

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 22 ND NOVEMBER 2010 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Approximately 60 Exmouth electors plus

Councillors: D Nicolas (Mayor)
S Sutton (Deputy Mayor)
D Chapman M Mitchell
M Chapman I Stewart
S Gazzard P Stott
P Graham B Taylor
K Harper J Whipps
J Humphreys E Wragg
J Mitchell S Wragg

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: T Cope, V Duval-Steer, L Elson, M Hardy, J Taylor, B Walker & M Williamson

1. Opening and Welcome by the Mayor

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an outline of why the meeting had been called and that further points raised in respect of the Local Development Framework and the Town Council's response paper at the meeting would be put forward to the Extraordinary Meeting that followed the Town Meeting. It was highlighted that the Town Council were consultees in the process even though there were representatives of both District and Devon County Councillors on Exmouth Town Council.

2. Presentation by the Town Clerk

A number of slides were shown which highlighted matters in the LDF Core Strategy significant to Exmouth, in particular the sites identified for development contained in the Exmouth section planned for the north and east of the town. Responses had been collated as a result of recent meetings with the Special Planning Committee, Planning Working Party and Colp. The importance of representative groups and individuals to respond direct to EDDC was highlighted.

The Mayor readdressed the meeting. To date there had been 78 individual comments posted on the EDDC website and some group responses which were in line with the LDF response put forward by the Town Council in particular housing and infrastructure issues.

3. Public Response Time

Points were raised on the following areas

- Full support was given to the report so far
- Infrastructure and employment should precede housing

- Exmouth has not moved on infrastructure wise for 20 years
- Brown field sites should be included for possible housing development
- Little used town centre property such as the Police Station and Magistrates Court could be sold for housing to enable appropriate relocating
- Relocation of the Bus Depot, Exmouth Rugby Club, Camperdown Terrace, Hospital site would release land for development, sport or leisure
- Rolle College for education, business and community use
- Relocate all emergency services to Liverton
- Road network in and out of Exmouth, a seaside town, is gridlocked during the summer and car parking expensive
- Youth employment and training needed to be established
- Road access to the North of the Town (B3180) is at saturation point – extra housing would add to this with inadequate routes to schools
- Unbuilt housing with approved planning permission should put in place before extra need is established
- Concerns for flooding, in particular building in river valleys and on green spaces
- Flooding and concerns about the capability of the old Exmouth sewerage system
- The Environmental Agency needed to be tasked with creating a flood risk model for the future around flood prevention
- Recreation grounds, Valley Parks and public open spaces need protection
- Important to note that the LDF was a consultation document
- Regional Special Strategy did not include brown field sites – they were seen as a bonus – EDDC need to recalculate on evidence of local need
- Identify where housing was needed as Exmouth already had its large proportion of housing over the last 20 years
- Exmouth Civic Society had put in an eight page response in line with the Town Council report
- St Johns Wood had been identified by Devon Wildlife trust as an area of biological importance, similar to Bystock Ponds and 30% of the woodland was mature hardwood
- An amendment to urban environments on page 10 was needed
- Employment land should not be used as retail employment
- There were redundant previously successful manufacturing and processing buildings in Littleham, Pankhurst Engineering and shellfish factory
- Attention was drawn to Section 16, paragraph b, where clarity should be given to no development on green land
- Serious traffic congestion at Littleham Cross, particularly in the summer with Devon Cliffs holiday makers would be made worse by proposed housing on Maer Valley
- The main A376 would be inadequate to serve large manufacturing type transport
- There was no reflection of the local action plan in the LDF document
- Goodmores Farm had a covenant on part of the land which prevented development
- Dinan Way road had created water runoff causing flooding in the Witherbrook area

- Lobby Cllr. John Hart to put existing infrastructure in place
- Extra resources needed in the summer for tourists
- Qualify the number of houses identified as needed particularly the need for Council rented accommodation
- EDDC have land use power and knowledge and also grant planning permission. Planning permission should be granted on a need basis
- Request that EDDC look at North Somerset's recent housing core strategy revision which has linked housing to jobs
- Employment needs to be encouraged locally
- The Local Transport Plan 2010–13 shows Exmouth as it is now with no plans in place
- Census would take place in 2011
- Electors to be encouraged to sign up to fibre optic Broadband
- Travelodge had shown an interest in Exmouth should a suitable site be identified
- The LDA Masterplan could answer some of the questions
- The Localism Bill should give local towns the ability to focus on housing needs at a local level

The Mayor thanked all in attendance and closed the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.17 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....