

# EXBOURNE WITH JACOBSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Exbourne with Jacobstowe Parish Council was held on:  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7:00pm in the Vestry, St James Church, Jacobstowe

**Councillors Present:** Brian Cobb (Chair), Trevor Foster, Elizabeth Batson and Ulrik Lawson

**Parish Clerk:** Zena Tett

**Also in attendance:** 2 members of the public

## Business to be Transacted

52. **Apologies:** Councillor Steve Blakeman, Councillor Adam Hedley, Councillor Rose Williams, Councillor Lois Samuel and Cllr Louise Watts
53. **Welcome:** Cllr Cobb welcomed everyone to the meeting.
54. **Minutes from the last meeting:** held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Foster and seconded by Cllr Batson.
55. **Declarations of Interest:** None
56. **Public Speaking Time:**
  - Due to the lack of screening in the previous application of Risdon Mill, concerns have been raised that proper consideration won't be given to landscape screening if permission is given. The WDBC planning portal is still not working properly and parishioners have complained they were unable to review the application. A request was made for the Parish Council to raise the issue with WDBC. **Action Clerk**
  - A request was made for the Clerk to send out Road Closure Notices to parishioners. The Clerk mentioned the Website would become live soon and any items of interest could be posted on the site for parishioners to view – Councillors agreed. **Action Clerk**
  - Concern was raised over the number of dead rats seen on the village end of North Road. Councillors suggested the Clerk contact Environmental Health to see if they could investigate further. **Action Clerk**
  - Mr Carvill notified the meeting he would putting forth two appeals against "non-decisions" regarding Meadow View Farm. The question was raised as to whether WDBC are following correct planning procedures. Clerk to put on Agenda of next Parish Council meeting for further discussion. **Action Clerk**
57. **Matters Arising:**
  - a. Report by Borough Councillor  
Cllr Samuels was not present, however, she telephoned the Clerk prior to the meeting and related the following message: Serious concerns have been raised regarding the proposed bed closures at Okehampton Hospital. As a result, a motion is in place to take this matter further

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and will be discussed at the next full Council meeting which is due to take place next Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

b. Defibrillator

Cllr Williams was not present: deferred to the next meeting.

c. TAP Funding

Cllr Williams was not present: deferred to the next meeting.

d. High Street Parking

Cllr Foster met with Mark Sanders and a representative from Okehampton Fire Station. They viewed the street at peak times to understand the Councillors concerns. From what they saw, they did not feel there was cause for alarm over the access, however, they were supplied with an alternative route by Cllr Foster should the need arise. They both sympathised with the villagers problem and said they would be keen to get involved at a local level to help deliver the message to villagers in how important it was to keep the roads clear.

e. Little Ellicott Meadow Fence

Councillors reviewed the fence prior to the meeting and posts were discovered to be loose and rotting in places. Cllr Cobb to obtain 2 quotes for repair/replacement of fence. **Action Cllr Cobb**

**58. New Items:**

a) Sports Council AGM

The date is still to be confirmed for the Sports Council AGM. In the meantime, Cllr Foster will undertake a percolation test to determine how much water runs off the field onto the road. Exbourne School doesn't have a home facility and the Parish should be looking at sports facilities for the school in addition to a Car Park. **Action Cllr Foster**

**59. Clerks Report**

a. Correspondence

There were several routine newsletters distributed this month. In addition, the Clerk highlighted three road closures/traffic restrictions:

- Road from Farthingland Cross to Red Lion Inn, Exbourne from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December.
- Fishleigh Lodge to Friar's Hele Cross, Hatherleigh from Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October.
- Fishleigh Lodge to Friar's Hele Cross, Hatherleigh from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

There has been a considerable amount of correspondence relating to the removal of acute beds from Okehampton Hospital. Councillors felt it would be appropriate to write a letter on behalf of the Parish. **Action Clerk.** Minutes were received from the Northern Link meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September and new Councillor Training dates were announced for November. There is to be a consultation on the Taxi Licensing Policy where all comments must be made by 17<sup>th</sup> October and there is a Super Link Meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December in the Main Hall of the Ockment Centre if any representatives wish to attend.

b. Ragwort

At the last meeting the Clerk was asked to investigate who is responsible for clearing the ragwort from the verges. Having spoken with Devon County Council, they have explained that it is the land owners' responsibility for controlling these weeds unless they cause safety issues

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or structural damage to the highway. Some time ago DCC consulted the public on whether monies should be spent on targeted weed spraying and treatment of noxious weeds and the public voted to spend money elsewhere. They do state, however, that it is a legal requirement to deal with noxious weeds but that it is not an offence to have noxious or injurious weeds growing on land. Failure to prevent the spread of these weeds to agricultural land can result in an enforcement notice being served.

## 60. Planning

- a. Risdon Mill  
2044/16/FUL: proposed storage building  
Response by 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Councillors voted to support this application, however, they felt the landscaping was of paramount importance and request the Council checks the screening is carried out correctly. Proposed by Cllr Lawson and seconded by Cllr Foster, Cllr Batson abstained. **Action Clerk**
- b. Rose Cottage  
1984/16/HHO: householder application for garden room and car port  
Response by 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Councillors voted to support this application. Proposed by Cllr Lawson and seconded by Cllr Foster, all in favour. **Action Clerk**
- c. St James Church  
2603/16/LBC: listed building consent to provide a timber building to be used as a disabled toilet with a store room attached  
Response by 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Councillors voted to support this application. Proposed by Cllr Batson and seconded by Cllr Lawson, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

## 61. Finance

- a. Payments: None
- b. Receipts: None
- c. Bank Balance  
Bank Balance as of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 statement was £18,640.76. 2 cheques were cleared during the period 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016 to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 amounting to £30.00. There are no new cheques, however, there are 3 outstanding cheques totalling £2,929.43, giving the parish an actual balance of £15,711.33 when these cheques have cleared.  
Mandate form to get an additional signatory on the account.

## 62. Matters at the Discretion of the Chairman

- Cllr Foster advised Councillors that Sally Horden (parishioner) is going to investigate whether a SuperFast Broadband cable can be put in the same trench being dug by Western Power. In the meantime, Western Power will write to all residents advising them of their intention to alleviate disruption as much as possible.
- Cllr Batson raised concerns over the pavement outside Avenue House which is covered in leaves and has become dangerously slippery. **Action Cllr Batson** to contact Cllr Williams to determine if this kind of work would be covered by the Lengthsman.

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- Cllr Batson also requested that an additional School Sign should be discussed at the next meeting. **Action Clerk**
- Cllr Hedley: was not present but forwarded an email to the Clerk wishing to have his views recorded that the Parish Council should support the Community Transport Group this year. He believes this is a much better cause for the Parish Council than a large charity with limited local benefits such as the British Legion. Cllr Williams also expressed her agreement to this suggestion in an email. Councillors requested the Clerk to put on the next Agenda. **Action Clerk**

With no further business the meeting closed at 8:30pm

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD: .....  ..... (Chair)

NAME: ..... STEPHEN BLAKENHAM ..... DATE: ..... 26 Oct 2016 .....

Next meeting will be held in The Village Hall, Exbourne on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 8:00pm