MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29TH MARCH 2018 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, EXTON

Present: Cllrs Mrs C McGauley (in the Chair), D Atkins, R Bartlett, Mrs C Bennett, P Bricknell, Mrs M Edwards, B Jones, G Jung, G Murrin, and J Pyne. County Cllr Scott and Trail. District Cllr B Ingham & R Longhurst; 9 members of the public and the Clerk to the Council, Mr A J Le Riche.

1	**Exe Estuary Partnership** Stephanie Clark, the Exe Estuary Officer was due to speak about the work of the Partnership but had become ill and was unable to attend.
2	**Commemoration of the end of WW1** Sandra Huish spoke about the local arrangements for this major national event. There were two aspects of the commemorations: GP90 was a walk to the Menin Gate started in 1928 by the by the Widows and Orphans of those who gave their lives in the Great War. Forty-six branches of the RBL in Devon had signed up to this and each would be sending two representatives. In the case of Woodbury this would be the Chairman and the Standard bearer and this would take place from 5th – 9th August 2018. There was a parallel event for anyone else who wished to take part. Some parishioners would be cycling to the event. Sandra was happy to take any wooden crosses with her. These would be left at the Menin Gate. At home, Gill Selley would be writing a memorial in the Woodbury News. Schools would be doing projects about why this event started and would be finding out about their ancestors who were involved in the War or the war effort. On Saturday, 10th November 2018, there would be a rolling film show in the Village Hall which would finish with a parade of the unknown soldier. There would also be a film of making munitions. Chris Lear and her team would be making refreshments. There would be an exhibition of Devon families involved in the War. The Parish Council would be asked to provide bunting, flags and flyers about the events. On Sunday 11th November, there would be the usual service at 2.45 on The Green. It was hoped to have young people involved in this by reading literary pieces from the time.
3	**Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th April 2017 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members).
4	**Chairman's Report:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Tree Wardens and Footpath Wardens were not able to come to the meeting but the Chairman thanked them for their valuable work in the Parish. The parish Council had received a presentation from Rent Plus about the allocation of affordable houses at the Cavanna Homes development. Tony Bennet had asked the Parish Council to join the 'Last Straw' campaign which was aimed at stopping the use of plastic straws as they were a source of pollution of the

oceans of the world. The parish Council is appy to support this.

The Parish Council continued to give grants to local groups. With the money from the Coombe Farm Solar Fund and its own funds, the Parish Council was able to distribute over £9,000 each year.

The precept had been kept at the same level. Next year, the second and final payment to the DCC Pension fund would be made. If the precept remained the same, in future years this would provide funds for bigger projects across the Parish.
This year, there was a Project to refurbish The Arch in Woodbury and it was hoped that the work would be done by November 2018 in readiness for the event to commemorate the end of WW1.
A new bench had been provided on the Village green, in association with the RBL, to celebrate the contribution that Reg Brown had made to the community.

5 **Parish Council finances**

The Clerk submitted the draft accounts for the year. These were not yet balanced or audited.

Opening Balance	25,328.99
Receipts	121,148.31
Total funds	146,477.30
less, Payments	105,832.91
Net funds	**40,644.39**
add, Unpresented cheques	7,380.28
less, Receipts not on statement	0.00
Balance at bank	48,024.67
Met by:	
30 day account	14,662.57
Treasurers account	33,362.10
Total	48,024.67

6 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Pyne, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan team reported that the Plan was now out for a local consultation before moving to the next formal stage. The current closing date for comments on this round was 31st March 2018. Copies of the latest draft of the neighbourhood Plan and a response form were available at the meeting.

7 **County Councillor's report**

Cllr Scott reported that Cty Cllr Channon was a little sad at not representing the Parish any longer, due to the boundary changes. Cllr Trail would be attending the service at the Menin Gate.
The Greendale Liaison Group had met twice and the estate had received some enforcement action.
The Blackhill Quarry Liaison Group was about to hold its last meeting.
The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan was coming although it had been delayed. There

	would be a consultation on a draft Plan in June 2019. This would sit above the neighbourhood Plan and the ED Local Plan. It was important to be involved with this if the Parish Council was to have any input into changes that might affect the area. Cllr Atkins congratulated Cllr Scott on the work of clearing the sides and footpaths along the A376. The Chairman pointed out that Recycling centres no longer accepted car parts and thought that this might encourage fly tipping. Cllr Scott reported that Recycling centres would be charging for this; Greendale businesses were suffering. The hedge had been cut in Rydon lane, partly by the Parish Council and he expressed his thanks for this. It was now possible to see what other improvements were needed. It was likely that it would be downgraded from a Minor County Road to a bridleway which would mean it could be used as a cycle route to link in to the Exe Estuary Trail. A resident reported that traffic conditions were still bad in Station Road, Exton and there was a fear of an accident involving children going in and out of the playing field. The Chairman explained that road safety was a DCC matter and Cllr Murrin was trying very hard to bring about a scheme to improve safety for those going into and out of the playing field but he was struggling to get funds identified and released by EDDC. Cllr Scott said that it might be possible to look at some measures to reduce parking but this would lead to an increase in the speed of vehicles. He suggested that an 'engineering' solution was needed and asked for details of the proposed safety measures.
8	**District Councillor's reports** Cllr Ingham made reference to planning matters across the Parish. Greendale and Hill Barton had now been included in the ED Village Plan and so this would restrict their growth. The EDDC share of the Council Tax had increased by £5.00. This was now the best value in Devon and was ranked high across the country despite more work being passed on by government without any funding. EDDC were doing well with recycling, the Green Waste scheme would be starting soon. Cllr Jung referred to the boundary changes, when Raleigh Ward would disappear. Woodbury Salterton would be included with Woodbury and Lympstone. He had worked to prevent inappropriate development include development at Greendale. It was important to have this employment area but not at the expense of other things.
9	**Report of the Tree Warden** Tony Bennett had been working with the other Tree Wardens and they were all guided by the Tree Officer at EDDC. We had reached the end of the hedge cutting season and so any that were not done would have to wait until the ned of the nesting/breeding season. The Tree Wardens considered each planning application in their respective areas with the aim of planting and preserving trees rather than losing them. It would be a good project to find new areas for tree planting and then to seek external funding for this. He was working closely with the Woodbury Community Orchard. The trees were well maintained and the area was used for several community events. The parish Council had given a grant for improvement of the picnic area. A willow structure

	had been planted and wild flower seeds had been sown. There was still some work to do. Unfortunately Ash Dieback disease was now spreading. A survey was done a few years ago and this will be repeated. Any Ash trees adjacent to the highway with more than 50% dieback would be felled on safety grounds. In response to a question, Mr Bennett pointed out that most trees in the Parish were in hedgerows, with a small proportion being in woodlands. There could be opportunities for planting in hedgerows but there was unlikely to be any funding for this. Cllr Scott reminded the meeting that he was offering funding towards the cost of planting 37 trees in Woodbury to mark those who had given their lives in WW1. Cllr Atkins reported that a 5 acre patch of the golf course had been given for this about 20 years ago. He agreed to make arrangements to show this to Mr Bennett.

The meeting finished at 9.15