

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2010 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors: S Sutton (Deputy Mayor)
D Chapman M Chapman
T Cope V Duval-Steer
S Gazzard P Graham
M Hardy J Mitchell
M Mitchell I Stewart
P Stott B Taylor
J Taylor R Turner
J Whipps M Williamson
E Wragg S Wragg

SPEAKERS: Mark Williams & Diccon Pearse, Chief Executive and Head of Economy for East Devon District Council

18. APOLOGIES

Councillors M Ackland, L Elson, K Harper, J Humphreys, D Nicholas, & B Walker

19. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on the 24th May 2010 were received and signed as a correct record subject to the correction of Reverend David Irefon to Ireson and Graham Godbear to Godbeer (F17).

20. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

21. EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL – FINANCIAL UPDATE

EDDC Chief Executive Mark Williams and Corporate Director of Economy Diccon Pearse distributed a presentation pack to members which gave an overview of EDDC's financial situation now and predictions for the future. It was expected that there would be a nil rise in Council Tax next year with a 2.5% incentive payment from the Government to compensate for 2011/12. If Council Tax is frozen and compensation for this only applies for one year with no guarantees that the imposed freeze would be covered by Government in future years. At present no information was available on Council Tax on whether the current capping regime imposed by the last Government would be applied which could leave the District Council in a difficult position in knowing what budget to set, a cap if applied would happen retrospectively. If no increase was built in it would result in further cuts to services and staffing in order to set a balanced budget.

It would be important to build on the relationship between East Devon District Council and Town Councils to aid the identification of potential areas where the Town Councils could assist the District Council to maintain service areas that would be under threat. Discussion would take place to look at possible devolution of assets.

Note: - A copy of the presentation document is attached to these minutes.

22. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

Cllr. S Gazzard asked the following questions of the Deputy Mayor:-

- (1) **Seagull Motion** – ‘As you will be aware sometime last year I put a motion to Full Council relating to the problems. It was undertaken that research and costings be looked at and reported back to council, this did happen but all information was not to hand. With summer approaching I have been contacted by businesses and the general public for an update hence my request.’

In response Cllr. M Williamson stated that Environmental Health Strategy had changed and new yellow posters had been produced and were being displayed around the town. They would be available from the Town Council. Members asked that people who fed pigeons to be prosecuted by the local authority. Concern was shown that children could be injured by seagulls.

Cllr. David Cox, EDDC Portfolio holder for Street Scene, announced that wheelie bins would be fully rolled out to all areas of Exmouth by November 2010. Seagulls had migrated to Exmouth from Seaton and Sidmouth now that they had wheelie bins issued.

RESOLVED that

- (a) **Clarification was sought that wheelie bins would arrive in Exmouth as stated by EDDC**
 - (b) **A letter be sent to Environmental Health**
 - (c) **An article to appear in the Exmouth Town council newsletter to highlight the problem seagulls were creating and to assure businesses and residents that wheelie bins would be in place by the end of November this year.**
- (2) **Invitation to Mike Cox – Open Door Centre**
‘I feel that it would be extremely interesting to receive a report from Mike about the excellent work that was undertaken at Littleham recently. With so much bad news about our youngsters let’s share in the good news.’

Following brief discussion members agreed that Mike Cox should attend the next Council meeting.

RESOLVED that Mike Cox be invited to the next meeting.

23. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items to be dealt with necessitating exclusion of the press and public.

24. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor R Turner seconded by Councillor T Cope moved the acceptance of the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 1st and 14th June 2010 (as previously circulated).

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 1st and 14th June 2010 be adopted.

25. MINUTES OF THE REGENERATION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Councillor P Stott seconded by Councillor M Chapman moved the acceptance of the minutes of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 7th June 2010 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 7th June 2010 be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

26. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor J Whipps, seconded by Councillor V Duval-Steer moved that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 14th June 2010 be received and the recommendation contained therein be adopted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 14th June 2010 be received and the recommendation contained therein be adopted.

Note: - Cllrs. T Cope and P Stott declared a personal interest under minute F4 as they were involved with the local scouts.

27. REPORTS FROM OTHER LOCAL BODIES AND THE TOWN CLERK AND TOWN MANAGER AS APPROPRIATE

- Cllr. P Stott has been elected as chairperson of The Housing Review Board;
- £5.8 million could be reimbursed for rebuilding of affordable housing;
- Thanks went to all who took part in the recent shopping survey that resulted in approximately 150 replies. A report would be produced for R & GP Committee in July;
- Councillors from East Devon and South Somerset had formed a Joint Integration Scrutiny Committee;
- DCC Learning Disability Task Group had highlighted the closure of the Doyle Centre;
- Waste to Energy applications were being channelled through DCC;
- Seafront cycleway would be revamped to make it safer;
- Lymphstone Station entrance to the cycleway was too narrow to allow access to a mobility scooter;
- Tickets for the Mayor's Ball had reached 150 in number to date.

The meeting concluded at 8.50 p.m.

Signed

Date

(Chairman)