Ms Janette Webber, Mr Colin Rawle, Mr Steven Pugsley (Somerset West and Taunton District Council and Somerset Unitary Authority), and Mr Andrew Moore (Clerk).

### **In Attendance:**

Mr Douglas Sherring

#### **1. Apologies:**

None

#### **2. Declaration of Interests:**

None were declared.

#### **3. Questions from the Public**

Douglas Sherring reported that the Cricket Club had a Defibrillator at the Pavilion during home matches. Tonia Matthews advised that the one at the Exe Valley Camp Site had had new pads and batteries fitted.

#### **4 Approval of the Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022:**

The Minutes having been previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chair.

#### **5. Matters Arising:**

Steven Pugsley reported that the MP had not received any response from South West Water concerning the issues around the Bridgetown Sewage Works. However, he and the MP were due to meet later in the week and this topic would be discussed.

#### **Action Steven Pugsley**

Janette Webber advised that there had been no problem with smells during the recent hot weather and that vehicles continued to arrive several times a week and often in the early hours to pump out the sewage. Andrew Moore reported that South West Water had advised him that a tree surgeon had been asked to assess whether the trees surrounding the site needed to be lopped.

Despite enquiries nobody had come forward for the Councillor vacancy. Tonia Matthews said that she would approach a couple of possibilities.

#### **Action Tonia Matthews**

With the Clerk having advised that he wishes to retire at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2023 after almost nine years of service, it was agreed that a request for a replacement be put first in the Parish Magazine before approaching other neighbouring Clerks.

**Action Clerk**

**6. Finance Report:**

The Clerk reported a balance of £1,613 in the Reserve Account and £2,856 in the Current Account. There were two cheques to approve, being £60.34 affiliation to Somerset Association of Local Councils and £96.91 for the Clerk's expenses for July and August.

**7. Planning:**

There were no Applications to consider.

**8. Parish Representative on the Somerset Bus Partnership Group:**

Tonia Matthews agreed to act as Parish Representative. The Clerk was asked to forward her contact details to the Partnership.

**Action Clerk**

**9. Update on Highways Local Community Network**

Steven Pugsley reported that the LCN would be responsible for major work, whilst the Lengthsman would continue with routine parish maintenance. Steve Rowe confirmed that he was liaising with the Parish Lengthsman. The LCN has a budget of £20,000 for capital work and £10,000 for revenue work and Parishes need to apply for funds. The Highways Steward would only be responsible for highways issues and it would be a good idea to contact him via Samantha Murrell about the frequent flooding of the Vinnicombe Straight.

**Action Clerk**

**10. Update on Unitary Authority:**

Steven Pugsley reported that the role of the District Council was steadily diminishing as services were taken on at the County Council. A consultation had been started about how parishes could be grouped into the Local Community Networks and asked that councillors look at the website and make their views known because it was important that the groupings reflected natural communities.

**Action ALL**

**11 Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7:30pm. This date is dependent on social restrictions and the need to respond to Planning Applications.

**The Minutes can be viewed at:**

[www.extonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.extonparishcouncil.co.uk)