

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL REGENERATION & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2009 AT 7.30pm

Present:

Councillors: P Stott (Chairman)
M Chapman (Deputy Chairman)
D Chapman D Nicholas
V Duval-Steer R Turner
P Graham M Williamson
M Hardy E Wragg (Part of the meeting)
J Humphries S Wragg
J Mitchell

G52 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

G53 Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

G54 Exclusion of the Public and Press

There were no items to be dealt with necessitating exclusion of the Public and the Press.

G55 The Strand Consultation

Devon County Council representatives Alan Stone and Mark Dauncey were unable to attend the meeting due to the prediction of severe weather conditions.

NOTED that Cllr. E Wragg would contact Mark Dauncey to rearrange the date.

G56 Devon Association of Parish Councils

A letter had been received from the DAPC which requested nominations for casual vacancies from East Devon Area to the DAPC County Committee.

NOTED that the Town Council had already appointed Cllr. R Turner as its representative so was not eligible for nominating a further casual representative.

G57 Public Toilets

The Committee had before it a letter dated 8th December 2008 from EDDC in response to the Committee's concerns raised on the poor maintenance and restricted winter closure of some public toilets in the town. As a result of one concern a sign had been erected at Orcombe Point toilets to advise the public of the nearest available toilets. Discussions

around suggested times that cleaning of toilets could be carried out would be directed to Head of Streetscene, Steve Rippon. Further proposals on fee paying toilets, vandalism, any other items and all year opening be put to the Town Plan Working Group to prepare a report for recommendation to Full Council.

RESOLVED that the Town Plan Working Party to pursue this with EDDC and report back.

G58 Exmouth Regeneration Programme Board

At the meeting of the Regeneration Board an item that was raised at Full Council on 19th January 2009 in respect of communication was discussed. EDDC capital budgeting for the Strand redevelopment and the London Inn multi-storey car park had been presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 21st January and would then go before EDDC Executive on the 4th February 2009.

Following a recent meeting of the Town Plan Working Party Cllr. R Turner asked that one Councillor from each ward be nominated to identify viable schemes for the use of Section 106 monies. Cllrs. J Mitchell, E Wragg and M Chapman would represent their wards. Littleham and Halsdon Ward Councillors to nominate a representative from their members

RESOLVED that a member from each ward be nominated to form a group to work on identifying schemes that would be put forward for use of Section 106 funds.

G59 Lights in Park – Energy Saving

It was reported that Cllr. S Gazzard had written to the Committee raising concerns about the proposal by EDDC to turn off lights in Manor Gardens and Gunfield Gardens as an energy saving pilot.

RESOLVED that EDDC be requested to keep the Town council informed of the results of the pilot.

G60 Road Safety Compliance Consultation

A copy of the Executive summary of a D&T consultation document was put before the Committee for consultation. Issues arose around illegal parking on yellow lines particularly near junctions and young people riding bicycles without lights. It was suggested that 20 mph speed restriction around schools should be mandatory.

RESOLVED that suggestions be channelled through the local PACT groups and a response be made to D&T.

G61 Exmouth Journal – Office Closure

A letter from Peter Bond had been received in respect of the closure of the local branch office of the Exmouth Journal. It was proposed that a letter be sent to the Managing Director of Archant Newspaper group expressing concern and disappointment about the closure of the Exmouth Journal office.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent as requested.

G62 Flooding in Strand Gardens, Mona Island and Underpass

The Exmouth Society had written expressing their concerns at the flooding in those areas and requested that their letter be sent to the relevant Local Authority.

NOTED that the issue of flooding in the Strand would be addressed in any proposed scheme and that other matters would be kept under review by the responsible authorities.

G63 Community Panels – Partners & Communities Together (PACT)

A report written by Sgt. Godfrey and Sgt Helm gave an update on the implementation of Community Panels.

NOTED that all but Halsdon Ward Panels are in place.

G64 Royal Garden Party

Nominations were requested for individuals to be put forward to attend the Royal garden Party on 7th July 2009.

RESOLVED that the Mayor, Cllr. Joy Whipps and her Consort be nominated to attend.

G65 Exmouth Hospital Car Parking

The committee received a report prepared by Cllr. K Harper which identified the problems of overspill parking in Elm Road as a result of staff, patients and visitors attending Exmouth hospital and the medical practice. This had resulted in refuse lorries and emergency vehicles being unable to access Elm Road.

Several solutions had been put forward; car parking charges to be implemented, a minibus shuttle service from Maer car park, provision of a taxi collection service and either relocation of the hospital or the medical practice. A Working Party to include Julia Sanchenge, Green Travel representative, would be formed to meet with Devon PCT to look at the parking issue.

RESOLVED that Cllrs. K Harper, M Hardy and D Chapman be appointed to the Working Party to address the parking situation.

The meeting closed at 8.56 p.m.

Signed..... Dated.....