



AXMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK:
ANDY COMERFORD
EYRE COURT HOTEL
2 QUEENS STREET
EX12 2NY
Tel no: 07895 910543

A meeting of Axmouth Parish Council was held on Wednesday 17th July 2024, at 7pm at Axmouth Village Hall.

Those present:

Cllr Daniel, Cllr Zisman, Cllr Drown, Cllr Staff, Cllr Condron, Cllr McBride and Cllr Garrett.

In attendance:

Andy Comerford (Clerk), Cllr Hall and Mr Loveridge.

1. To receive and acknowledge apologies.

None received.

The Clerk declared the meeting to be quorate.

2. Declaration of Interests:

Cllr Zisman reported that he had purchased some land adjacent to his property and asked if he should update the Register of Interests. The Clerk said that, having just updated his interests and given that his comment was minuted this would not be necessary.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th June 2024 to be approved. (circulated).

Approved and signed by Cllr Daniel.

4. To agree any items to be discussed after the public, including the press have, been excluded:

None.

5. Public Forum

Mr Loveridge asked on behalf of the Village Hall Committee if, as custodians of the hall, the Parish Council would give its support to the planning application they would like to submit for solar panels to be fitted to the Hall roof. He explained the cost savings and advantages to the hall. There was discussion on the expectations of savings and concerns over the possibility of fire risk from the batteries and how this would be negated. The Council fully supported the proposal.

Mr Loveridge said that he had a young oak tree that he would be happy to donate to the Parish if they had somewhere to plant one. He suggested a site on the left hand side of Coronation Corner.

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Mr Loveridge further suggested that it may be a good tradition for the Parish to plant a new tree for each newborn baby in the Parish with a suitable plaque for the tree to celebrate the new birth. Cllr Daniel suggested that a new tree was required for the top left corner of the show field having lost the tree that was there. Discussion was generally in favour of the idea and the Parish Council would consider it at the next meeting.

Mr Loveridge raised the issue of the proliferation of fibre optic poles around the village. Cllr McBride suggested that the poles were used as the easiest and most cost effective method but would expect old poles to be removed. Cllr Daniel said the Council had been notified some time ago that the new system was being installed but not informed of how it would be done. Cllr Zisman asked when more outlying areas of the parish would receive improved internet services. It was agreed that the clerk would ask if Cllr Hall could make contact with the relevant portfolio holder to ascertain the planned strategy for the parish.

6. Highway Matters:

Cllr Garrett reported a narrowing of the lane through Coombe caused by overhanging bushes and vegetation. Cllr Daniel reported that this was the responsibility of Binden Estate and they should be contacted and asked to cut them back. **Action: Clerk to contact Binden Estates.**

Cllr Daniel stated that he had reported the bollard that had been knocked into the brook outside Minns Cottage.

There was some discussion over the increasing number of potholes around the village and surrounding areas and the danger to road users these represented.

7. Financial Matters:

- a) To approve the financial statements to the end May 2024. All approved
- b) Review Quarterly budget monitoring report. Reviewed and approved.
- c) Appoint Internal Auditor. Cllr Zisman appointed.
- d) To approve the following payments:

- 1) Trevett. Playground Grass cutting. £67.50 Approved
- 2) J Widger. Village grass cutting. £750.00 Approved.
- 3) Axmouth Village Hall. Room rental. £88.00 Approved

8. Planning. No applications.

9. Playground.

- a) Cllr Condron reported that he had received quotations for repairs to the playground as highlighted in the ROSPA report. Update from Sean Bond and Chris Browne. Another contractor had been invited but was unable to carry out the repairs. The Playground Committee had decided to place the work with Sean Bond who had quoted £1320.00 and



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there were some sundry items to be purchased. Cllr Condron asked for the Councils approval in spending £1699.18 from the designated earmarked account. This was unanimously approved.

- b) Appointment of a Councillor to the Playground Committee.
Cllr Drown agreed to join the Committee. This was unanimously approved.

10. Ownership of Estuary Bank.

Nothing to report.

11. Graveyard.

Cllr Daniel and Cllr Drown informed the Council of an option on extending the churchyard if the Parish Council could purchase adjacent land. The proposal presented access issues which would need to be overcome and an option to address this was discussed. Contact had been made with the landowner and it would seem to be a viable option. It was felt that the Church needed to decide on how they wanted to continue and until that was resolved the Parish Council had gone as far as it could.

12. Flood Wardens.

Cllr Daniel had received the list of flood Wardens and had removed the names of those who no longer lived in the area. Cllr Daniel agreed to be the local co-ordinator. **Action:** Clerk to forward revised list to the Environment Agency.

13. Reports

- a) County Councillor Report: (Circulated).
Cllr Hall stated that he was very interested in Mr Loveridge's idea of celebrating the births within the Parish and would ring fence £100 from funding to help get the scheme started if it was decided to go ahead. Cllr Hill added that he had just received an e-mail concerning a survey of the community pharmacies in Devon. He considered this to be vitally important as the Pharmacies could pick up many of the duties to support the NHS. Cllr Hill supported everybody taking part in the survey. Cllr Hall reported that he was still lobbying hard for community health particularly in the prevention field. By forming trusted partnerships Devon will be able to use its funding more efficiently. Better planning for future strategies was essential.
- b) District Councillor Report: None Submitted.
- c) Parish Councillor Reports:
Cllr McBride reported a number of defective street lights on line. Cllr Hall said he had good contact with the Street Lighting team and he would happily pass on Cllr McBride's issues if required. He added that the dept were more reactive to complaints rather than proactive with inspection.



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Cllr Zisman said that it may be a good time for both himself and Cllr Daniel looked at registering appropriate interest in the possibility of the footpath project as a portion of the land that had been under despite had been sold.

Cllr Condron reported that he had sent out guidance via Axmouth Together for the reporting of Fly tipping. Cllr Condron also reported that the repairs to the notice board by Chris Brown were progressing and should be completed in a about a weeks time. Cllr Condrom agreed to stain the notice board once it was completed.

Cllr Daniel reported that Mrs Talbot (1 Coldwell Lane Terrace) would need to be contacted to trim her hedge around the phone box as it had overgrown the solar panels for the box. **Action:** Clerk to write to Mrs Talbot.

d) Clerks report; Nothing reported.

14. To accept any relevant correspondence. None received.

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 18.09.2024

Signed: Cllr Condron Date 18/9/24

Meeting closed 8.05pm.