

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Community Resilience Working Party

Notes of the virtual meeting held at 3pm on Wednesday 12 October 2022 via Zoom

Present

Councillor Tony Woodward (Chair)	TW	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Maddy Chapman	MC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Tim Dumper	TD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Sam Dorman	SD	Exmouth Town Council

Apologies

Councillor David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Council

1. To elect a chairman

Councillor Tim Dumper proposed, seconded by SG, that Councillor Tony Woodward be re-elected as Chair of the Community Resilience Working Party. No other nominations were received, and all members agreed that Councillor Tony Woodward be re-elected as Chair.

2. Welcome and Apologies

TW welcomed attendees to the meeting and noted apologies.

3. To approve the notes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022

It was agreed by members that the notes be accepted as a true record of the meeting held on the 12th January 2022.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

A few matters arising but these are set as items.

5. To discuss updates on grit bins

Grit bins are in the same situation as they were in January 2022. CJ updated members that there are no new grit bins or new locations. TD has no updates for

Town ward as there are no grit bins. TW said that on the intersection of Halsdon Road and Bellevue Road the grit bin had hard grit in it. CJ confirmed that the location of the grit bins is in the Emergency plan.

TD proposed a twin track approach to check grit bins and let CJ know of bad ones and put it on DCC report it website.

ACTION: Councillors to identify the status of grit bins in their wards and email CJ with bad ones and report on website.

6. To review updated Emergency plan version 1.9

TW explained that the Emergency plan version 1.9 for has new appendices about power loss and What 3 Words which has been added to identify locations. A discussion was had about adding information for extreme temperatures, heatwave, and fires to the plan. CJ updated members that she had reached out to community shelters to ask them if they had generators that could be used in the event of a power cut. At present none of the shelters have generators. SG informed members that if someone had a disability, they could register with their power company and they would then be notified when there was an outage and make sure the person is okay. CJ confirmed that when she had contacted the shelters, she had asked about warm spaces. It was further discussed if a generator could be purchased and kept at the Town Hall so that if there was a power cut this could be used at a shelter. This led to a discussion about local generation and renewable energy i.e., solar panels.

ACTION: To add to the Emergency plan - The LERT team will assess where power cuts are and seek to find a shelter outside of the outage area.

ACTION: To obtain quotes on purchasing a generator and understand how generators work.

ACTION: Investigate medium to long term local green energy sources.

7. To discuss publicising / promoting the Emergency plan

Ideas were discussed on how we could publicise and promote the emergency plan. SG shared an idea about having an event in Manor Gardens with a stall and leaflets to explain to the community on how they could get prepared in case of an emergency. MC mentioned that leaflets could be handed out in the magnolia centre to members of the public to inform them. It was agreed that a leaflet could be added to the booklet that had already been put together.

8. To recommend to the town council that this working party led by Steve Gazzard, work with partners and community organisations to produce a list of support available specifically relating to poverty and the energy crisis.

SG explained that he had been giving some thought about the cost-of-living crisis and the possibility of power loss after attending the DALC conference. SG thought it would be a good idea to arrange a meeting with organisations and put a crib sheet together so that if anyone needed help with food or energy bills, all contact details would be on an information sheet. This would be a good way of collating information about what organisations have to offer. MC spoke about food parcels and how the church is not receiving as many donations for the food parcels. CJ raised how at the DALC conference it was said there is concern that supermarkets are not donating like they were, but it was noted that there are places that are offering food or drink for free and there are a couple of organisations that are offering this locally. TD mentioned that there is already a network called 'Mushroom' which is around food poverty and food waste and Opendoor are one organisation involved. He said it would be a good idea to plug into this network.

A recommendation to produce a leaflet with partners and community organisations on tackling poverty and the energy crisis with a budget of £1000 was proposed by TW and seconded by MC and all in favour.

ACTION: SG will contact Lisa Pike at Opendoor to see what we can help them with and feedback to CJ.

ACTION: Recommendation to produce a A4 double sided in A5 leaflet with partners and community organisations on tackling poverty and the energy crisis with a budget of £1000

9. To discuss updates on emergency boxes

CJ will arrange for the town maintenance team to check all contents i.e., torches etc are in good working order and to add a copy of version 1.9 of the Emergency plan to each box.

ACTION: To check the emergency box in the Town Hall to have a good idea of what is working before checking other boxes and update plan in box

10. To discuss updates on Exmouth Flood Gate Volunteers

CJ confirmed that the Hi Vis jackets, keys and ratchets have been collected and volunteers now have all the equipment they need. Volunteers have said that they don't require any more training. The Imperial hotel have agreed to open and close the gate by them, and Kate Pearson has the names of volunteers. The Grove have confirmed they will be opening and closing the gate themselves. CJ, SG and Kate

Pearson visited the sailing club regarding the gate located next to the club and had a very good meeting. The sailing club will provide names for volunteers and once these are provided training will be given to open and close the gates. The club were really pleased that they will get some support.

ACTION: CJ will get the details of volunteers to update the list.

11.To discuss updates on completion of Flood Gate MOU

CJ updated members that there is the Memorandum of Understanding to complete. Kate Pearson has been adding information to this but cannot finalise the document until gate numbers are confirmed and Operational Manual has been completed.

12.To discuss updates on additional names for Community Resilience Volunteer List

CJ explained that both volunteer lists have been checked and read the same.

13.Any other business

None

14.To agree date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed. Members agreed to have a meeting around September/October 2023.

The meeting finished at approximately 4.28 pm.