

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON 7TH JULY 2014 AT 7.00pm

PRESENT: Councillors D Chapman (Chairman) C Nicholas (Vice Chairman)

B Cole J Humphreys
T Cope B Nash
T Dumper I Stewart
V Duval-Steer B Taylor
L Elson M Williamson
P Graham E Wragg
A Greenhalgh S Wragg

APOLOGIES: Councillors S Gazzard, P Stott, B Toye

Public Speaking

There were no questions raised at the Public Forum.

F14/038. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27TH MAY 2014

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th May 2014 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposer: Cllr M Williamson Seconder: Cllr I Stuart

F14/039. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND DISPENSATION

The following Councillors declared interests:

Councillor	Declaration type		Reason	Item
	Pecuniary	Personal		
B. Cole	X		Friend of Centre Stage	10
T. Cope	X		Friend of Centre Stage	10
L. Elson		X	Colleague at work	10

F14/040. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items which necessitated the exclusion of the press and public.

F14/041. URGENT BUSINESS

None

F14/042. REPORT FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER

The Responsible Financial Officer had previously circulated a Financial Report which included a Year-To-Date Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation for the financial period ending 31st May 2014. Cllr. Vivian Duval-Steer checked the printed bank statements against the bank reconciliation on behalf of the Committee and confirmed they matched the funds reported. It was noted that the oldest un-presented cheque was for The Magnolia Incentive for £75.98 for Garth Gibson Bursary. No further information was requested.

F14/043. TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICE

An expenditure & income report was circulated along with information on the footfall and the types of enquiries that had been asked in the first 4 days of opening. Cllr Bill Nash reported that the TIS had been well received and offered his thanks & congratulations to the Town Council staff and volunteers for their hard work.

Concerns were raised about the ongoing financial viability of the TIS. The RFO reported that the setting up costs were well under the £5,000 which had been collectively allocated from the Town Council and Town Team and that any additional staffing costs could be met from the money allocated by EDDC for the Economic Development of Exmouth. The Summerhouse will be taken down in September and stored for the winter. The RFO reported that this was a temporary arrangement and that an analysis of the 3 month period would be conducted so that a decision could be made for the future of the TIC.

Cllr Eileen Wragg expressed concern that a planning application had not been submitted and that the Town Council should be leading as an example. The RFO responded that EDDC had given a temporary event licence on the basis that it was a temporary structure but Cllr Wragg was concerned that no ward member had been consulted.

Cllr Steve Wragg was concerned that the Town Council had not approved the employment of someone to run the TIS. The RFO reported that she had approved the appointment of one temporary member of staff due to time constraints and other staffing pressures that the Town Hall are facing over the summer period and that this was within her signatory power. The employment terms were on a 12 week temporary basis.

F14/044. PARISHES TOGETHER FUND

The RFO reported that there was £26,214 left to apply for in 2014/15 from the Parishes Together Fund and asked for ideas that she can take to the other Parish Councils to see if they are interested.

Cllr Lynne Elson asked for consideration to be given for Solar lighting along the cycletrack. The track was well used but concerns had been raised that there were no evening lights.

Cllr Alison Greenhalgh asked for consideration to be given to employ a dedicated Tourism & Marketing Officer. Cllr Steve Wragg asked if this could be funded out of Section 106 monies from the Regeneration Project.

Cllr Tim Dumper asked if there were any formal restrictions. The RFO replied that the main criteria was that it had to be a collaborative project with another Parish Council.

F14/045. WWI Centenary Day – Request for funding

The RFO asked that this item be deferred until she had spoken to Suzanne Birkett who was the lead on the project. Councillors were not generally in favour of increasing the budget for the event as RBL are holding a complementary event in the evening but it was agreed that if plans were already in hand, a daytime event could proceed, providing it was within the original £1500 allocated. Councillors were also asked to let the Town Clerk know if they intend to attend the RBL event and would like a candle purchased.

RESOLVED that the RFO be authorised to approve an event at a cost of £1500 maximum.

Proposer: Cllr V Duval-Steer

Secunder: Cllr B Taylor

F14/046. GRANTS

It was noted that letters of appreciation had been received from Centre Stage and Alex and Ben Lane.

F14/047. TRUST FUND WORKING PARTY

Cllr Duval –Steer reported the WAW Trust Fund Working Party had agreed to give Rest Haven Care Home a £5k grant for repairs to their roof.

F14/048. REPORTS FROM OTHER LOCAL BODIES, COUNCILLORS AND THE TOWN CLERK AS APPROPRIATE

- a. Cllr Steve Wragg asked if the Town Clerk would write to Mark Williams to ask him to come and address the Council and Staff on the proposed move by EDDC. The Town Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Richard Cohen who would be updating her as and when things developed.
- b. Cllr Pat Graham reported that the Britain in Bloom judging took place on Friday 4th July and wished to express her thanks to Exmouth in Bloom and Streetscene.
- c. Cllr Eileen Wragg reported that she had had concerns from residents & others that section 106 agreements were not satisfactorily drawn up, especially concerns re activities of the crane on the Marina. The Town Clerk will write to EDDC for clarification on 106 agreements drawn up years ago. Cllr Mark Williamson will speak to officers at EDDC and report back at Full Council.
- d. Cllr Bill Nash reported that he had laid a wreath for Armed Forces day on 5th July.

F14/049. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
15th September 2104

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

SIGNED.....
Chairman

DATED.....