



## **Exmouth Town Council –Newsletter**

**Newsletter 26**

**February 2008**

### **Exmouth Regeneration**

Preferred developers ASM for ASDA will now have the opportunity to work up their proposal. They will be expected to put in the significant resources now necessary to negotiate for the site and to develop planning applications with all the necessary studies which the Planners will require. Devon County Council and East Devon District Council will seek the best public gain from the site to assist with providing much needed new and modern facilities for Exmouth. East Devon District Council planners will also be the Planning Authority and will determine the planning applications under the powers of the Planning Acts. The Town Council with Exmouth Town Management is fully involved in partnership and will also have a role as statutory consultee on the planning applications. ASM and ASDA will be communicating with local groups as plans develop.

### **Fire Service Cuts**

Fire Chief Paul Young and Chairman of the Fire Authority Councillor Bernard Hughes attended the last Council meeting to explain why consideration was being given to possibly removing the full time night shift from Exmouth Fire Station. Fire Fighter Andy Gould was also able to speak to give the point of view of the station's staff. It was decided to send letters to the MP Hugo Swire, Ben Bradshaw Minister for the South West, the Government Minister responsible for grant funding and to the Fire Authority to make the case for removing the specter of cuts. It was considered that too many public services vital for our town are being removed and creating ever more dependence on the cities. The more rural areas and smaller towns are then left unsupported in the name of 'Efficiency'.

### **Northcott Theatre, Exeter**

The Council wrote to the Arts Council of England to object to the proposed withdrawal of funding for this much loved theatre which provides high quality theatre to the region. The outcome should be known by the time this is published but the Town Council is likely to support any ongoing campaigns to keep it open if grant is withdrawn.

### **Elizabeth Hall**

The Council is setting up a working group to consider the implications of the Town Council taking on the management of a new Community Hall to be provided in place of the Elizabeth Hall. How much will it cost to run? Can it be profitable? What management resources will be needed to run it? These are some of the questions the working group will consider.

### **The University of Plymouth – Rolle Campus**

The Council has pledged £30,000 towards the purchase of Rolle Campus for educational and training uses. This is subject to a satisfactory price being agreed as well as contributions from the interested parties, including Devon County and East Devon District Council. Mr Ken Turner the leader of the group trying to arrange a locally based educational package will speak to the Finance Committee at its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February to update the Council on progress. The University previously pledged to Councillors that if a suitable local use could be brought forward that it would not sell to the highest bidder in the interests of the town.

### **Annual Budget**

The Town Council has set its annual budget for the year 2008/9 at a level of £315,637 equivalent to a band 'd' precept of £24.05. This compares to £283,304 for the year 2007/8 equivalent to a band 'd' precept of £21.75. In both years £30,000 has been included to provide for project funding. This year a scheme is also being considered to provide funding for community based projects. More information to be provided very soon.

### **Applications for Financial Assistance**

The Town Council has adopted a new process for determining applications for Financial Assistance. A budget of £16,000 has been set aside for the year 2008/9 (as in previous years) to support local voluntary organisations. Up until now applications have been considered soon after they have been received by the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

In future grants will be determined on two occasions in the year. The Finance Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June will consider allocating up to 60% (£9,600) of the grant fund and the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November will consider allocating up to 30% (£4,800). The remaining 10% (£1,600) will be held in reserve for urgent requests which would not otherwise have been foreseen.

Organisations wishing to make applications to the Council for Financial Assistance should therefore apply by 16<sup>th</sup> May for the first round of applications or 17<sup>th</sup> October for the second round.

If the amount of assistance requested in the first round exceeds that available then some applications will be deferred to the second round for determination.

Applications forms are available from the Town Clerk.

### **Exmouth Festival 2008**

Dates for the festival are 21<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> May and a full programme is being developed. Look out for Glorious Chorus at the Pavilion, a show not to be missed. This year the festival joins up with Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June with a great show by Joey the Lipps on the Imperial Recreation Ground. Another must see.

### **East Devon District Council – Celebration of Achievement Award**

Exmouth Town Council was winner in the larger parishes category of East Devon District Council's new Celebration of Achievement Awards for Town and Parish Councils. Exmouth Town Council entered its festival as an example of something it promotes and supports directly. It is a recognition of the hard work carried out by the Festival Organiser and her willing band of volunteers and the many people who are involved each year in putting on a special festival which can be enjoyed by everyone who lives here and visitors.

### **Jack Sadler**

The General Purposes Committee stood in silence on 10<sup>th</sup> December to recognize the death of soldier Jack Sadler. Jack was an Exmouth lad and his Dad runs Troopers in Exeter Road. His death in Afghanistan was yet another example of how our forces personnel are prepared to give their lives in operations determined by the Government. It is the ultimate sacrifice and touches at the heart of our community. The Committee's thoughts were with the family and friends.

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **International Tennis Tournament**

East Devon International Tennis Tournament 28<sup>th</sup> March to 5<sup>th</sup> April at the Tennis Centre.

#### **'The Walk or Ride'**

Raise money for your chosen charity on this beautiful walk or cycle ride through East Devon Countryside from the coast to Woodbury Common on Sunday 11th

May [www.thewalk.eu](http://www.thewalk.eu)

#### **Exmouth Festival**

22nd May to 30th May [www.exmouthfestival.org.uk](http://www.exmouthfestival.org.uk)

#### **Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival**

30th May to 1st June [www.exmouthrotarykitefestival.co.uk](http://www.exmouthrotarykitefestival.co.uk)

For more information – contact the Town Clerk on 01395 276167, visit the Town Hall, contact your Local Councillor or visit [www.exmouth.gov.uk](http://www.exmouth.gov.uk)

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