

Exmouth Town Council –Newsletter

Newsletter 27

March 2008

Preserving the Heritage of Exmouth

The Mayor photographed with Bill Sleeman, Chairman of Exmouth Museum Society in front of the refurbished memorial stones by the Victorian Water Fountain on the corner of Alexandra Terrace and the Esplanade. Exmouth Town Council granted £250 to enable the stones to be refurbished. The old fountain was moved when works were being carried out to demolish part of the old Gentlemen's Club now the Elizabeth Hall. Bill found the old fountain discarded in a corner and arranged for it to be placed in its current position. The old fountain used to have a constant supply of water filling a trough for horses and donkeys and this flowed in to a trough underneath for dogs.

Annual Town Meeting

The Town Clerk gave a comprehensive presentation on the overall proposals for regenerating the Town at the Annual Town Meeting on 17th March. The well attended meeting listened attentively to the explanation of what is happening now and proposed for the future. Many questions were raised about proposals and some concerns were expressed that there was a lack of involvement of people in what was currently being planned. There was clear concern about the size of the proposed supermarket in the area of the Bus Depot, what it would look like and what affect it would have on traffic, car parking and the Environment. It was explained that all these issues were currently being looked into in depth and would have to be answered as part of the planning process which would be subject to public consultation.

ASM ASDA had also agreed that they would publicise their detailed proposals when these were available so that the public could comment and add their ideas to what was being put forward. The choice of ASM ASDA as the preferred developers was explained and why they had been successful over the three other contenders. Other possible considerations such as locating the proposed Visitor Centre over the proposed new sports centre were talked about with a view to that being a first phase which would provide a great opportunity to move the project forward. The success of phase 1 could then lead

on to further growth of the Centre over a longer time scale if it proved to be very successful.

It was made clear that decisions were now being made to move forward proposals after many years of discussions about what might or might not work in Exmouth. Any changes will always be controversial within a town which the residents have great affection for and views range from concern about the shabbiness of the town and its run down appearance in places to the need to grasp opportunities to move forward. It is hoped that as the details are worked out that some reassurance will be provided that positive steps are being taken which will benefit the town as a whole over a long period of time. It is important that people and groups in the town take all the opportunities they are given to give their views when requested, to help ensure that the best results possible are achieved in terms of design and function.

Exe Estuary Trail

Exmouth Town Council was pleased to be able to help with the arrangements for the fun day to mark the opening of the new Exe Estuary Trail. The Council is aware of the opportunities this is already creating for the town and the need help the principal Councils to plan for the full impact when the full route around the whole Estuary is completed. The public use of the scheme is a testament to the benefit that can be achieved by taking projects forward. There are still issues to work through but the overall benefit of what has been achieved so far is substantial and will continue to grow.

Grant Applications

Groups and Organisations wishing to apply for grants are reminded of the timetable for considering applications this year. Form available from the Town Hall.

Deadline for Applications	Finance Committee when applications determined
16 th May 2008	16 th June 2008
17 th October 2008	10 th November 2008

Mayor's Annual Charity Ball

This year's ball is going to be better than ever with good food, good company, excellent entertainment and a quality band. Tickets are on sale at the Pavilion. Everyone is welcome and groups, organisations and businesses can make block bookings. It will take place on Saturday 19th April 2008 at the Pavilion – BOOK NOW!

Exmouth Regeneration Programme Board

The Council has agreed to the setting up of a Regeneration Board including representatives from the three local Councils and some business representatives. The Board will be responsible for progressing regeneration projects. Project Management software will be used to help the Board take an overview of everything that is happening in Exmouth and to ensure that projects are carried out with the optimum benefit for the town. They will be able to look at all the necessary aspects of project management including ensuring that public consultation opportunities are built in at key points.

Neighbourhood Project Fund

The Council has agreed to implement a Neighbourhood projects fund which will be implemented in the new financial year after 1st April. The Journal will help the Town Council to advertise this so that local people and groups will be able to apply for money allocated to each ward. These may be socially based projects or small capital projects which will benefit the local areas within which people live. Keep reading the Journal to find out more about how this will be put into practice in the weeks to come.

Graffiti Watch

Quick action is taken to remove graffiti and fly posting by the District and Town Councils. Let us know at the Town Hall of any new graffiti you spot. The District Council has new powers to serve notice on owners of graffiti'd property if it cannot be removed by negotiation. Private owners are responsible for their own property and the Local Authorities will deal with Public Property. Advice can be given to private owners and assistance can be given in some cases. There are some areas which have created greater problems to deal with hence some more long standing areas of graffiti persist. If you witness graffiti taking place then please report it immediately to the police with as many details as possible so that there is a chance of catching the offenders.

Ones to Watch

- International Mens Tennis Tournament – Tennis Centre 28th March to 5th April
- The Walk or Ride www.thewalk.eu – 11th May
- Exmouth Festival 22nd to 30th May
- Joey the Lips Concert on the Imperial Recreation Ground – Friday 30th May
- Glorious Chorus – A Key Note festival Concert at the Pavilion – watch out for the festival programme and book your tickets for this sublime performance
- Exmouth Rotary Kite Festival 30th May to 1st June.

For more information – contact the Town Clerk on 01395 276167, visit the Town Hall, contact your Local Councillor or visit **www.exmouth.gov.uk**

Any comments or views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Exmouth Town Council. The newsletter is edited by the Town Clerk.