

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 26th SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors:	P Stott (Chairman)	M Chapman (Vice-Chairman)
	B Cole	D Chapman
	T Dumper	S Gazzard
	P Graham	W McConnell
	J Mitchell	C Nicholas
	S Sutton	R Turner
	M Williamson	E Wragg
	S Wragg	

Apologies: None received

Guest Speakers: Lucy Ball, BID Co-ordinator.

G24 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee held on 18th July 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

G25 Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

G26 Exclusion of the Public and Press

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

G27 Business Improvement District

Lucy Ball, Destination Management and Marketing presented the Exmouth Bid Feasibility Study Report (previously circulated) which was a result of three months research. The BID would be best approached based on a geographical area which would link the town centre with the seafront. Following past research there was a strong case for the submission of a BID and the focus for Bid monies raised should be marketing, events and promotions. To set up a BID there would be a requirement for the formation of an organisation, Company limited by guarantee, who would take legal and financial responsibility for the BID plus a BID Manager to produce a deliverable BID proposal. DCC, EDDC and the Town Council would need to financially support the scheme, in particular the pledge of Section 106 funds raised from the Tesco extension Planning approval which was currently awaiting clearance from EDDC. A timetable had been produced which identified steps to be taken over the next year when the anticipated timescale for a ballot was September 2012.

The Chairman's Group had met on the 30th August to discuss the BID report and had put forward a proposal to take the BID forward.

RECOMMENDED that

- (a) the recommendations in the report be supported as a way forward with financial commitments from EDDC and DCC to support the BID Manager's salary being important for making the case to businesses;**
- (b) the employment of Lucy Ball, Destination Management and Marketing be continued to set up an Exmouth Town Company and to organise the recruitment process for a BID manager to ensure that the ongoing work continues to meet the projected timescale as shown in the report.**

G28 Participatory Budgeting

A report had been received at the last full council meeting which identified the long and short term projects that would benefit from the £250,000 Section 106 funding that had been raised from developments within Exmouth. A request had been made by Jamie Buckley for the formation of Participatory Budgeting Scheme Panels to support each project which would involve four named councillors.

RESOLVED that Councillors B Nash and A Greenhalgh be appointed to the Panel and Councillor S Gazzard to inform the Town Clerk of Liberal Democrat nominations.

G29 Exmouth Master Plan

The eleven week consultation on the Exmouth Masterplan had ended and responses would be collated and analysed. Feedback would be given to Town Councillors, the Exmouth Regeneration Board and EDDC's Development Committee. Once adopted, the Exmouth Masterplan would inform the overall planning blueprint for East Devon, the Local Plan.

G30 Car Parks Review - Questionnaire

EDDC's Off Street Car Parks Review report was now available. A questionnaire had been produced alongside this to enable people's views to be given on the proposals contained within the report by the 14th November 2011. Concern was shown that no consultation had taken place with ward members before the launch of the questionnaire to the public.

RESOLVED that a Task and Finish Forum should meet as a one off meeting to produce a response to the report comprising of a councillor from each ward.

G31 Community Covenant Grant Scheme

A letter had been received (previously circulated) from the Ministry of Defence which asked the Town council to support the Armed Forces Community. It was considered that discussions should be held with CTC RM.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be requested to speak to the Welfare Office at Lympstone Marine Camp to see if any proposals could be considered.

G32 Rolle Street – Highway Arrangements outside the Savoy Cinema

A presentation had been made by Exmouth Residents Association at the last Council meeting which highlighted awareness of traffic and pedestrian movement at the bottom of Rolle Street. After discussion it was considered that no further action was required by the Town council and any concerns should be referred direct to Devon County Highways.

G33 The Strand

The Committee had before them a copy of the draft policy for The Strand (previously received) prepared by Ian Cann, Secretary of the Exmouth Society. A question had been raised at the last council meeting by him which asked that the Committee took the draft policy into account when consideration was given to delegation of functions which would relate to the Town Council's role in respect of the Strand.

At the current time no joint agreement within The Strand had been drawn up for the Town Council but the Council would give consideration to the content of the draft policy provided by the Exmouth Society when power had been delegated.

Note: The Mayor wished it to be noted that she fully supported the work carried out by The Exmouth Society on behalf of the Town and had on a recent occasion made specific reference to the good work of the Exmouth Society to a large group of overseas visitors.

G34 Exmouth and the Olympics

Mr Ken Turner, on behalf of the Exmouth Community Association attended for this item to ask for the Town Council's support to promote next Summer Olympics on a local basis which would focus on the Town's sporting opportunities and achievements. Exmouth's Learning Community had identified the Olympics as their project over the next twelve months and suggested that Town Councillors could link with local schools to support them. Feedback on the success and enjoyment of the recent Tour of Britain was a great example of working together with local community groups. The new Arts Manager, Carla Hiley, would be joining the Council next week and was aware of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Cultural Olympiad. Suzanne Birkett, Town Project Manager, would also link with local groups and the Press.

G35 Recycling/Waste Champions

EDDC had written to all Town and Parish Clerks to inform them that a network of recycling/waste champions was to be set up throughout the district and would the Town be interested in putting some one forward for that role.

RESOLVED that Exmouth Tidy Group be invited to nominate to the role.

G36 Allotments – Bonfires

The Town Council had received a letter from the Secretary of the Exmouth and District Allotments Association (previously circulated) which outlined the effect that a change in the rules of EDDC's Recycling Centre in that allotment waste was to be reclassified as 'trade waste'. DEFRA had also advised that diseased plant material plus tree pruning and raspberry canes could not be composted. The Allotment Association wished to vary Rule 16 of the Bonfire Guidelines issued by the Town Council to allow bonfires to be lit on any day of the year except for Sundays and Bank Holidays.

RESOLVED that

- (a) the Council agree to a rule change 'Bonfires allowed any day excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays';**
- (b) the Allotment Association be asked to contact Otter Rotters to see if a contract can be set up with them to help and reduce need for bonfires;**
- (c) the Association to consider incineration based on combined groups with one incinerator for a group of plots and arranging to have one bonfire between plots on arranged days and times.**

Note: Councillors S Wragg, P Graham and W McConnell declared an interest and left the room.

G37 Crematorium Signage

Devon Crematorium had sent a letter which requested support for the provision of a crematorium sign to aid people who would be attending funeral services there. Difficulties had arisen due to the lack of signage on the A30 which had resulted in traffic entering local villages unnecessarily.

RESOLVED that the Town Council to write to Devon County Council to ask if signage could be provided at public expense.

G38 Other Bodies - Updates

(i) Exmouth Regeneration Board

The Exmouth Master Plan consultation period had ended and the Orcombe Point project would commence shortly.

(ii) Community Organisations Liaison Panel

Members had accepted that the LDA Masterplan consultation period had been successful. The advert had been submitted to engage professional support for the preparation of the Community Neighbourhood Plan.

(iii) Exmouth Action Group

Councillor S Gazzard had submitted his reports.

(iv) Rolle Ltd

An agreement should be available for signature at the end of October. There had been much interest shown from local people who wished to use the facility.

Note: The Town Clerk declared an interest as a Director of Rolle Ltd.

The Meeting ended at 8.59 pm

Signed Dated

Chairman