

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2009 AT 7.30pm

### **Present:**

Councillors: P Stott (Chairman)  
M Chapman (Deputy Chairman)  
D Chapman                      T Cope  
V Duval-Steer                  S Gazzard  
P Graham                        J Humphries  
M Hardy                         D Nicholas  
B Taylor                         M Williamson  
S Wragg

**Apologies:** Councillors J Mitchell, R Turner, B Walker, J Whipps & E Wragg

### **G1 Town Crier – Garth Gibson**

The Committee stood in silence as mark of respect for Garth Gibson who died on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

A discussion took place in respect of how the town could remember our esteemed Town Crier and various suggestions were made.

It was **AGREED** in principle that following the funeral on 12<sup>th</sup> June work should begin on establishing a fund in his memory and that ideas as to how best to create a fitting memorial be sought with the help of local press in due course.

### **G2 Minutes - 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009 subject to the addition of the words ‘standing orders be adopted subject to:-’ in minute G 77.

### **G3 Exmouth Festival**

The Committee received some emails expressing appreciation for a very successful Exmouth Festival this year. In particular the editor of the journal had written expressing his official thanks to the Festival Organiser Chris Woods for his tremendous organisational skills.

The Committee expressed its appreciation for the excellent work of the Festival Organiser which with the good weather had resulted in a superb Festival which had been well supported by the community and visitors.

**G4 River Exe Speeding Boats and Jet Skis**

Concern was raised about the unregulated situation in the Estuary and the wish to see the Police Boat back on patrol.

The Town Clerk would explore whether the patrol boat would be operating this year and raise the issue of speeding craft with the various responsible agencies.

**RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will pursue as above.**

**G5 River Exe Regatta**

Mike Rice from Exmouth Sailing Club with the Town Manager, Tony Collins, attended and gave a presentation about the River Exe Regatta to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. Up to 300 people would be on the water and Pete Manfield and Steph Bridges were involved in sailboarding and kite boarding elements of the regatta. The working together of watersports for the event was welcomed.

The new channel which had opened through Pole Sands had made the Estuary more accessible and more visits by yachtsmen were being made.

The Regatta promised to be a great event and the Committee welcomed all the work by Exmouth Sailing Club to promote this. The need to promote all events in Exmouth better was recognised and the work of the Town Manager towards this was welcomed.

**G6 Christmas and New Year Arrangements**

The Town Manager lead a discussion on Christmas and New Year Arrangements. He described how the Christmas Cracker event would be developed this year after the great success of last year's event. He wondered whether a focal point was needed for the New Year festivities. The Exmouth Rugby Club were thinking about putting on fireworks for midnight at the club. There was concern that this might not have the impact of fireworks on the seafront where the midnight focus usually occurred. A discussion on whether it was appropriate for the Town Council to lead this and help fund a focal point taking into account that Exmouth is one of the places where people expect to be on Hogmanay night.

The Town Manager was asked to put some ideas down on paper and to report to the next meeting of the Finance Committee so that the support for New Year festivities could be considered further.

**G7 Exmouth Project Regeneration Board**

It was reported that the main thrust of the last meeting of the Board had been the Strand Gardens proposals. Issues such as taxi ranks and car parking were being considered by the Board to seek the best options to meet the changes that would be required.

**G8 Community Organisations Liaison Panel**

A meeting would be called soon to establish the panel in consultation with community groups.

**G9 Bird Hide – Mudbank Lane**

A letter from Exmouth Birds Group was considered. The idea was supported in principle of providing a bird hide on Mudbank Lane site but it was felt that the idea needed to be worked through in detail bearing in mind security issues before it could be wholeheartedly accepted.

**G10 The Museum Society of Exmouth**

A request for the Council to provide a civic reception that recognised the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Exmouth Museum Society was considered. It was felt that the Council could not take responsibility for a full civic reception but would be able to provide the Council Suite for such an event at no charge.

**RESOLVED that the Museum Society be advised accordingly.**

**G11 The Weasel Run**

A letter from East Devon District Council was received concerning the Countryside Sections proposal to manage the site more effectively. There was some concern that this may not be very effective, however the Committee agreed to observe what occurred on the ground.

**G12 Victoria Way Workshops**

Concern was expressed that nothing had changed and that greater priority should be given to dealing with issues such as paint spraying on the road, safety issues, car parking enforcement.

**RESOLVED that a letter be sent to EDDC expressing serious concern at the lack of priority being given to dealing with the issues outstanding at Victoria Way.**

The Meeting ended at 9.17pm

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

Chairman