

Exmoor Young Voices

Sustainable homes, IT and travel for young workers and residents

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Exmoor Young Voices Story 2017

Originally launched and supported by the National Park, Exmoor Young Voices is a movement aiming to bring about the changes necessary to enable young people to continue living and working on the moor, and reverse the current imbalances in the population. There are 1,000 empty homes on Exmoor and 960 18-30 year olds, many with little choice, working here, but to continue living at home.

- **Housing** is a major issue – rents and property prices do not match local wages. New and radical solutions for singles and young families are needed, with planning flexibility and imagination to favour young people.
- Pockets of nil **broadband and mobile coverage** will remain after BT have covered most of the Park. More local ingenuity is required, including for agriculture management and safety.
- The cost of personal **transport** adds to an already unusually high cost of living.
- **Employment** needs a variety of stimuli and support; Young Voices have 9 suggestions on page one of their 2015 Report, available on the National Park website and on request to the exmooryoungvoices@hotmail.com

We are primarily interested in finding local solutions to local problems.

We have reached the stage where we need a **young, part-time co-coordinator**. We have achieved matched funding to get started from the range of sponsors below. We need more. Your suggestions, sponsorship and support are welcome. Job description and Constitution over the page.

Budget 2017/18 £10,000

An Initiative of Exmoor National Park funded with support from

somerset
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

EXMOOR
NATIONAL PARK

Hastoe
Group



Caring for Exmoor

COMIC
RELIEF

Community Cash



Caractacus Housing
Helping locals stay local

Devon
County Council

Devon
Community
Foundation
giving more locally

The Rest and be Thankful Inn

The Parishes of
Kentisbury and Trentishoe, Brompton Regis, Selworthy and Minehead Without, Parracombe,
Luccombe, Porlock, Luxborough, Dulverton, Timberscombe, North Molton

PART TIME CO-ORDINATOR

Aim: to develop and strengthen the work of Exmoor Young Voices

Chief characteristics: outward looking, sociable, charismatic, a good networker, organiser, self starter, able to learn, access and influence community, voluntary and public services

Tasks:

- Maintain and develop contacts with young adults and relevant organisations
- Collect and represent what young adults, aged 18 – 30 need in order to live and work on Exmoor
- Discover needs and approach potential providers
- Encourage and promote small, local solutions
- Help produce reports, and influence decisions
- Co-operate with Ambassadors in the Housing Network
- Collaborate with the Housing Network co-ordinator
- Develop the Exmoor Young Voices network
- Organise meetings and events
- Appear at local events and shows to raise issues and awareness
- Help create an annual gathering of Exmoor young adults
- Advise the National Park and other Exmoor organisations about needs and opportunities for housing, technology, travel and work.

Contract fee negotiable for 12 hours per week, travel and administration

Constitution

Aims

Exmoor Young Voices, initiated by Exmoor National Park Authority in 2012, supports activities for young people who wish to live, work, enjoy, and support Exmoor.

Membership is open to young people, as defined by themselves, and their supporters, who will pursue the best possible conditions for young people to sustain living, working, and enjoying Exmoor.

Management Exmoor Young Voices will make appointments of officers, committees, and action groups as appropriate to support its Aims.

Main Meetings will usually be three times a year, where resources, travel, and weather allow, with an AGM each year open to all its members and supporters.

Finances Exmoor Young Voices will seek funds from sources which support its Aims. The organisation will maintain a bank account with two signatories, both of which sign off payments for outgoings agreed by the Officers.

Dissolution If the organisation wishes to cease this must be decided by a meeting of members and supporters attending a Special Meeting. Any remaining funds will be donated to a local organisation close to the aims and ambitions of Exmoor Young Voices.

Bank Co-op community business account.

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Progress 2017

1. **Original Research Report produced by four Groups, North, South, East, West of the National Park, identifying the major issues facing young people who wish to stay living and working on Exmoor – housing, digital inclusion, employment and transport**
2. **Bank account opened (harder than it seems!), Constitution agreed, regular mailings to young workers and their supporters**
3. **19 sponsors including Exmoor National Park, Hastoe Housing, Exmoor Trust, Somerset and Devon Community Foundations, Comic Relief, Caractacus Housing, Devon County Council, the Rest and Be Thankful Inn, the Parishes of Kentisbury and Trentishoe, Brompton Regis, Selworthy and Minehead Without, Paracombe, Luccombe, Porlock, Luxborough, Dulverton, Timberscombe, North Molton – is your Parish amongst them?**
4. **District housing opportunities and vacancies alerted to young workers, families, and key contacts across the Park**
5. **Addressed Parliament, TV, Radio, Housing Associations, Parishes, Consultative Forum, Housing Network, Councils**
6. **Researching self build opportunities**
7. **Influencing the size, type, and style of housing available, to be more compatible with local young workers' needs**
8. **Stimulating Housing Associations to offer traditional houses for shared accommodation, including single person shared occupancy**

Please turn over

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Exmoor Young Voices Progress 2017

- 9. Discovered that of the 5,000 houses on Exmoor, 1,000 are empty, while 960, 18 to 30-year-old workers mostly have to continue living at home**
- 10. Addressing Section 106 blocks**
- 11. Identified that local wages don't support affordable housing for this age group**
- 12. EYV has ensured that young adults are no longer the forgotten group for housing needs on Exmoor**
- 13. Involved 100 young adults so far**
- 14. Highlighting that second and holiday homes create adverse conditions for young workers**
- 15. Influencing the acceleration of digital inclusion**
- 16. Encouraging planners in their flexibility and interpretation in meeting young workers needs**
- 17. Searching for solutions to mortgage refusals and special loans.**
- 18. £10,000 raised in order to contract a Young Coordinator to network with all young people scattered across Exmoor**