

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 26th JANUARY 2015 AT 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors: P Stott (Chairman)
B Cole (Vice-Chairman)
T Dumper V Duval-Steer
S Gazzard P Graham
B Nash S MacQueen
C Nicholas B Taylor
B Toye R Turner
M Williamson S Wragg

G15/001 Apologies

Councillors D Chapman & M Chapman

G15/002 Public Forum

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

G15/003 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee held on 24th November 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

G15/004 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2014

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

G15/005 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Dispensations

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

G15/006 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

G15/007 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.

G15/008 To receive and Consider Reports and Minutes of Committees, Working Parties, other local bodies and the Town Clerk / Town Manager as appropriate (Standing Order 6.2).

COLP – Roma Patten, Exmouth Community Association representative, one of the five organisations on COLP, gave an overview of items that had been discussed at the recent COLP meeting held on 15th January 2015.

- **Community Toilet Scheme** There was still a concern regarding the lack of provision at the western end of the seafront as various establishments had or were threatening to pull out of the Community Toilet Scheme, with early morning toilet requirements being of particular concern. Whilst it was not a statutory requirement for EDDC to provide a public toilet facility, members of COLP would like EDDC to make it a priority.
- **Higher Marley Road Planning Application** – COLP were to take a close and active interest in the planning application.
- **Neighbourhood Plan** - The provision of a Neighbourhood Plan for Exmouth was to be explored at the next meeting on 26th February 2015.

Town Clerk

- **Road Warden/Community Self Help Scheme** – the Town Council had registered an interest in joining the DCC scheme and a press release would shortly be issued asking for volunteers. Induction training would be provided by DCC but dates had not yet been released.
- **Snow Warden Scheme** – An offer of support had been received from Cllr. John Hone to purchase a tow along grit spreader for the Town Council's use. Further investigations were to be made via DCC regarding public liability insurance implications for its usage plus identification of gritting areas and access to a salt supply.
- **Community Pay Back Scheme** – Potential areas in Exmouth have been identified where a community payback team could work. Timeframes would be confirmed once the Town Clerk had spoken to the probation team.
- **S106 Update** – EDDC had some S106 sports funding remaining unallocated with Exmouth which is required to be spent within a short timeframe. Funding to the improvement of cycle routes project had been delayed so EDDC were therefore looking instead to install more outdoor showers, with the expectation that the Town Council would fund ongoing water bills and maintenance costs. Locations for the showers to be considered included the new lifeboat station and the Imperial Recreation Ground. Jamie Buckley at EDDC had also recently been in contact regarding dynamo cycles project which is progressing.

Councillor B Nash stated his concerns about the service received from Gala Lights in connection with the installation and maintenance of the Christmas Lights. Gala Lights had failed to respond to call out requests within the 24 hour timescale stipulated in their contract and the Town Clerk was pursuing the matter.

A festive lighting socket is being installed in Manor Gardens which would potentially enable a CCTV camera to be positioned to cover the performance stage.

Councillor Stott provided an update on EDDC's progress and success in providing affordable houses in the Town.

G15/009 To receive an update on the Strand Bus Shelter/Covered Civic Area

(Details of the proposed structure had been circulated with the agenda)

The Town Clerk reported that a meeting had been on the 19th January with DCC and attended by Councillors Bill Nash, Bernard Hughes, Eileen Wragg, Stuart Hughes, DCC Highways Officer Tom Vaughan and the Town Clerk. An alternative

design had been put forward by DCC which met the criteria for funding and was considered a more functional design in terms of a bus shelter. The sign off would be made at County level and installation would take place as soon as possible. The Chairman proposed that DCC be asked to investigate if it was possible for them to include glass at either end and to the front to ensure that it provided adequate shelter to waiting passengers.

Note: Cllr R Turner left the meeting during the discussion, followed shortly afterwards by Cllr S MacQueen.

G15/010 Update by the Town Clerk on Neighbourhood Planning

Tim Spurway had been recently appointed by EDDC as a dedicated officer to support towns and parishes within East Devon on their neighbourhood plans. He would be attending the next COLP meeting on Thursday 26th February at 10am to give more detail on the process and advice on the designation of a neighbour area and all councillors were invited to attend. It was possible that £15,000-£25,000 grant funding could be accessed by the Town Council from April 2015 to support the process. Unlike the old Parish Plans, a neighbourhood plan would form part of the planning policy framework and used to support decisions on future planning applications. "The Avenues Design Statement" could be incorporated into a Neighbourhood Plan for Exmouth.

G15/011 Update by the Town Clerk on Parishes Together Fund and progress of potential application for solar lighting along the Exe Estuary Trail

Samples of the proposed solar lights were passed to members and the Town Clerk explained that the proposed units would be countersunk into the ground at staggered 5 metres intervals on either side of the path. Clearview Traffic had supplied the units for other similar schemes across the Country and the feedback had been positive. The cost to supply and install, including labour, the stretch of cycle path from Exmouth to Lympstone was estimated to be £19,000, which the Parishes Together Fund would be able to cover. The anticipated ongoing maintenance cost was low, with replacement units costing £29 each and an expectation of having to replace only 4-5 units per year. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate how easy it would be to remove graffiti from the top surface area of the lights should they be vandalised.

G15/012 To Respond to the Police and Crime Commissioner's consultation on the Police and Crime Plan for 2015/16

Proposals to refresh the Police and Crime Plan had been previously circulated to members. Members were requested to complete and return the questionnaire supplied by the Town Clerk, who would then collate the information and forward onto the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

G15/013 Update on Events in Exmouth – Town Council involvement and support

i Christmas Cracker

A report from Suzanne has not been available due to illness but at the Christmas Cracker wash up meeting, feedback had been very positive. The report would be forwarded by email as soon as available.

ii Festival

Tim Bland had been looking at ways to expand and grow Exmouth Festival, including the provision of additional fringe events which would support the application for funding from the Arts Council. He was also exploring ways to access funding through the Community Rail Fund and would be reporting back to the Festival Working Party in due course.

Suzanne Birkett is currently exploring an idea for Exmouth to be entered into the Guinness World Records for having the longest single line of cyclists (moving) and a separate mussel festival in September.

G15/014 Improving Exmouth

i Supplementary Street Cleaner

Derek’s capacity has greatly improved with the assistance of Stephen, who will be retained until the end of the academic year. Lympstone and Woodbury are interested in employing Derek on alternate Tuesdays and this would be charged out at £75 per day.

ii Refurbishment – Bus Shelters

Refurbishment of the shelters was expected to be completed by the end of the financial year though an extension of 6 months had been agreed with EDDC for the printing and mounting of the posters. Clarification regarding the ownership and maintenance of bus shelters throughout the Town is ongoing and Fernbank have expressed an interest in potentially taking on extra shelters in exchange for advertisement revenue in 2016 and beyond. The Town Clerk advised that unfortunately the list of shelters in the Town Council’s ownership that had previously been circulated was found to be inaccurate, with a number of shelters missing. A revised list will be re-circulated so that Members can help with reporting defects within their own wards. Councillor M. Williamson would continue to pursue Stagecoach for funding of enhanced timetable and digital displays which would provide up-to-the-minute bus information.

G15/016 Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 9th March 2015 at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 8:20pm

Signed **Dated**
Chairman