

# Transition Exmouth Newsletter

## October '17

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### Saturday is the Last Day...

Much as I'm keen to tell you about our AGM, a level head tells me that I must put planned events first. At the top of this newsletter is the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) consultation opportunity because the consultation closes on Saturday!

it's an important matter and one which your Officers have put in and will be putting in, much time. All necessary information may be found at <http://www.exmouthneighbourhoodplan.uk/> which tells you how to respond with your views but hurry because the consultation finishes at the end of the month.

We advise members to read the consultation document and respond by Saturday, concentrating on the following subjects, into which we have put our lobbying efforts recently: A) Green wedges/routes, B) Zero-carbon construction, C) Environmental Interpretation Centre, and D) A Biodiversity Action Plan.

The following is Noel's wish-list, some of the items are his own opinions but you may wish to follow his lead. Note: It is unclear to what extent the Neighbourhood Plan can influence the QDD development.

- Exmouth to be marketed as an ecological sea-side resort, and retain/enhance green corridors such as: Madeira Walk, the Littleham/Withycombe/Bapton valleys.

- All new buildings to have the best ecological features. Water harvesting is also necessary. Need for a mixed use community building.
- Exmouth needs to retain space for a major employer to relocate here.
- New, highest-quality, housing must allow spaces for gardens and allotments. Trees preserved, character of the area maintained. Separate pedestrians from vehicles.
- Research new models for providing Zero-carbon affordable homes.
- Make Exmouth an Eco-town.
- Tax rules support the construction of housing reserved for the over 55s. Stop this.
- Keep up the pressure for an Integrated Transport Interchange and more buses. Improve pedestrian and cycle routes.
- An Environment Interpretation centre should be a high priority, enabling Exmouth to maximise its potential as a sustainable holiday resort.
- Eco-friendly development of Bystock and Marley neighbourhoods.

The NP process does not stop at the referendum, we must initiate 'Ginger Groups' so as to realize our lobbying ambitions.

## **Short-notice Tree Planting**

We are holding a tree-planting session at 10.30 in 'our' wood at Bapton Valley park on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October (next week ). If possible, bring your own trees, fruit trees are best, but we'll have some spare, I hope. You'll also need a water container, something to dig a hole with, and something to act as a stake. Meet at the bottom of the park at Green Fingers (buy all you need there) on Pound Lane or else come in from that top from Partridge Road.

## **Our Next 29-minute Session**

Come along at 19.30 (preceding our next Green Drinks) on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, to the Park Hotel on Exeter Road and hear from Carol Jay about the Regional transition Workshop she has just been to; some good ideas were aired.

## **AGM**

Great to see some of you at the AGM. The main event was the presentation by Roy Pryke and Ian Cann of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Also of course I gave the Chair's report for the year during which I listed 32 events & commitments; all of which are familiar to readers of these newsletters.

The elections were not exactly high-drama. Jane Ashton has committed to remain on the UG to which she was co-opted. We thank her for that; Jane has contributed much to our activities. For the remainder of the officer positions, there were no new nominations and all the existing habituees wanted to continue in-post. Your full slate therefore is as follows:

- Chair: Adrian Toole
- Secretary: Adrian Toole
- Treasurer: Rob Masding
- Membership: Rob Masding
- Newsletter Editor: Adrian Toole
- Press and Publicity Officer: Roger Gibson
- COLP Representatives. Adrian and Noel
- Additional Umbrella Group representatives: Jane Ashton & Andy Lock
- LETS Liaison: Adrian Toole
- Events Officer: vacant

The other news is we have a change to the membership fees. Don't worry, it may even be cheaper for you!

The subscription rate for the next 12 months was agreed to be £5 with a suggested extra £5 voluntary subscription but totally free to those under 18, students, & the unemployed.

Further, we now have a corporate subscription rate (for which there are already applications) of £10 so consider asking organisations to join that you have connections with.

Pay now, we really need your subscription. It is easily paid to Treasurer, Cllr. Rob Masding c/o Exmouth Town Council, 44 Rolle Street, Exmouth EX8 2SH.

If you prefer to pay by bank transfer (donations welcome!), our details are: 'Transition Exmouth', Cooperative Bank, 08-92-99, a/c 65332739. Please, please identify yourself on the transfer.

Members are additionally requested to plant a tree, either in our wood or elsewhere. There is an opportunity for this next week.

## Don't Forget the ITI

As you all know the EDDC Local Plan calls for an Exmouth ITI. The work on this has been undertaken by the Exmouth Transport partnership (ETP) and has been continuing for many years. To date there has been only like warm interest either by EDDC and DCC Councillors or Officers. A new initiative has begun whereby a business plan will be written with the aim and hope of encouraging a more positive outcome.

Roma Patten has agreed to co-ordinate the work for this and she is looking for proactive help from others. Initially she has been counting passenger numbers at the Leisure Centre bus stop and where passengers go after arriving at the railway station. She would like to meet us to discuss Transition Exmouth's interest and areas where our members have the knowledge and skills for the Business Plan. Anyone up for helping? Pls contact me.

## National Trust Hunting Ban – it's up to you

If you are a National Trust member or know others who are, you can use your vote to support the motion to ban hunting on the charity's land: you can do so online, by post, or in person at the AGM, which takes place on Saturday 21st October. For more details, see the League Against Cruel Sports campaign [here](#).

To get the word out as widely as possible, the League is also encouraging people to leaflet National Trust members outside NT properties. If you would like to do this at a property near you, please contact [LACS](#) for a supply of leaflets and high-viz jackets. Thanks to Exeter Friends for Animals for that info.

## Environmental Protection Law

Make no mistake, despite pledges to the contrary, as soon as European environmental-protection laws comes under UK Parliament control, the industry lobbyists will be out in force to get them dismantled. Write to our MP, Hugo Swire about this, reminding him that Devon County Council supported a motion urging the government to retain all nature laws after the Repeal Bill with AT LEAST the same level of protection. See:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-39266723>

## Social Media and Website

<http://www.transitionexmouth.uk>.

[@GreenManExmouth](#) continues his tweeting, not always on TE items but always seeking to entertain so be prepared!

We have a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/15416577788/>

and a page: <https://www.facebook.com/transition.exmouth>

Not to forget the ever popular Green Drinks: <http://www.greendrinks.org/Devon/Exmouth>

## Hydro scheme on the Exe!

There is to be a Hydro scheme on the River Exe but alas not near here. Brendon Energy, a community energy company have permission to construct one at Bolham and will be raising funds for it! <https://brendonenergy.org/> EDGP are hosting a presentation by the company at The Beehive in Honiton on October 10th at 19:30.

## And Finally

All about hedgehogs: discover amazing facts about our native British Hedgehog, how to make gardens hedgehog friendly, and how to care for sick, injured and orphaned hedgehogs. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn the necessary facts and make a huge difference to the survival of this endangered species.

Wednesday 11th October, 2017 12pm to 4pm, in St. Budeaux, Plymouth. Meeting place - Whitleigh Green Car Park, PL5

This course will be hosted and led by Linda Squires of Plymouth Hedgehog Care and Rehabilitation. For cost and booking info:

<http://www.hedgehogplymouth.yolasite.com/contact-us.php>

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