



EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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Exmouth Town Council
Town Hall
St Andrews Road
Exmouth
Devon
EX8 1AW

ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13

1. The Year in Brief – By The Mayor of Exmouth

Welcome to the Annual Town Meeting of Exmouth Council. I speak here as Mayor of Exmouth and I am proud to stand before you representing this forward looking resort.

The past 12 months have been incredibly busy ones for the town. At last, at long last we might say, we have seen the long awaited opening of the bowling alley on the sea front – providing a much needed indoor entertainment facility for visitors and locals alike. We have also celebrated the opening of the £150,000 skateboard centre in Phear Park – so good that young people travel to it from all around the area.

We have also seen the arrival of two free-to-use outdoor gyms in the town (on the sea front and in Phear Park) providing fitness opportunities for people of all ages. In addition we have the exciting new children's 'insect' play area on the Maer and the additional much valued play park in Littleham.

These have been done with the support of local residents and other local authorities and this idea of teamwork really is the way ahead for us in Exmouth.

Another fine example of this teamwork is the Christmas Lights campaign: With £7,300 contribution from Exmouth Town Council, Laura Freeman has worked with other volunteers to raise another £6,000 to enable the town to have festive lights: To quote the advert – “the future is bright”.

The Town Council supports Exmouth in Bloom and is very proud that they won a gold medal for the second year running in 2012. Thanks goes to Pat Graham, we very much appreciate the work she and her group do.

The Town Council has been working with The Exmouth Tidy Group, and we have made provisions of a new supplementary street cleaning service to clear litter and graffiti, do simple repairs to street furniture and other works, particularly in outlying parts of Exmouth, that help the town remain a place of which we can be proud.

Roger Bourgein, our Town Crier took part in the Hatherleigh Town Crier's competition, and won the best dressed and best crier overall. Roger has carried out 48 official engagements in all but far more himself, just walking around town bringing delight to visitors and townspeople alike.

In the last 12 months, the Town Council has continued its work in organising community events. We have seen our newly refurbished Strand in the town centre coming into its own and winning over many sceptics. It's a well used space as we saw with the Continental market at Easter. And time and time again it has proved to be the wonderful focus for big community events such as:

- The Christmas Cracker;
- the excellent Armed Forces Day;
- the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations,
- The Exmouth Champions Day marking the involvement of so many Exmothians at the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic games, plus the many unsung sports heroes our town is home to;
- and of course the annual Remembrance Day service.

I was particularly pleased to see it used as the hub for the terrific Vintage Velo cycling event and I'm delighted to say that they were so pleased with Exmouth that they will be returning and plan to make it a regular event.

Elsewhere in town the 1948 Olympic Torch relay stopped in Exmouth thanks to the Exe Sailing Club, who also kindly hosted the reception for representatives of Langerwehe for the Town Twinning Association.

The increasingly vibrant Exmouth Festival still attracted large crowds despite the terrible weather. Events attract tourists and local people to the town and support our local traders and businesses, which is one of the Council's objectives.

Other work where the Town Council has been active includes:

- Refurbishing the town maps, pedestrian signage and street furniture – regardless of which Council owns it.
- Working with local people to display the wonderful Olympic collage at the Town Hall.
- Supporting CCTV and the Shopwatch in the town
- Acting as a distribution point for sandbags for resident and encouraging a co-ordinated approach to prevention of flooding by the relevant bodies.
- Taking a proactive approach to bathing water quality so vital to tourism.
- Resolving the parking issues in Langerwehe Way.

We also have the great community facilities envisaged in the Rolle Project. The Rolle Project was the Mayor's Charity this year and after this, I'll be delighted to hand its chairman Roy Pryke a cheque for £2,522 to support their campaign. Rolle College also benefitted from

£360 presented directly to them and the Exmouth Carnival also Received £322 from the Mayor's Ball.

All of these things mean that we have been busy. Like all organizations the Council has a mission and this is summed up in the following words;- To improve the Quality of life for Exmouth residents, the experience of visitors and build on the characteristics which make Exmouth Special.

The year has not been without its controversies: The issue of the Elizabeth Hall has divided people and I understand that. There are also the proposals for the Exmouth Splash, aiming to appeal to the future generations of tourists and visitors.

But exciting times are ahead of us. As we look ahead, can I ask you to support Armed Forces Day on June 22 when we celebrate the re-adoption of the Royal Marines by Exmouth.

There are many unsung heroes in Exmouth who put a tremendous amount of time and energy into making this town what it is. They deserve our support and encouragement. On Sunday June 30, at 3pm there is a Service of Celebration at Holy Trinity Church when individuals, groups and organisations can come together to celebrate the rich tapestry of life in this town.

During the year, as Mayor, I have carried out some 210 engagements with our vast range of community groups and businesses. I can honestly say it has been a privilege.

Turning to the Democratic process of the Council, our Council operates through a committee structure. We have committed Councillors and attendance is always very high. We are also lucky to have a skilled and dedicated staff team who not only work hard throughout the year, but also turn out to volunteer to help our events run smoothly.

One of our Councillors, William McConnell resigned his seat on 31st December 2012. We thank him for his time and his contribution and also welcome Ian Brownbill who was elected in his place at the recent Town Ward by-election.

The Finance Committee has met seven times since May 2012. One of the main activities that the committee has undertaken is to fully review the Financial Regulations.

The Accounts sub-committee and the Finance Committee worked on the budget for 2013 to 2014. The Council has kept the Precept at the same level for the last 3 years now and I am pleased to say it has remained the same for the forthcoming year.

The Committee has also reviewed a number of policies, for example,

- The Community Grants Policy has been improved to ensure the Council can make informed and fair assessments of relative need and thereby seek to ensure that our limited resources are distributed fairly.
- The Town Hall and Gorfin Hall Letting and Charging Policies
- The Insurance and Assets Register has been updated and insurance cover adjusted accordingly.

The Finance Committee, as one of its responsibilities, recommends funding Grants for many local organisations. Funding application forms are available on line or from the office. Information on grants given in the last year can be found in your copy of this report.

Grants Given 2012/13	Purpose	£
Exmouth & District Allotments Association	To supply electricity to new building at Hamilton Lane	750
Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Explorer Scouts	Contribution towards the cost of their Summer expedition. 28 young people will spend a week climbing the "Three Peaks" and other activities along the way - Edinburgh Military Tattoo and white water rafting.	600
Exe Sailing Club	To hold a Mayor's and Commodore's reception	300
Exmouth Sea Cadet Corp	Urgent repairs to old building to keep it safe until relocation	580
Littleham Family Activity Centre	Donation towards the cost of renting the Littleham Community Hall - fundraising being extremely difficult in the current economic climate	768
Homestart Exeter & East Devon	To match five trained volunteer family support workers to seven new families in Exmouth. Need to raise £16,600 match funding to lottery funding or "our service will fold".	900
South West Brass Band Association	To assist with the organisation and promotion of their Exmouth festival on 1st September 2012	400
Exmouth Tidy Group	To provide 12 high-vis vests & 10 bag hoops for volunteers	105

Current Service Level Agreements	£	From	To
Age Concern Exmouth	650	2011-04	2014-03
CAB Exmouth	2250	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth Carnival Committee	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Centre Stage	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth musical Theatre Co	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth & District Community Transport	4500	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth Beach Rescue	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth Community Cadets	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Exmouth in Bloom	3317	2011-04	2014-03
Museum Society of Exmouth	1000	2011-04	2013-03
Exmouth Swimming & Lifesaving Assoc	550	2011-04	2014-03
Open Door Centre	1000	2011-04	2014-03
Bay FM	3000	2012-12	2015-11

We also apply for funds to support the work we do, with successful grants totalling just over £25,000 towards tourism and maintenance, plus we submitted a successful bid for £10,000 on behalf of the Town Team to support the town centre economy.

Our Planning Committee meets every two weeks to consider applications and study the plans in depth before making their recommendations to EDDC. In total the Planning

Committee considered 370+ planning applications. 52 of those were about work to trees or advertising matters, which our planning committee determine. The others are determined by East Devon, but 87% of decisions at East Devon match the recommendation of the Town Council.

It is important to remember that the Town Council is a statutory consultee; its views are not binding on the District Council.

The Regeneration and General Purposes Committee has met 8 times in the last 12 months and is very involved with feeding our comments into EDDC & DCC regeneration projects for the town and is ensuring that our priorities are being considered.

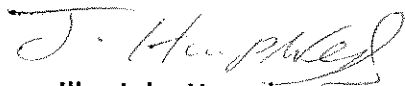
The Committee has been busy working to promote the economic prosperity of Exmouth it has worked with local people and businesses to set up forums to co-ordinate this work.

We have:

- The Town Team; the Tourism Team and the Arts Forum. These have provided valuable input and a mechanism of working together to bring in investment and share the financial risk of new ventures.
- Working Parties take much of the bulk of the work to allow an in-depth examination of issues around flooding, bathing water quality, rights of way, Christmas lights and the Exmouth Festival.
- The Community Organisations Liaison Panel feeds valuable comment, opinion and information from key community groups in Exmouth to this Committee, which directly informs the recommendations it makes to full Council.

I have only touched on some of the council's work for the year. The Agendas and Minutes of our meetings are on the website and available in the library.

As you can tell from my report, Exmouth Town Council is working hard for your town and has achieved a great deal in the last year. We have to work within the structure of local government which means we don't always get everything all the townsfolk might want, but we look forward to the new Council year with the same determination to continue to contribute positively to the life of our town.



Councillor John Humphreys
Mayor of Exmouth 2012-2013

2. The Council's Mission

The Council has a mission which is summed up in the following words:-

“To improve the quality of life for Exmouth residents, the experience of visitors and build on the characteristics which make Exmouth special.”

To go with the Mission is the Town Council's slogan:- “Exmouth Naturally – Arts, Leisure and Environment.”

The slogan sums up so much of what Exmouth aspires to be and the direction future changes should take.

3. Organisation and Accountability

The Town Council has 25 elected members returned from 5 wards each with 5 members. The Committees of the Council are Planning, Regeneration and General Purposes and Finance. Working Parties are set up as required. Examples include Public Rights of Way Working Party, Exmouth Transport Partnership, Christmas Lights Working Party and Exmouth Festival Working Party.

All meetings of the Council and its Committees are open to the public and press except where expressly excluded by resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.










The public can raise issues and ask questions during the Public Forum which takes place during an adjournment at the start of each ordinary Council and Committee meeting, and ahead of each item during the Planning Committee. In addition, the Town Council has engaged more formally with the public through making available spaces on working parties, town management forums and consultation events.

Following changes to Standing Orders, the ability for the public to come along and make a statement or ask a question has been made easier.

4. Councillors

The Councillors for Exmouth Town Council are as follows:-

(Cons = Conservative, LD = Liberal Democrat)

Brixington			
	<p>David Chapman (Cons) 20 Marcom Close EX8 5PW Tel: 279029</p>		<p>Brian Cole (Cons) 61 Ivydale Foxes Hollow EX8 4TA Tel:274328</p>
	<p>Madeleine Chapman (Cons) 20 Marcom Close, EX8 5PW Tel: 279029</p>		<p>Trevor A Cope (Independent) 67 Winston Rd EX8 4LR Tel: 270128</p>
	<p>Cherry Nicholas (Cons) 7 Ivydale, EX8 4TA Tel: 274912</p>		
Littleham 			
	<p>Alison Greenhalgh (Cons) Eastfield, 35 Cranford Avenue, EX8 2QD Tel:278593</p>		<p>John Humphreys (Cons) Eversley, 15 Hartley Rd, EX8 2SG Tel: 222964</p>
	<p>Sandra MacQueen (Cons) Halki, 12 Sarltdown Road, EX8 2HY Tel: 224007</p>		<p>Bill Nash (Cons) 3 Execliff 1 Trefusis Terrace Exmouth EX8 2AX Tel: 263824</p>
	<p>Mark Williamson (Cons) Long Lane House, 1C Cranford Ave, EX8 2HP Tel: 224910</p>		

Halsdon 			
	Vivien Duval-Steer (Cons) 69 Byron Way, EX8 5SE Mobile: 07983894716		Lynne Elson (Cons) 23 Hazeldene Gardens, EX8 3JA Tel: 264731
	Pauline Stott (Cons) 2 Featherbed Lane, EX8 3ND Tel: 278461		Richard Turner (Cons) 13 Carter Ave, EX8 3EF Tel: 276123
	Tim Dumper (Lib Dem) 22 Woodville Road, EX8 1SF Tel: 276635		
Town 			
	Steve Gazzard (Lib Dem) 11 Marpool Crescent Tel: 277185		Pat Graham (Lib Dem) 40 St Andrews Rd EX8 1AR Tel: 273423
	Ian Brownbill (Lib Dem) 3, Sharps Court EX8 1DT Tel: 07767272917		Ian Stewart (Lib Dem) 2A Henrietta Place EX8 1LD Tel: 265611
	Eileen Wragg (Lib Dem) 91 Victoria Rd, EX8 1DR Tel: 273474		
Withycombe <small>Kalatch</small> 			
	Jean Mitchell (Lib Dem) 24 Richmond Rd, EX8 2NB Tel: 271428		Malcolm J Mitchell (Lib Dem) 24 Richmond Rd, EX8 2NB Tel: 271428
	Brenda Taylor (Lib Dem) 11 Hamilton Lane, EX8 2JT Tel: 263805		John Taylor (Lib Dem) 11 Hamilton Lane, Tel: 263805 Fax: 222392
	Stephen Wragg (Lib Dem) 91 Victoria Rd, EX8 1DR Tel: 273474		

Councillor Will McConnell stood down on December 31st 2012 and Councillor Ian Brownbill was elected as his successor at the Town Ward by Election of 14th March 2013.

Contact details for Councillors can also be obtained on request from the Town Clerk and are available on the Exmouth website and at the library and on notice boards within the town.

5. Chairmanships and Vice-Chairmanships of Committees 2012-13

Mayor	Councillor John Humphreys
Deputy Mayor	Councillor Bill Nash
Chairman Finance	Councillor Alison Greenhalgh
Vice-Chairman Finance	Councillor Trevor Cope
Chairman General Purposes	Councillor Pauline Stott
Vice-Chairman General Purposes	Councillor Maddie Chapman
Chairman Planning	Councillor Lynne Elson
Vice-Chairman Planning	Councillor Cherry Nicholas

6. Town Council Officers 2012-13

Town Clerk and Responsible Financial officer Colin Poole
townclerk@exmouth.gov.uk

Town Management Officer Suzanne Birkett
tmassistant@exmouth.gov.uk

Exmouth Arts Manager Carla Hiley
(Part Time – 25 hours per week)
Artsmanager@exmouth.gov.uk

Office Manager and Members Services Sue Cody
Officer (Part Time – 20 hours per week)
officemanager@exmouth.gov.uk

Finance Administrator Julie Gregory
(Part Time – 20 hours)
admin@exmouth.gov.uk

Secretary (Part Time – 20 hours) Mandy Westlake
admin@exmouth.gov.uk

Receptionist (Part Time -22 hours) Rons Boatman
Receptionist (Part Time – 22 hours) Val Holland (Rtd 31st Dec 2012)
Reception Apprentice Mollie Carey
reception@exmouth.gov.uk

Town Hall Security and Gorfin Hall David McDougall
Caretaker (Part Time – 12 hours)

Street Cleaner/Parish Handyman Derek Parsons
(Part Time 21 hours)

Officers can be contacted via Town Clerk, Exmouth Town Council, Town Hall, St Andrews Road, Exmouth EX8 1AW. Tel: 01395 276167 Fax: 01395 276168 or email at the addresses shown under their name.

You can also view information about the Council on the official website
www.exmouth.gov.uk

7. Finance

The precept was set at £30 for Band D properties for 2011/12 equating to £400,050.

The precept was set at £30 for Band D properties for 2012/13 equating to £403,770

The precept has again been set at £30 for Band D properties for 2013/14 equating to £404,487, due to an increase in housing in Exmouth. This last figure includes £45,750

Council Tax Discount Grant from EDDC to offset the reduction in precept as a result of the changes to Council Tax Discount.

The precept continues to be one of the lowest for the larger towns and villages within East Devon.

The Council has complied with the Audit Regulations and appoints a professional internal auditor. Accounts for the previous year have been certified by the District Auditor.

8. Council Tax

Council Tax for the three Local Authorities responsible for Exmouth were at the following levels in 2012/13 based on band D payers:-

£30.00 for Town Council – (Equates to £403,770)

£121.78 for East Devon District Council;

£1,116.36 for Devon County Council;

£159.73 for Devon and Cornwall Police Authority;

£73.92 for Devon Fire Authority

£1,501.79 in total

(Council Tax Share based on a band d property per annum)

9. Budget Requirement for 2012/13 compared to 2011/12

		Revised Format required for Council Tax booklet
2011/12	2012/13	Services
£000	£000	
162	129	Staff and Administration
31	33	Accommodation
21	21	Grants
35	50	Town Management
151	171	Direct Service Delivery
400	404	Total

10. Community Safety

Under S17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, Town and Parish Councils with District and County Councils have responsibility with the police and other bodies for public safety. In Exmouth the Exmouth Local Action Group meets regularly and has objectives to deal with pressing issues in the town. Councillor Steve Gazzard is the Town Council's representative on this group, along with the Town Clerk.

The Town Council has taken the lead in restarting CCTV co-ordinating meetings and also

started a Shopwatch group. £500 funding has been agreed to enable more shops to take part in this scheme.

11. Other Legal Requirements

The Council is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998, The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Model Scheme), and has adopted a resolution under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and promote racial equality between people of different racial groups. The Council has taken all necessary steps to comply with the code of conduct for councillors.

On 7th January 2013 the Council resolved that it was eligible to use the General Power of Competence.



Colin Poole
Town Clerk

Attached:

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2013

Income and Expenditure Statement year ending 31st March 2013

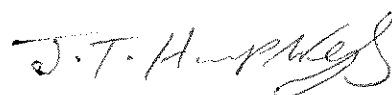
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2013

31st March 2012		31st March 2013
	Current Assets	
1375	Debtors	6784
5491	Vat Refunds	11213
8950	Prepayments	17355
250098	Current Bank Account	281948
46	Petty Cash	46
265960		317346
<hr/>		
265960	Total Assets	317346
	Current Liabilities	
1079	Creditors	16292
15683	Accruals	16029
8030	Receipts in Advance	2724
805	Custodial Funds - Patrol Boat	1019
7243	Custodial Funds - Coast hopper	7243
1941	Custodial Funds - Mill'm Wood	1941
91	Custodial Funds - Transition T	0
671	Garth Gibson Memorial Fund	671
1799	Trees for Avenues	1799
37342		47719
<hr/>		
228618	Total Assets less Current Liabilities	269627
	Represented by	
125129	General Reserve	175640
87827	Earmarked Reserve	78326
15661	Capital Receipts Reserve	15661
<hr/>		
228617		269627

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the authority as at 31st March 2013 and reflects its Income and Expenditure during the year

Signed:

Chairman



Date

13-5-2013

Signed:

Responsible Financial Officer



Date

13-5-2013

Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2013

31st March 2012

31st March 2013

		Income Summary		
169		Interest Received	484	
169			484	
	169	Sub Total		484
Operating Income				
225		Allotments	0	
5466		Civic	3139	
290		Footpaths	0	
6246		Town maintenance	13697	
39568		Town Management	10411	
18010		Festival 2011	0	
0		Festival 2012	23416	
414563		Administration	417130	
391		Accommodation/Buildings	132	
1570		Car Parking	1470	
9456		Gorfin Hall	9853	
190		Planning	285	
0		Rolle College	2523	
495975			482057	
	496144	Total Income		482541
Running Costs				
5320		Allotments	550	
9618		Civic	6046	
420		Footpaths	1033	
2295		Exe Estuary	2295	
5000		Tourism	0	
519		Free Trees	222	
92824		Town Maintenance	95944	
78520		Town Management	63410	
36134		Festival 2011	0	
0		Festival 2012	47310	
105		Performance Stage	143	
146258		Administration	136175	
4834		Elections	0	
33092		Accommodation/Buildings	33056	
28936		Grants	28981	
7753		Gorfin Hall	7538	
1910		Planning	2163	
4183		Rolle College	16666	
1453		Balances	0	
	459174	Total Expenditure		441532
General Fund Analysis				
76407		Opening Balance	125129	
496144		Plus Income for year	482541	
572551			607670	
459174		Less Expenditure for year	441532	
113376			166139	
-11753		transfers To/From Reserves	-9501	
125129		Closing Balance	175640	