



# 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 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024, at 7pm at  
Axmouth Village Hall.**

**Those present:**

Cllr Daniel, Cllr Condrón, Cllr Drown, Cllr Staff.

**In attendance:**

Andy Comerford (Clerk)..

- 1. To receive and acknowledge apologies.** Cllr Zisman (prior commitment), Cllr Garrett (Holiday), Cllr McBride (Hospital visit) and Cllr Hall (Holiday).

The Clerk declared the meeting to be quorate.

- 2 Declaration of Interests:** None declared.
- 3 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 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.** Nothing reported.

- 6. Highway Matters:**

- a) The Clerk reported that hedging had been cut back around the phone box. The Clerk had spoken with Highways concerning the hedging in Pound Hill. Highways had already been in touch with the property owner following an issue raised by the Street lighting team. Highways were happy that the work was in hand and were monitoring progress. The hedging from Bindon Estate driveway through to Stepps Lane had not yet been cut although some of the Estate hedging has been cut back. The Clerk will contact the Estate office.

Cllr Daniel reported that cones were being left out on the corner of Chapel Street and Church Street without an apparent reason or authority to do so. It was suggested that the cones were being left out by builders working on the corner cottage to reserve a parking spot but it was

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considered that there was ample room to park on site. This was causing some danger to road users on the junction and it was agreed that the cones should be removed.

## 7. Financial Matters:

- a) To approve the financial statements to the end September 2024. All approved
- b) To receive quarterly budget monitoring report to September 2024. Approved.
- c) The Clerk asked for approval to transfer £1779.18 from the Playground Earmarked account into the Treasurer account following payment of repair works to the playpark. This was approved.
- d) To approve the following payments:

1)	Trevett. Playground grass cutting.	£45.00. Approved
2)	Village Hall Hire	£52.00 Approved
3)	Bond Playpark repairs.	£150.00 Approved

## 8. Planning:

- a) 24/1469/VAR- Tesco's deliveries.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken with the Planning Dept and had been told that a decision date had not been set. The decision to pass to committee had not been made but this was the likely outcome. As Planning were waiting on replies from Tesco it would not be included in the agenda for the November committee meeting and was unlikely to be in Decembers either. The Clerk had requested that Axmouth Parish Council could be informed on progress.

## 9. Playground:

No report

## 10. Ownership of Estuary bank:

Cllr Daniel had reviewed and circulated drawings of the Estuary Bank and commented that the Land Registry drawings did not clarify ownership of some areas, particularly the areas between the bank edge and the road edge and doubted if Land Registry could clarify it further. It was suggested that The Clerk should send copies of the marked drawings to Highways and ask if it was Their responsibility. **Action: Clerk to write to Highways.** It was generally agreed that the Parish Council did not want ownership or responsibility for the bank and any repairs that may be needed if it were to collapse.



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## **11. Graveyard.**

Cllr Drown reported that there had been no progress. It was agreed that a meeting should take place to discuss area of land that could be made available and an indication of cost. There was some discussion about the possibility of including a parking area in the package but it was felt that access would make this very difficult.

## **12. Celebration Tree Planting.** (Cllr Staff report circulated)

Cllr Staff reported that she had visited the playground with Graham Beck (Tree Officer for the Devon Wildlife Trust / Saving Devon's Treescapes). He identified that the eastern corner was a good spot for a tree and suggested a Field Maple as a good match for the area and its use. A number of small fruit trees were suggested for the perimeter but these would need greater consideration. There was some discussion concerning size and possible loss of view to residents. It was also agreed that permission would have to be sought from Bindon Estate. The proposal should be discussed at the next Playground Committee meeting. Cllr Staff suggested that there was not the scope to plant suitable celebration trees in either the playground or Coronation corner. There may be an opportunity to plant celebration trees around the perimeter of the show field but this would need further consideration. It was agreed that the celebration of children born in the village was a good idea but that a tree was possibly not the best solution. Cllr Daniel reported that he had had some more negative comments concerning planting on Coronation Corner as it may restrict the view across the estuary and this needed greater consideration, possibly seeking residents feedback. Cllr Staff agreed to post an appropriate article on 'Axmouth Together' to gain resident feedback after the Playground Committee had considered the proposal.

## **13. Village Hall funding.**

It was agreed that the Clerk will purchase a copy of the Village Hall lease from Land Registry to satisfy the requirements of Custodian Trustees.

## **14. Street Lighting.**

It was agreed that the proposals for replacement lighting were very similar to the originals and were acceptable improvements. Cllr Daniel said that some of the existing lights had shades on one side to stop glare into houses but the residents should be responsible for arranging that. Cllr Staff reported a problem with a light outside her house that didn't switch off until 4.30 am. Cllr Staff was advised to report this on the Street Lighting Teams problem reporting facility.



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## 15. Axmouth 24.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not support this service at this time as there was no requirement for this type of service in Axmouth. The clerk would notify Axmouth 24.

## 16. Reports:

- a) County Councillor report. Circulated
- b) District Councillor report. None presented.
- c) Parish Councillor report.

Cllr Drown asked about plans for flooding in Axmouth in light of the recent weather. Cllr Daniel said that there was a published Emergency Plan for the Village. The subject of existing flood wardens had been raised in a recent meeting and there should be an available store of sandbags and sand available in emergencies. Cllr Daniel suggested that Council should review the emergency plan and check on the sandbag availability. Cllr Daniel raised the condition of the bus shelter and asked for some funds to be made available to carry out minor repairs. This was agreed but it was noted that the need to replace the shelter completely was not to far distant.

Cllr Condron reported that a resident had raised the issue of bins for dog waste. The dog bins currently are supplied by EDDC but any additional bins would need to be paid for by the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk to confirm current arrangements with EDDC and enquire on the cost of an additional bin.**

- d) The Clerk asked if any arrangements had been made for a wreath from the Council for Remembrance Sunday. Ann was supplying a wreath to the Parish Council, invoicing in due course and Cllr Daniel would lay the wreath at the service.

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 22.11. 2024

Signed *N. Daniel* Date 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2024

Meeting closed 8.20pm.