

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL REGENERATION & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors: P Stott (Chairman)
B Cole (Vice-Chairman)
D Chapman M Chapman
T Dumper V Duval-Steer
S Gazzard J Humphreys
B Nash C Nicholas
I Stewart R Turner
M Williamson S Wragg

G14/069 Apologies

Councillors P Graham, S MacQueen, J Taylor and B Toye.

G14/070 Public Forum

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

G14/071 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committees held on 23rd June 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising from those minutes.

G14/072 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Dispensations

No declarations were made and no requests for dispensation had been received.

G14/073 Exclusion of the Public and Press

There were no items to be dealt with which necessitated exclusion of the Public and the Press under Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

G14/074 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

G14/075 NCN Route 2 Cycle Route Update

An email from John Petty (previously circulated) gave an update of progress in respect of NCN Route 2. Matters were slowly moving and signage improvements were to be discussed. Some concerns had been raised by Sustrans volunteers in respect of the cycle route.

G14/076 COLP Report

Roma Patten provided a short written report (distributed at the start of the meeting) on behalf of Exmouth Community Organisations in respect of the meeting held on 21st August 2014 which was accepted by members.

G14/077 Imperial Recreation Ground

Councillor P Stott and the Town Clerk had met with Mr Keith Steel, EDDC Officer, to inspect the current condition of the Imperial Recreation Ground as concern had been shown that the ground was of poor condition. Large stones had been identified and would be removed and there was a possibility that Probation Community Service Offenders could be enlisted to aid the clean-up of glass from the foreshore. Provision of that service would normally depend on adequate supervision and insurance cover.

G14/078 Update on Events in Exmouth

- (i) **Tour of Britain** – the event had brought much publicity to Exmouth and had been well supported by councillors and enjoyed by Exmouth residents. The bike racing event for school children on the evening before the race had been successful and enjoyed by all. News had been received that the Tour of Britain would probably not return to Devon in the foreseeable future as the race was to be rerouted. An enquiry would be made to ascertain if the ladies cycle event could be encouraged to take place within Devon.
- (ii) **The 2015 Kite Festival** – Plans for the event were progressing.
- (iii) **Other Events** – Exmouth Civic Service on Sunday 21th September, Exmouth Carnival on Saturday 11th October and Christmas Cracker on Saturday 6th December.

G14/079 Improving Exmouth

i. Supplementary Street Cleaner

Members had before them the Street Cleaner's updated list of outstanding and newly reported works (circulated at the meeting). The Town Clerk had accompanied Derek that afternoon to visit some of the areas of concern, in particular some paths that were overgrown, instances of graffiti and public signage in need of repainting. There could be an opportunity to link with Exeter College Positive Pathways project on a two week initiative to assist with some of this work and the Town Clerk would investigate further.

Town and Parish representatives had been invited to attend a Devon County Council Highways Conference to discuss how towns and parishes could work alongside DCC to alleviate service provision pressure that had resulted from ongoing financial cuts. Derek Parsons would be attending.

Parish Paths workshops would be held in October. Terry Knights, P3 Co-ordinator, and a member of the Rights of Way Working Party would attend on behalf of Exmouth Town Council.

The drains in town had been recently cleaned. Concern was voiced by members that Derek was carrying out some of EDDC Streetscene's services.

Councillor T Dumper, reported as a member of the Exmouth Tidy Group, that they had requested provision of double bins (rubbish/recycling) along the seafront. These had appeared during August for a trial period and Councillor P Stott confirmed that EDDC had ordered double bins plus 15

solar belly bins. A request was made for EDDC to investigate the foul smell from the dog bins located at the end of Orcombe Point.

ii. Refurbishment – Bus Shelters

Pressure washing of the bus shelters would take place at the end of the first week in October which would enable the repainting programme to start. Artwork posters would be added once the renovations had taken place.

G14/080 Integrated Transport Interchange

Members had previously received a copy (provided by DCC Officer, Lewis Ward,) of a revised drawing of the proposed Exmouth Public Transport Interchange scheme plus a supporting questions and answers paper which had been presented at the recent meeting of the Exmouth Transport Partnership in response to questions previously raised by stakeholders' and members of the public. It was noted that the taxi rank had been removed on the East side of the road. Cllr. Stott commented that the bus station was in need of a repaint and a request was made for pressure to be applied to Stagecoach by Devon County Council and the Town Council for the bus station to be repainted, particularly in light of the new interchange proposals. Councillor P Stott requested that this item be brought up at HATOC and the 3 DCC Councillors be made aware of the request.

G14/081 Reports from other Local Bodies and the Town Clerk as appropriate

a) Town Team and Tourism Forum – notes of the recent amalgamated meeting had been circulated to members.

b) Reports from Councillors

- At the recent EDDC Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting a TAFF had been formed to look at the beach programme for Dawlish and Exmouth and specifically the allocation of funds.
- The Art Group Exhibition Committee had been very pleased with the new venue, Ocean, where over 3,000 visitors had attended and many pictures had been sold.
- The War Memorial and Flagpole Committee had met and would liaise with the Town Council over a number of proposals in the near future.
- Full Council members had earlier this year sanctioned £500 in expenditure to support the purchase and erection of a Samaritans sign at the top of Orcombe Point. In August, the sign had been removed by a National Trust Ranger with the General Manager's knowledge on the basis that it had been erected without permission. No contact appeared to have been made by the National Trust to establish ownership of the sign prior to its removal. The £400 cost of concreting in the sign had been donated by the sign maker. The cost of repositioning of the sign would now fall to members of the Finance Committee to approve under Town Council expenditure. Councillor S Gazzard thanked the Mayor for locating the sign and added that there had been a further incident at the Orcombe Point site recently.

Resolved - that the Town Council write to the National Trust to say how disgusted members of the Town Council were that the sign had been removed and damaged and that no contact had

been made with the Samaritans organisation to say it had been removed.

Proposer: Councillor M Chapman Seconder: Councillor T Dumper

- The TIS Working Group had been formed and a request was made for a meeting to take place which would look at TIS arrangements from Spring 2015.
- EDDC and consultants were to invite members to a meeting about the beach sand loss issue in Exmouth.

G14/082 Date of next meeting

The next meeting was to be held on 13th October 2014 at 7pm.

The Meeting ended at 7.45pm.

Signed **Dated**
Chairman