Exmouth Town Council

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PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WORKING PARTY

Purpose: The Public Rights of Way Working Party has delegated authority under Devon County Council's Parish Paths Partnerships Scheme (P3) to ensure that the rights of way network in Exmouth is properly maintained. The main aim is to improve the condition of the local rights of way and keep them open and used properly.

Membership: Five members, preferably one from each ward

Quorum: Three members

Power: Highways Act 1980 ss 43 50

Delegated Authority: No

1. Terms

1.1. The Council's Standing Orders apply to all meetings of the Working Party.

1.2. The Working Party shall be appointed on an annual basis at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council.

1.3. The first order of business of the first meeting of the Working Party after its annual appointment will be to elect a Chairman.

1.4. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council shall be Ex-officio, non-voting members of the Working Party.

1.5. The Working Party will meet twice a year. Additional meetings will be arranged as required.

1.6. Meetings shall not be open to the public unless the Committee feels it appropriate to include the press and public for specific items.

1.7. Members of the Working Party will receive an agenda and supporting papers in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

1.8. Notice of meetings and minutes will be published in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.

1.9. Members of the Working Party must be familiar with Exmouth's Town Council's current Climate Plan. The Climate Plan should be referenced as part of any decision-making process.

2. Responsibilities

2.1. To maintain the public rights of way network in Exmouth, ensuring that it is signposted, maintained and free from obstruction as measured against the Devon County Council condition criteria appended to the Council's P3 agreement.

2.2. To carry out and submit to Devon County Council a condition survey of its complete path network on an annual basis.

2.3. To undertake any upkeep and improvement work and ensure it is carried out to an acceptable standard.

2.4. To liaise with landowners regarding works to be undertaken and make the initial approach concerning any problems such as obstructions.

2.5. To ensure all rights of way in the parish are signed where they leave a metalled road and are waymarked where necessary.

2.6. To publicise and provide information about local public rights of way.

2.7. To consider the extent to which local rights of way (footpaths, cycle tracks, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to traffic and any other undesignated paths) meet the present and likely future needs of Exmouth.

2.8. To consider the opportunities provided by local rights of way for exercise and other forms of open-air recreation and enjoyment.

2.9. To consider the accessibility of local rights of way to blind or partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems.

2.10. To give evidence at local public footpath enquiries as necessary.

2.11. To identify other opportunities to extend the Public Rights of Way network in Exmouth.

2.12. To monitor progress on the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan Action Points GA12, making recommendations to Full Council in respect of the timely delivery of the Action Plan as appropriate.

Adopted at Exmouth Town Council on 13th May 2024.

Reaffirmed 18th May 2026
Review date: May 2027