

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 1st JUNE 2015 AT 7.45 pm

Present:

Councillors: P Stott (Chairman)
J Humphreys (Vice-Chairman)
B Bailey F Caygill
D Chapman M Chapman (Ex Officio)
T Dumper C Gough
P Graham A Greenhalgh
R Masding R Scott
M Williamson

In Attendance: Councillors B Cole & B Nash

G15/030 Apologies

Councillors P Dean, T Hill & B Toyé

G15/031 Public Forum

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

G15/032 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee held on 9th March 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

G15/033 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2015

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

G15/034 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Dispensations

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

G15/035 Urgent Business

There was one item of urgent business.

Grass cutting and graffiti throughout the town

Grass verges within Exmouth had been cut in an adhoc way which had resulted in an overall poor appearance. The grassed play area in Littleham had become meadow-like and was a danger to children playing there. The Town Clerk reported that Nick Cristo, EDDC Streetscene Manager, and James Foley, DCC Officer, would be supplying maps which would depict the grass cutting areas for which each council had responsibility and that would enable a plan to be formatted to monitor grass cutting activity within Exmouth.

Incidents of graffiti had risen in recent months within Exmouth and a request was made for the reward of £1,000 for information on graffiti offenders to be re-publicised so as to encourage the public to come forward. Councillor B Nash

would request that the Local Action Group, of which he was a member, re-promote the reward system and local Journalist, David Beasley would re-run the reward article in the Exmouth Journal. A new graffiti wall had been erected in Phear Park by the Town Council for the benefit of graffiti artists.

Discussion took place on duties undertaken by the Town Council's Supplementary Street Cleaner and his capacity to deal with graffiti incidents as some of his time had been spent supporting events within the town and general caretaking duties, which were extra to his job description. The sub group that were tasked to oversee his duties would soon meet to identify tasks that could facilitate a further employee particularly as the watering of flower towers had come back in-house. The HR Group would meet to consider the sub group's findings.

G15/036 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.

G15/037 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 attended the meeting on behalf of Exmouth Community Organisations (ECO) and gave feedback on the recent COLP meeting and gave an overview of the groups represented within ECO for the benefit of new councillors. COLP members were grateful for the many updates that had been given at the meeting by the Town Clerk in particular the Neighbourhood Plan. The proposed installation of solar lighting on the Exe Estuary Trail was welcomed. Support was given to Nick Cristo, Streetscene's new manager, who had suggested a town wide 'tidy week' and COLP members were looking forward to the start of work on Mamhead Slipway. COLP found the recent discussions on 'Exmouth could become a dementia friendly town' of interest and agreed that this initiative would, if implemented, enhance the image of the town for local residents and visitors.

- **Section 106 Working Party** – Councillor A Greenhalgh reported that additional outside showers would be installed by Foxholes Carpark and on Imperial Ground. Phear Park and the Imperial Recreation Ground had been identified for possible improvements to the play areas and a project to provide several energy generating exercise bikes along the seafront was being progressed.
- **Exmouth Regeneration Project Board** – Councillor M Williamson provided an update.

Mamhead slipway – the marine licence had been obtained and work would commence mid-July with disruption minimised over the summer months and heavy machinery stored at Camperdown Depot. The finished result would be the provision of the only deep water slipway between Teignmouth and Lyme Regis. Feedback had also been received on the recent Tidal Defence Study presentation held at Ocean.

Rolle College – A theatre company was currently putting on a production of Jason and the Argonauts in part of the Rolle College buildings and talks were

still being held between Plymouth University and REL regarding the future of the building.

Exmouth Transport Interchange – First Great Western were to refurbish the train station and reposition the entrance at the front of the building. Devon County Council were still in negotiation with Marks & Spencer on the provision of an outlet on the bus station site. It was not known at the present time where the bus station was to relocate to.

Queens Drive – Work was proceeding with the developer of the Watersports Centre.

Dinan Way link road – There would be a public consultation on the 12th & 13th June which would put forward two road alignments, one near Summer Lane and the other south of Pitts Farm.

Sea Cadets replacement building at Camperdown – permission had been granted for the new building but a funding shortfall of approximately £50,000 had been identified.

Estuaryside – Due to the changing food retail climate, it had been agreed that the Masterplan would need to be refreshed for the Estuary site.

The Strand – Development Management Committee would consider the planning application for the new bus shelter/civic area on 16th June 2015.

Newcourt train station – The station appeared to be finished and ALRUG members would attend a launching reception at the station in 2 weeks' time.

- **Youth Council** – The graffiti wall in Phear Park had been installed.

G15/038 To acknowledge Exmouth Town Council's application to designate the Parish of Exmouth as a Neighbourhood Area

The designated area for Exmouth's Neighbourhood Plan had been published and consultation would end on 8th June 2015. There was currently approximately 30 Parishes within East Devon who aspired to the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Tim Spurway, EDDC's Neighbourhood Planning Officer, to be invited to the next Regeneration and General Purposes Committee.

G15/039 To receive an update on parking issues at Marine Way, Exmouth

Councillor P Graham had received an email from District Councillor E Wragg in respect of the current parking of vehicles along Marine Way, Exmouth, which was causing a danger to passing road users. Councillors wished to pursue a traffic order which would restrict parking along Marine Way but that would incur costs of a minimum £3,000. Councillor S Hughes, DCC Portfolio Holder for Highways, was to visit Exmouth that week on another matter and would be asked to observe the problem.

G15/040 To receive an update on The Strand

The Town Clerk, for the benefit of new councillors, gave the background to the proposed tripartite understanding between DCC, EDDC and the Town Council in the context of the Strand development. Recent discussion had focused on future

management of the Strand once the new bus shelter/civic area and the final landscaping/planting was completed. Income from events/markets and licences would contribute towards the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the Strand.

G15/041 To receive a progress report on the Art Trail Project

Some of the Section 106 funding received from the Premier Inn development had been allocated to the Town Council's project for the provision of signs that would improve signage from the transport interchange through the town to the beach. The 10 signs were designed in a raised porthole style and were currently being produced and would be installed as a trail. In an attempt to improve signage to the public facilities in the Town Centre, it had also been agreed at a recent meeting between Councillor B Nash, Nick Cristo (EDDC) and the Town Clerk, that three perspex versions of the Shoppers' Guide Map would be funded out of Town Management funds for erection in the Strand area and at the Leisure Centre/ Manchester Street, to highlight the location of public toilets and the Tourist Information Service.

G15/042 Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 29th June 2015 at 7pm.

Note: Councillors J Humphreys advised members that the town's first Pride event would take place on Saturday 6th June 2015 at 12noon in Exmouth's Manor Gardens.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm

Signed Dated
Chairman