



# AXMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK:  
BECKI DAVEY  
2 WESSITERS  
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**A meeting of Axmouth Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023, at 7:00pm at Axmouth Village Hall**

**Those present:**

Cllr Chris Garrett      Cllr Nigel Daniel      Cllr Graham Mather      Cllr Ron Badger  
Cllr Jane Drown      Cllr Jonathan Wiseman      Cllr Paul Zisman (arrived 7:03)

**In attendance:** Bec Davey (Clerk), Cllr Ian Hall (DCC), Cllr Ian Thomas (arrived 7:03) (EDDC)

- 1) To receive and acknowledge apologies: Apologies were given by Cllr Paul Britton (family). Approved.

The Clerk confirmed the meeting was quorate.

- 2) **Declarations of Interests:** Cllr G Mather & Cllr R Badger declared an interest in items 8d as members of the Village Hall Management Committee.
- 3) **The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022:** The minutes were **approved** and signed.
- 4) **To agree any items to be discussed after the public, including the press have been excluded:** No members of the public present.
- 5) **Highway Matters including VAS results:** Cllr Mather advised that unfortunately there was an issue when transferring the data following the last time the VAS was installed so there is none available. Cllr Mather reminded Councillors that he has been the Councillor responsible for the VAS and requested that another Councillor also learns how to do this as well. **ACTION: CLLR MATHER** will let Councillors know when it is being collected and installed next time so they may learn. The clerk advised that a quote has been received to install a pole in Church Street which Cllr Hall has kindly agreed to fund using his locality budget.
- 6) **20MPH Speed Limit:** Cllr Zisman has seen a newspaper article that states Cornwall County Council are considering a new scheme which would look to reduce the default speed limit to 20mph in all residential areas which are currently in 30mph areas (as are other parts of the Country). Cllr Zisman questioned the criteria that Devon County Council have set to be part of a trial they are undertaking and wants to know what can be done. Cllr Hall agrees with the concerns and was involved in the application for the village to join the trial. He understands the frustration and believes it unfortunately comes down to funding. He is continuing to lobby for Axmouth to be included in a trial (as well as Uplyme and Musbury Road in Axminster). Cllr Hall

confirmed that no-one disagrees that it should be 20MPH and suggested that perhaps a petition be created and forwarded to himself which he will forward to the portfolio holder. Cllr Garrett wondered if the '20 is Plenty' scheme could be used but Cllr Hall advised that these are usually near schools or nursing/care homes. Cllr Daniel asked what costs were involved in changing the speed limit. Cllr Hall advised there are costs involved in updating the highway network etc. Cllr Garrett asked if it would be possible for residents to put up '20 is plenty' signs. Cllr Hall advised he will check with the legal department of DCC. Councillors agreed that their request would be for the whole area that is currently 30MPH changing to 20MPH. Reducing the speed limit is the biggest issue within the Parish. Cllr Hall recommended that the Council continue to push the issue. Cllr Daniel asked if Cllr Hall could find out the exact cost. Cllr Thomas understood that the police do not enforce a 20MPH speed limit. Cllr Hall advised that even if it is not enforced, people will slow down more in a 20MPH zone than a 30. Cllr Mather has visited the '20 is Plenty' website and advised that residents are not allowed to erect signs that are the same as the official signage. Cllr Hall suggested that local papers be contacted. Cllrs agreed that a petition could be created. A book could be placed in the village hall during the weekly coffee morning and other Councillors offered to go door to door. It will also be added to the Council website. Cllr Drown also suggested that the local MP be contacted. Cllrs Garrett, Badger, Drown & Daniel will meet to bring this forward. Cllrs all agreed that the petition be created and signs be ordered to be placed in visible, private areas within the parish. There is a free option to be downloaded as well as those that can be ordered. Cllr Hall can see that Axmouth Parish Councillors are all about the prevention of incidents and would hate it if something should happen.

7) **Devon Air Ambulance Update:** An update has been received from Toby Russell including costs which Councillors discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Musbury Parish Council to discuss it and add it to the next agenda.

#### 8) Financial Matters:

- a) To approve the financial statements to the end December 2022. The statement was approved.
- b) To review the third quarter budget: The Councillors reviewed the budget.
- c) To discuss and approve the budget and precept for 2023/24: Councillors reviewed and discussed budget items for 2023/24. The final budget and precept were agreed. **ACTION: CLERK** to advise EDDC of the precept request.
- d) **Village Hall & Fixed Assets Maintenance:** *Cllrs Mather and Badger declared an interested on this item. Cllr Mather answered questions by the Council in his capacity as chair of the village hall committee.* Councillors discussed the maintenance of the village hall and fixed assets. Cllr Mather advised that he has been having trouble obtaining quotes for the works but has managed to find someone to replace the tiles on the porch (The clerk confirmed that no listed building planning permission is required for this). The committee have just received an insurance renewal and questioned whether the Council should be paying for this as well as structural repairs. Cllr Daniel proposed that there be a poll given to the parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting to ask what should happen. The Axmouth Village Hall Management Committee are a charity and have never asked the Parish Council for this before.
- e) To confirm the chosen project for the balance of the Jubilee Funds: Cllr Garrett advised that no-one had come forward with a preference of project. Councillors agreed that the balance would therefore go towards any celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III.
- f) To consider the purchase of child defibrillator pads: The Parish Council have been contacted by Mrs Stansfield who advised that the child pads are due for renewal. Following the most recent de-fib training it has been noted that adult pads can be used instead of child pads for a child over 8. Councillors agreed to not replace the child pads because there are no groups

with children under the age of 8 who meet or use the village hall and Councillors were happy with the knowledge that the adult pads can be used by children. **ACTION: CLERK** to let Mrs Stansfield know.

- g) To approve the following payments:  
No payments were required.

9) Planning Applications:

- a) **New applications for consideration:** There are no new applications.
- b) **Update on current applications:** The clerk advised Councillors of the following;
- 22/1594/FUL: 38 Church Street, Axmouth: Construction of Double Garage - Approval with conditions.
- 22/1105/FUL: Fairview House, Axmouth: Extension of existing residential dwelling incorporating existing commercial outbuilding to form home working space - Approval with conditions.
- 22/1064/FUL: Land At Axe Cliff And Haven Farms Stepps Lane Axmouth: Construction of two dwellings for holiday use and associated works - as a farm diversification proposal - Withdrawn
- Awaiting decisions:**
- 22/0868/LBC: Havenclyffe Lane To Havenclyffe House Axmouth Devon EX12 4AB: Proposed conservatory to the side of the property.
- 22/0720/FUL: Pinewood Homes Sidmouth Road Rousdon Devon DT7 3RD: Demolition of existing office and hardstanding and change of use to form extension to existing holiday park for the siting of 3 lodge style caravans for holiday use and 1 lodge style caravan for office and ancillary works.

- 10) **Footpath Project Update and P3 Review:** Cllrs Daniel and Zisman will arrange to meet with the respective landowners soon. A letter will be drafted and once approved, will be sent to all landowners. Cllr Daniel understands that the proposal is supported by Colyford. Cllr Daniel advised that the P3 annual review is due and asked Councillors if they are walking any of the footpaths to make a note and update the review. Cllr Daniel will send the review to all Councillors as well as an electronic copy of the footpath map.

- 11) **The Coronation of King Charles III - 6<sup>th</sup> May.** It was agreed that an article be placed in the parish newsletter to see what type of event the parishioners would be interested in holding. (Cllr Zisman left 8:38).

12) **To accept reports and agree actions from the following:**

- a. **County Councillor:** Cllr Hall attended the meeting. He has provided a report prior to the meeting. See [Agendas, Minutes & Reports - Axmouth Parish Council](#) for a copy of his report. Cllr Hall apologised for his absence over the recent meetings but has been sending monthly reports. He advised that there is a 4.99% increase to DCC's Council Tax element. Funds are tight at DCC, especially with Highways.
- b. **District Councillor:** Cllr Thomas attended the meeting. See [Agendas, Minutes & Reports - Axmouth Parish Council](#) for a copy of his report. He advised that there are similar pressures financially at EDDC. Refuse and Recycling is going well. Cllr Thomas is pleased to hear that Parish Council comments are listened to during planning considerations. Cllr Thomas advised that he will not be standing again for EDDC in May and that any nominations need to be in by 04.04.2023. The area is Trinity Ward which is Compyne Rousdon, Uplyme & Axmouth and is happy to talk to anyone who may be interested. Councillors thanked him for his time, support and effort made for the Parish over the years.

- c. **Parish Councillors:** Cllr Daniel is concerned about the verge being destroyed by the parking bay being created in Higher Axmouth. He understands that the debris has been cleared but not before destroying the plant life on the verge. It has been reported to DCC. Cllr Daniel also advised that the grit bins need refilling. He has tried to report them online but the new bin has not been coded. Cllr Hall suggested that he be copied in to any communication with DCC about the matter.
- d. **Clerk's report:** The clerk advised that she has handed in her notice and would be leaving on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The position is being advertised on the DALC website and the clerk is contacting a locum clerk should the position not be filled before her last day.

13) To accept any relevant correspondence: All correspondence was accepted.

14) Public Forum: No public present.

**Parish Council Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7:00pm**

Date: .....

Chairperson: .....

Meeting ends 8:58