

EXBOURNE WITH JACOBSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council was held on
Tuesday 27th November 2018 at 8:00pm in The Village Hall, Exbourne

Councillors Present: Steve Blakeman (Chair), Adam Hedley (Vice Chair), Kirk England, John Guy and Rose Williams

Parish Clerk: Zena Tett

Also in attendance: 7 members of the public

73. Welcome: Steve Blakeman, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

74. Apologies for Absence: Councillors Lawson, Cobb and Borough Councillor Lois Samuel

75. Minutes of the Last Meeting: the minutes of the meeting held on 30th October 2018 were amended at the request of Cllr England; the word "old" was to be omitted from 67.1. The minutes were then agreed and signed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Hedley, seconded by Cllr England, all in favour.

76. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Blakeman item 80.2 and Cllr Hedley item 80.3.1.

77. Public Speaking Time:

77.1 A parishioner asked if any member of the public could comment on a planning application even if they didn't live in the parish. Cllr Blakeman confirmed anyone could comment on a planning application, but it is only likely to inform the planning departments decision if they had a valid reason for commenting.

77.2 A parishioner forwarded a statement which was read out at the meeting. The parishioner objects to planning application 3722/18/PIP on the grounds that it, or any development to that end of the village will generate even more traffic through the village. The parishioner also raised concerns over the lack of footpath between the proposed development and the School, leaving children vulnerable to increased traffic using that particular stretch of road.

78. Borough Councillor Report:

Borough Councillor Lois Samuel was not present.

79. Matters Arising

79.1 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hedley reported in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Group's last meeting they discussed and voted on whether any of the current Important Open Spaces in the village should be designated as Local Green Spaces (LGS) in the NP. They also looked at a number of other publicly held nominated sites, including various grass verges and the playing field. The meeting was very well attended and whilst the Group has consisted of between 6 and 11 members for the last 3 years, 18 people joined in the 2 weeks leading up to the vote on LGS. The enlarged Group voted overwhelmingly that none of the nominated sites meet the relevant National Planning Policy Framework criteria to be designated as LGS. Although, it should be noted that two of the long-standing members of the Group resigned before the meeting began and the rest abstained from voting. Cllr Hedley explained he was glad to see such an interest in the Group's work and looked forward to the promised positive contribution of many of the new members. He was concerned, however, no matter what people may think about the LGS decision, any reasonable person would have some concerns over the manner in which it was reached.

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Cllr Hedley reminded Parish Councillors that Cllr England argued in the last Parish Council meeting that allowing new members to join the Group immediately before an important vote is democracy in action. Cllr Hedley disagreed and suggested to an outsider, this would have the appearance of cronyism. He explained that he did not anticipate this sort of situation when he wrote the NP Group's official terms of reference or constitutional guidelines and proposed they be amended so it could not be repeated. He asked Parish Councillors present whether they would support this view.

There followed a discussion where Cllr England said it was a community led process and if parishioners wish to join the committee then they should be able to. Cllr Guy suggested limiting numbers would make it more manageable. Cllr England proposed we wait and see if managing those numbers were possible. Cllr Williams felt it was worth noting that a considerable amount of work had been carried out to date and all of it by volunteers. Finally, it was recommended Cllr Hedley bring a proposal for his suggested changes to the Group's terms of reference to the next meeting. **Action Cllr Hedley**

79.2 Maintenance of Parish Assets

Cllr Blakeman reported the granite is still in position awaiting the support to be completed. **Action Cllr Blakeman**

79.3 Devon Air Ambulance Trust

Cllr Williams has received a quotation for the electrics from MAT Electrics for the sum of £6,472.70 plus VAT, half of this amount would be donated by the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. The Parish Council is still awaiting quotations from Western Power and the groundworks contractor. Cllrs Williams and Blakeman to chase. **Action Cllrs Williams and Blakeman**

The Clerk confirmed Inwardleigh Parish Council have given their written support.

79.4 Post Office Sign

Cllr Blakeman said the application is still outstanding. **Action Cllr Blakeman**

79.5 Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

At this meeting two volunteers came forward and a further parishioner had previously expressed an interest to Cllr Blakeman. This matter is now closed.

80. **Planning**

80.1 3482/18/FUL: Birchwood Acres, Exbourne

Application for erection of seasonal lambing shed and hay store.

Comments: The Parish Council support this application providing the authority determines there is a genuine agricultural need.

Decision: Support

Proposed by Cllr Blakeman, seconded by Cllr Guy, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

80.2 372/18/PIP: Land at Meadows Edge

Application for Permission in Principle for the change of use of land and the construction of up to 9no. dwellings.

Comments: Although it regrettably leads to the loss of employment space, the Parish Council generally supports the use of brownfield land for residential development. However, Councillors have concerns about the potential number of dwellings that have been proposed, given the density of development in the surrounding area and the impact on the village's infrastructure. They would rather any potential development be at the lower end of the proposed range.

Decision: Support

Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr England, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

80.3 Other Applications

There were two appeals notified to the Parish Council after the Agenda for this meeting had been published.

80.3.1 APP/Q1153/W/18/3210407: Town Living Farm. Exbourne

80.3.2 APP/Q1153/W/18/3208869: Hayfield House, Exbourne

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Cllr Blakeman recommended the Parish Council make no further comment at this time as they had already made their comments known previously on both the applications listed above.

81. Clerks Report

81.1 Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were discussed/reviewed:

- 81.1.1 WDBC: Provision of sandbags and sand
Cllr Hedley will liaise with parishioners who may be affected by flooding.
Action Cllr Hedley
- 81.1.2 WDBC: Super Link Meeting – Wednesday 5th December 2018
Clerk to notify WDBC of Cllr Blakeman's attendance. **Action Clerk**
- 81.1.3 Highways: temporary restriction of traffic – land past Swallows Rest, Exbourne
- 81.1.4 Okehampton District Community Transport Group – Newsletter 59

82. Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda: there were none.

83. Finance

83.1 The following payments were proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Hedley, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

83.1.1	Clerks Salary & HMRC	£618.00
83.1.2	Clerks Expenses	£55.73

83.2 Bank Balance Review

The balance in the Parish Council Account as of 15th November 2018 was £15,835.90. Outstanding payments, including the cheques above, amount to £733.73, giving the parish an actual balance of £15,102.17.

84. Date of Next Meeting: Councillors confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 29th January 2019 in the Village Hall, Exbourne at 8pm.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD:  (Chair)

NAME: STEPHEN BLAKEMAN DATE: 29th Jan 2019