



AXMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK:
ANDY COMERFORD
CAMELLIA COTTAGE
QUEENS STREET
COLYTON
EX24 6JX
Tel no: 07895 910543

A meeting of Axmouth Parish Council was held on Wednesday 22nd March 2023, at 7pm at Axmouth Village Hall.

Those present:

Cllr Chris Garrett (Chair) Cllr Nigel Daniel Cllr Graham Mather Cllr Ron Badger
Cllr Jonathan Wiseman Cllr Paul Britton

In attendance: Carol Rapley (Clerk), Andy Comerford (new clerk as observer)

- 1) **To receive and acknowledge apologies:** Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Jane Drown, Cllr Paul Zisman, Cllr Ian Hall (DCC) and Cllr Ian Thomas (EDDC).
- 2) **Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Ron Badger and Cllr Graham Mather both registered interest in Item 7.
- 3) **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 18th January 2023:** The minutes were **approved** and signed by the Chair.
Cllr Paul Britton raised two items from the November minutes to which he would like a response/update:
 - £250 grant for Axmouth Churchyard
 - £250 for Axmouth Village Newsletter**ACTION: refer these 2 items to Clerk for response.**
- 4) No items for discussion.
- 5) **Highway Matters: VAS:** Cllr Mather reported that DCC highways had placed a new pole for the VAS in Church Street which would obscure the School sign. The position of the new pole had not been agreed with the parish council therefore DCC would be asked to remove the new pole and place the VAS on a bracket on the existing pole for the school sign, having removed the school sign from the pole. **ACTION: Clerk** to contact DCC Highways with details of actions.
Cllr Mather also agreed that his contact details be given to DCC Highways. **ACTION: Clerk** to advise DCC Highways.
Cllr Mather updated the meeting that the VAS sign located on Chapel Street will be relocated on Monday and the data downloaded. Cllr Garrett asked for additional help in downloading VAS data and recharging batteries to cover when Cllr Mather was away. Cllr Wiseman agreed to help
Speed Watch: Cllr Mather advised the meeting that he had been invited to observe the Speed Watch team in Colyton. In order to establish a Speed watch in Axmouth, the location needs to be approved by the local police, the team needs to attend training and a Co-ordinator must be registered. Cllrs Christine Garrett, Jonathan Wiseman and Graham Mather volunteered, and a member of the public has also expressed interest.
ACTION: Cllr Garrett agreed to follow up a link to a dummy speedwatch event at Westpoint.

ACTION: Clerk to report the following three items to DCC highways:

Cllr Britton reported that growth was hanging over the highway adjacent to Rustic Cottage,
Cllr Mather reported a blocked gutter alongside the Riverside footway,



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Cllr Daniels reported broken kerbstones at the layby adjacent to Squires Lane.

- 6) **20MPH speed limit:** Cllr Garrett has collected signatures and still has a section of the Village to cover. Cllr Daniel has taken a form to collect Yacht Club signatures to add to the petition which will be sent to Richard Ford MP and Cllr Hall (DCC).
Cllr Britton suggested media and press coverage would help the case at the appropriate point in the campaign.
- 7) **Devon Air Ambulance:** The clerk reported a response from Musbury Parish Council who had discussed the offer of a joint initiative with Axmouth Parish Council for a Night Landing Light at the Axmouth Football Club. Their response was *'The council unanimously agreed to decline the offer on grounds of distance of the proposed site from the village centre and the majority of residents.'*
ACTION: Clerk to contact Devon Air Ambulance to inform them of the decision.
- 8) **Financial Matters:**
- a) The Financial Statement to the end of Feb 2023 was approved and signed
 - b) The proposed internal auditor for 2022/23 is Trudi Jenkins at a cost of £153.00. This was approved.
 - c) Village Hall and Fixed Assets Maintenance update: Cllr Mather has organised the audit. To date the main element of the hall needing repair is the roof. There are two areas that are leaking where rotten battens, underlay and fragile cracked slate tiles have been identified. The Hall is a listed building therefore a specialist report is being sought. There are also areas of lime mortar repair that need attention.
ACTION: Cllr Mather will bring a more detailed report to the next meeting and that ring fenced funds for Village Hall repairs would be allocated on a regular basis.
Cllr Daniels noted that there are grants available for listed building repairs. **ACTION: Clerk** to investigate grants from EDDC and other sources.
 - d) To approve payments
 - Trowers Hamblin - Deed assignment fees for playground £948.60 - approved
 - Newsquest Media – Clerk advertisement £543.84 - approved
 - Microsoft – annual subscription £79.99 - approved
 - ICO – Annual Data Protection Subscription £35.00 - approved
- 9) **Planning Applications:**
- a) **Recently received:** A letter relating to Wagtail Barn, Dowlands, DT7 3XP, has been received. A Certificate of Lawfulness has been applied for, following conversion to a dwelling in 2018.
Cllrs discussed whether there was any evidence to support an objection and decided **not** to make any representation to EDDC Planning.
 - b) **Update on current Planning applications** listed on the Agenda were noted but not discussed.
- 10) **Footpath Project Update:** Cllr Daniels advised that he was awaiting a meeting with Cllrs Drown and Zisman to send out letters to the landowners along the proposed route. **ACTION: Clerk** Agenda item for next meeting.
- 11) **Clean-up dates and consideration of hiring a Contractor to clear the brook:** Dates were set for the Village Clean-up as **Saturday April 22nd and Saturday July 15th**.



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ACTION: These dates will be advertised in Axmouth Together, Parish Magazine, Website, Pubs and on Flyers around the Village.

Cllr Britton volunteered to supply Bacon Butties for participants.

Areas for attention on the Clean-up days will be the brook, playground, bus shelter and Coronation Corner.

12) Community Groups to invite to the Annual Parish Meeting: The following groups will be invited:

Village Hall Committee, Friends of St Michaels Church, Axmouth Yacht Club, Axmouth Golf Club (Axe Cliff)
Axmouth Village Show Committee, Axmouth Playground Association, Axmouth Children's Theatre and
Axmouth Parochial Church Council (PCC)

13) Coronation of King Charles 111: The balance of funds remaining is £436.31.

Cllr Daniel has designed a logo for the Axmouth Coronation mugs and is currently obtaining a quotation for the supply of 50 bone China mugs. The price of each mug will be dependent upon the cost. **ACTION:** Cllr Daniel to expedite the mugs.

Cllr Garrett suggested that the Village bunting be erected on May 1st **ACTION:** Cllrs to erect bunting.

Plans for a BYO barbeque on Coronation Corner have been received from residents of the Village.

Cllr Britton asked whether the Parish Council should conduct a Risk Assessment as the council owned the land?

ACTION: Cllr Garret to investigate the Risk Assessment.

14) Reports

- a) **County Councillor** – Cllr Hall had e mailed a report to Cllrs before the meeting. Cllrs made no comments on this report.
- b) **District Councillor** – nothing received.
- c) **Parish Councillor Reports:** Nothing to report.
- d) **Clerk's report** – nothing to report.

15) Correspondence: none

16) Public Forum:

Four prospective parish councillors from Colyford were in attendance as observers.

Helen Craddock, a resident of Axmouth, observed as she was interested in becoming a parish councillor.

Date of Annual Parish Meeting and the next Parish Council Meeting: 19th April 2023

Date..... Chairperson.....

Meeting ended 8.40pm