

# Transition Exmouth Newsletter for Members and Supporters December '17

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## Bystock Court Sale Tomorrow

The axe has fallen; our colleague Rob Masding and many others have had to quit their short-term tenancies at Bystock Court. i've not learnt what plans the owners Guinness Trust have for Bystock, that's another story but what it means is that Rob and the others have to leave. They had had a good 18mts up there but have inevitable accumulated chattels in excess of what they can accommodate I their new homes so there is to be a boot sale tomorrow Saturday 10.00 to 14.00. Bystock Court, Old Bystock Drive, Exmouth EX8 5RB.

Why not go up there, wish them well and see what there is you fancy?

## Our Next 29-minutes Sessions

Exmouth residents placed the Natural Environment top of their priorities in the Neighbourhood plan so Jan Gannaway from Exmouth Swift Group will lead a discussion on how we might conserve the wildlife living alongside us in Exmouth. Come along at 19.30 for the talk & social evening at [The Park Hotel, Exmouth](#)

On 4th January '18 (Yes New Year just around the corner) it will be Roma Patten, one of the Town's most doughty campaigners, determined to secure us an Integrated Transport Interchange such as all civilised towns should have! A new initiative has begun whereby a business plan will be written with the aim and hope of encouraging a more positive outcome. Roma has agreed to co-ordinate the work and she is looking for proactive help from others.

February is not yet booked; do you want to volunteer?



The rare wasp spider found In 'our' open woodland at Dennesdene Farm – credit Heath Nichols

## Sustainable Exmouth

Andy Lock and myself met with Cllr. Philip Skinner to discuss the Developer-free visioning exercise that he is committed to for Queens Drive Stage 3. Cllr Skinner heads up the Exmouth Regeneration Board and is the man to engage with if we want to influence what happens next.

Our pitch was essentially that which we have promoted for several years and which Andy clearly spelt out in his presentation to Exmouth Town Council as long ago as 2014.

Andy has very fond childhood memories of 'Swan Lake' and the Harbour View cafe features in his family's history but we stuck to our brief, steering away from controversial aspects of this much criticised project, and keeping the dialogue positive.

The meeting lasted three hours and Cllr. Skinner was more open to our suggestions on sustainability than we could have hoped. There does seem to have been a sea-change in EDDC's approach to this development and for that credit must go to the many concerned parties who have been vocal in their criticism over the years.

We felt it important to make sure Cllr. Skinner understands the mountain that he has to climb if he has to gain the trust of people in the town and Andy stressed the pervading distrust of EDDC and it's officers. Cllr. Skinner stressed that control of the process will remain with the Exmouth Regeneration Board so let us see what the next steps are to be.

No matter how welcome the Town might be to the ideas to be formulated by the Vision process, the crunch will come in finding a developer to put up the money!

## **Grenadier Application Coming Soon**

Following last Month's consultation, Andy Lock and myself wrote Transition Exmouth's 'official' response, which was essentially positive. We will get this on the Website when Rob is settled but in the meantime I can send it out on request. We hear that Grenadier are taking longer than expected to process all the consultation responses but still their formal planning application is expected very soon.

## **Xcycle Ride at Christmas**

There is to be another of our cheering, weight-reducing Christmas cycle rides. Weather allowing, this is to be on Thursday December 28<sup>th</sup>, starting as usual at Exmouth swimming pool at 11.00 and ending somewhere we can eat (but not the Pig & Trotter!). Organised by Paul Ives; final details are yet to be decided but hope to see you there.

If this is called-off, we will announce the fact earlier in the morning by e-mail and our social media outlets.

## **Clean Street Exmouth**

Roger Gibson has launched Clean Street Exmouth on Facebook. The concept is that individuals take on the role of keeping their road tidy by means of an occasional litter-pick. Roger hopes the idea will be spread around the town by a developing network of pickers. We are hoping to be able to raise some cash so as to help Roger out. How this is to work for non-Facebook people like me, I don't know!

*I think a push to make the town much less litter-polluted could have a major impact and put us in direct contact with people town-wide. ...The idea is to have someone in a street who brings neighbours together to adopt their street and work out ways of keeping their street clean... '*

To stake your 'pitch', get in touch with Roger [walksmall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:walksmall@hotmail.co.uk) or through Facebook. See the logo on Carol's poster elsewhere in this newsletter

## **Green/Fruit Routes**

A deputation of interested members went along to the Exmouth Town Council meeting on Monday to hear Tim Dafforn of EDDC's Countryside Team present his project Wild Exmouth. The basis of this is a Lottery Grant application for 65k (plus match-funding) to promote and enhance Exmouth's wildlife. We went because this seemed likely to fit with our own Green/Fruit Routes concept that we have been pushing through the Neighbourhood Plan process.

Tim did not disappoint, he is open to suggestions on the details not least because reifying his project will depend largely on volunteers. We had Heath Nichols with us; Heath is the amateur biologist who discovered the meadow ants, wasp spiders (see image) and many other interesting fauna & flora inhabiting our wood at Dennesdene Farm. A bio-diversity Action Plan is obviously necessary as a starting point and this will be the subject of Jan's 29-minutes talk/discussion on Thursday. There is everything to play for here so get in touch if providing habitats for wildlife and foraging for us rings your bell!

## **Bread Club**

Bread Club continues to thrive. Last month saw us being tutored by Iona Collins from Boatyard bakery in the art of soughdough baking. Thanks Iona.



Next Bake-off is on Friday 8th<sup>th</sup> December. Contact Paul or Jane Ives for details:  
[paul.ives1@googlemail.com](mailto:paul.ives1@googlemail.com)

See link below for photos and recipes.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B5HAtmmzu2cHYTVKQ2w2cDVGaUE>

## **Our Affiliated Groups**

Regular readers of this newsletter will be aware of the activities of our various Affiliated Groups. These are a vital component of the mission of the Transition movement, in fact without thriving Affiliated Groups, we'd cease to exist. The concept is that anyone who wants to start an activity that conforms to our mission statement, is welcomed and to the limit of our meagre resources, helped to realise their vision. Noel wants to point out that there is room in Exmouth for more than one baking/cooking group, more than one Green Drinks, or more than one Local Exchange Trading Scheme. So get in touch and realise your ambitions!

## **The Publicity Team**

This is now up and running, liaising so as to achieve more effective outreach. Nominally: Roger Gibson does press releases, Rob Masding website, and Simon Pardoe Facebook, Carol Jay graphics/posters and other social Media, posting on: Exmouth Past & Present, Exmouth Community, Exmouth Now & then, What's On in East Devon, and WildEast Devon. You can see below a poster that Carol has designed. I myself am @greenmanexmouth but the tweets there reflect my own views/obsessions!

If you have a TrExy message to get out, contact us on [transitionexmouth@gmail.com](mailto:transitionexmouth@gmail.com)

## **Keeping our Activist Culture Healthy!**

Feeling stressed, burned-out, unable to see that what you've been working towards for so long is showing any signs of success?

Yes. Then you need to go on the Transition Network's [Healthy Cultures Workshop](#)

Dates and locations not yet decided but they will be from February onwards. We have a free place to claim and the UG feel that participation would be very helpful in building networks around our projects.

Does anyone outside the UG want to go? Please contact me and I will forward the details.

## **Fracking in East Devon?**

I've Never met Hugo Swire but I hope the chance is coming up. No need to be unduly alarmed because I've no news that fracking is immanent in East Devon but so as to be pre-emptive, I shall be seeking a meeting with our MP Hon. Hugo Swire to seek his signature on the national fracking moratorium.

I'm seeking someone contacts with others across th eDistrict so as to co-ordinate this approach. Please get in touch if you can help.



Moving towards a more sustainable community  
Join us !



Tree Planting



Green Drinks



Clean Street  
Exmouth

love Exmouth—hate Litter!

Clean Streets & Beach



Campaigning



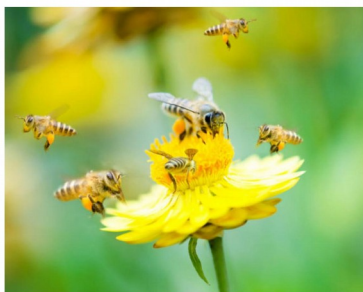
Planning



Transport



Local Food



Green Corridors



29 Minute Talks

 @transition.exmouth

[www.transitionexmouth.uk](http://www.transitionexmouth.uk)

 @greenmanexmouth



## Social Media and Website

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

You can contact me Adrian Toole, Chair on [transitionexmouth@gmail.com](mailto:transitionexmouth@gmail.com)

[@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>

## And Finally

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all and I offer a quote courtesy of Martyn Goss:

*Human beings are not shut up in their tiny human world; they live with the great community of life and include in their love all beings of creation –*  
Leonardo Boff

END