

WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday, 15 October 2020

Minutes of a meeting of Woodbury Parish Council, held remotely via Zoom, on Monday, 12th October 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Present: R Ball, P Bricknell, R Cullen, M Hesketh, P Jordan, G Jung, Mrs C McGauley (Chairman), G Murrin, R. Parr and J Pyne. Cty Cllr R Scott.

T Bennett (TW). Two members of the Public.

20/98	<p>Public Session: A Parishioner expressed an interest in being co-opted as a new Cllr for the ward of Woodbury explaining she was a local publican, a young mother and had long associations with Woodbury. She has a strong interest in the future development of the Parish.</p> <p>T Bennett (TW) expressed concern over the proposed spraying of weeds citing environmental damage caused to wildlife and risks to the water course.</p>
20/99	<p>APOLOGIES: Cllr D Atkins and S Andrews. Dst Cllr B Ingham. Cty Cllr J Trail.</p>
20/100	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: <i>None.</i></p>
20/101	<p>CO-OPT: RESOLVED. Mrs Samantha Knighton co-opted as a new Cllr for the ward of Woodbury. AIF.</p>
20/102	<p>S106 OPEN SPACE FUNDING: Cllr C McGauley suggested a working group should be set up with at least one representative for each village. It was agreed the group would consist of Cllrs Mrs C McGauley, P Jordan, Mrs Samantha Knighton, R Ball and G Jung.</p>
20/103	<p>FLOOD CONSULTATION: Cllr G Jung set out the WPC proposed response (below) to the Flood Consultation. Cllr R Ball noted that although the document mentions the pollution risks of run off in a flooding incident, there is insufficient emphasis on enforcing that preventative measures are put in place where the risk exists or will be created by a new development or agricultural/industrial practice. It would be more economic to all concerned and have greater environmental benefit to prevent such incidents rather than just having enforcement or prosecution measures following an event. Noting the cut off day of next Wednesday 14th October 2020 it was agreed Cllr R Ball's comments should be incorporated.</p> <p>Cllr G Murrin expressed his strong disappointment at the lack of response from the Environment Agency following their initial site visit to discuss, with other interested bodies, flooding issues at Exton. He noted he has not heard from them in over six months.</p>

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20/104	WEED TREATMENT: In relation to the quote, to treat the worst affected areas of the Parish. RESOLVED. Not accepted. Three for, seven against. One abstention.
20/105	<p>PLANNING:</p> <p>EXTON 20/1951/FUL Construction of workshop/sunroom and decking 2 Wood Cottages Exmouth Road Exton Exeter EX3 0PQ. SUPPORT. AIF 20/2061/FUL Construction of two single storey extensions (partially retrospective) Proposed ground floor ensuite to Bedroom 4 This part of the works have been completed under permitted development. The works were commenced September 2014 and completed September 2015. Fairfield Exmouth Road Exton Exeter EX3 0PZ. SUPPORT. AIF.</p> <p>WOODBURY</p> <p>20/2094/TRE T3 - Oak Crown reduce by 2-3m, crown raise all round to 2.5m above ground level and remove branch overhanging driveway 42 Fulford Way Woodbury Exeter EX5 1PD. SUPPORT but subject to the approval of the Tree Officer. AIF. 20/1078/RES Application for approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for the construction of a new dwelling pursuant to outline planning permission 19/1970/OUT Meadowside Broadway Woodbury Exeter EX5 1NR. SUPPORT. AIF.</p> <p>WOODBURY SALTERTON</p> <p>20/2000/FUL Construction of car port on existing parking area Honey Cottage Honey Lane Woodbury Salterton Exeter EX5 1EJ. SUPPORT. Nine in favour, one abstention. 20/2006/CPL Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use or Development (CLOPUD) for the siting of 26 static caravans for holiday use at Castle Brake Holiday Park, Woodbury. Castle Brake Holiday Park Woodbury Exeter EX5 1HA. <i>WPC unable to comment as regarded as a matter of legal interpretation for EDDC. Nine in favour, one abstention.</i></p>
20/106	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Mrs C McGauley explained she had received a complaint that a local business that felt it has been victimised by the Council, in particular, that a Cllr had made a complaint about their COVID-19 precautions related to their foodservice operations. Dst Cllr G Jung provided a point of clarity explaining that the establishment was visited by a member of EDDC Environmental Health following a complaint from a member of the public, rather than a Cllr. The Environmental Health Officer was satisfied adequate precautions had been taken by the business.
20/107	PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: Cllr M Hesketh explained he had attended a satisfactory meeting of the Exe Estuary Management Committee.
20/108	COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: Cty Cllr R Scott explained phase one works on improvements to Rydon Lane were to take place in the coming weeks. He was committed to improvements, with the intention it could become an amenity trail linking two of the Parish's villages.

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20/109	DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: Dst Cllr G Jung explained that a successful community stream clearance has taken place in Woodbury Salterton on the 10 th October 2020 with some 12 cwt of undergrowth being removed. Dst Cllr G Jung explained that EDDC are now refreshing the Local Plan following rejection of the GESP. He explained algorithms suggested a need for 1,500 new dwellings per annum (previously 850). Dst Cllr G Jung explained that plans for the Clyst Valley Regional Park would earmark Rydon Lane to form part of an amenity trail.
20/110	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: Cllr J Pyne explained that he, Cllr R Ball and the Clerk recently met with 'Dancing Badger' (formerly Websites & More) to discuss the approach for canvassing parishioners on the NP (as well as S106 OS funding). He is awaiting response on costings.
20/111	COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS: <i>None.</i>

Meeting closed 9.50 pm

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The Devon Local Flood Risk Management Draft Consultation Strategy for 2021 to 2027 has been published with a request for feedback.

The first 6 questions are standard names and addresses and data protection questions and therefore the questions 7 to 13 are listed on this report.

7. Are you satisfied with the structure of the Strategy? If not, what improvements would you suggest?

Woodbury Parish Council would like to make the following constructive observations:

We cannot ignore the simple fact that the weather patterns are changing, and the change seems to be accelerating. So, we must put in strategies that ensure not to just ensure flooding is controlled at the current water levels but for substantial increases.

Although the DCC Local FRM Strategy 2020 is a very thorough and well-meaning document the Parish Council believes it lacks any real resolution to the problems.

There are far too many agencies, committees, departments and councils involved in the control and management of our rivers and flood control measures

The existing Riparian 'stake-holders' need to make far more responsible for their actions or inactions. Encouragement is the best way, but the simple fact is that if one landowner does not adhere to the plan/strategy then it will have repercussions along the entire river.

Therefore, it must be a legal requirement.

Farmers should also be enforced to ensure good husbandry and if their actions cause drains to be blocked, or they ignore their own land drains, spread slurry that pollutes. It also begs a question that if a particular crop is causing issues or the farmer leaves a harvested field fallow and then that cause flooding, they must take responsibility.

8. What aspects of the Strategy are you most interested in or concerned with and do you feel that this has been well addressed? If not, what improvements or changes would you suggest?

The proposed aims are to:

- 1. Develop and maintain a Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in Devon.*

This is reliant on good communication and feedback from communities and Parish and Town councils.

- 2. Land Drainage Consent to works on Ordinary Watercourses - Enforce removal of unconsented works.*

Riparian ownership is not understood nor enforced.

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3. Maintain a free flow of water in an Ordinary Watercourse through enforcement.

Enforcement seems to be poor.

4. Develop and maintain a Register/Record of significant flood risk assets.

Where is the central register of flood risk assets and who provides the information?

5. Designate structures/features with significant flood risk benefits.

As above.

6. Carry out flood investigations following significant flood events.

How are incidents logged?

7. Provide comments on surface water management proposals for new major development applications as statutory consultee.

The submission of comments on “Major Applications” is welcome, however minor applications sometimes has a major impact on localised flooding and the cumulative effect of several small planning proposals may also have a detrimental effect.

It would be beneficial in some locations to provide a “better than” measure to a scheme rather than matching the same surface water run off prior to the proposed development.

9. Are the different roles and responsibilities of the Lead Local Flood Authority, Risk Management Authorities and landowners clearly defined and explained? If not, what do you think needs further clarification?

Yes, they are defined, within the document but the general public are not aware or understand their own responsibilities.

10. Are there any additional stakeholders that you think should be included in the Strategy?

The Is Environment Agency, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council all various specific responsibilities which are not fully understood.

Devon Wildlife Trust ‘hosts’ the East Devon Catchment Partnership is not logical, and we feel their interests will lie in the wildlife aspect and not human habitat issues.

Should be one level of administrating organisation, with real teeth to ensure everyone is required by law to ‘conform’ to the overall strategy and actions.

11. Do you feel that the Strategy links in with other appropriate plans, strategies and reports? If not, what do you believe is missing?

It helps to explain who is responsible for what.

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12. Do the principles throughout the document fulfil the vision and objectives? If not, what do you believe is missing?

The vision and objectives only provide a solution to the known shortcomings already identified.

13. Part 2 lists some communities we have classed as a priority. However, we are aware of many other locations that are also at risk. Does this section adequately explain how we prioritise the at-risk communities and the opportunities for flood risk interventions to other locations across Devon?

These are the and towns within East Devon listed in the report:

Exmouth, Seaton, Budleigh Salterton, Sidmouth,

Why are smaller communities Hamlets and smaller villages not listed?

Within our Parish we know that Woodbury Salterton is vulnerable to surface water Flooding, Woodbury Flood prevention Scheme constructed in the 1960s require reviewing and there are significant issues at Exton

13. Part 2 lists some communities we have classed as a priority. However, we are aware of many other locations that are also at risk. Does this section adequately explain how we prioritise the at-risk communities and the opportunities for flood risk interventions to other locations across Devon?

It suggests that the higher the populated locations are will gain priority over smaller communities.

The funding is aimed at protection of dwellings, but it does mention in **table 8** disruption to infrastructure, impact to businesses, impact to services, and impact to the environment but it does not explain how these impacts are measured.

We will provide each of the 25 selected projects with some funding to develop their proposals with more detail during spring 2021, before the projects formally start in summer 2021. The evaluation criteria and the programme stages will be outlined in further detail in the prospectus which will be published in the autumn.