

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2014 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors: Mayor B Nash (Chairman)
Deputy Mayor M Chapman (Vice Chairman)
I Brownbill D Chapman
B Cole T Cope
T Dumper L Elson
S Gazzard P Graham
A Greenhalgh J Humphreys
S MacQueen C Nicholas
I Stewart P Stott
B Taylor B Toye
R Turner M Williamson
E Wragg S Wragg

Officers: Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk & Sue Cody, Minute Taker.

C14/118. APOLOGIES

Councillors V Duval-Steer, M Mitchell & J Taylor.

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Forum. Please see Appendix for details. The meeting was then reconvened.

Noted: Henry Wright, volunteers and Town Council staff were thanked for the sterling work they had done in supporting the Tourist Information Service since it was launched.

C14/119. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 21st July 2014 were noted as a true record.

Matters Arising:

C14/105. Councillor S Gazzard asked if there had been a response from the request for the Police Commissioner to attend a meeting with the Town Council. The Town Clerk explained that a standard response only had been received, acknowledging receipt of the Town Council's letter.

C14/111. A meeting had been held with the group tasked to look at Section 106 expenditure on 27th August, 2014, when the group had looked at potential places within the town to site a set of dynamo bikes. A potential location had been identified and notes from the meeting would be circulated to members.

C14/113. No response had been given in response to a letter written to Hugo Swire which gave the Town Council's concerns on there being no Job Centre provision within Exmouth and no government funding to fund Jobseekers who had to travel to Exeter's Job Centre, which had meant that some were unable to

attend. Councillor S Gazzard proposed, seconded by Councillor E Wragg, that the Town Council write to the Minister for the DWP to raise the matter again.

Note: Councillor B Toye requested that matters arising be added to the agenda.

C14/120. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following Councillor declared interests:

Item	Councillor	Declaration type		Reason
		Pecuniary	Personal	
C14/133	T Cope		X	He represented the Town Council on the board that would decide on which Parishes Together projects would be funded. He would leave the room for that item.

C14/121. URGENT BUSINESS

Councillor R Turner expressed his disappointment that a confidential matter that had been discussed in a closed part of a Town Council meeting had been leaked to the press by a member of the committee.

C14/122. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that Agenda item 17 (HR Group) would be discussed in Part II of the meeting as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

Note: Item 17 to receive the decisions of the HR Group meeting held on 20th August 2014 be changed from 'decisions' to 'recommendations'.

C14/123. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

There were no questions under Standing Order 10.

C14/124. REPORTS FROM OTHER LOCAL BODIES AND THE TOWN CLERK as appropriate (Standing Order 6.2)

- 1. Town Clerk** – Items within the report (previously circulated) were explained to members where necessary. A request was made for Councillor's emails and phone numbers to be added to the website.
- 2. Arts Manager** – The content of the report was noted and accepted. Councillor S Gazzard praised the report and asked if the money carried forward to 2015 Festival would have an impact on the Town Council's level of sponsorship for the event. Discussion took place on whether the Town Council would provide the upkeep and restoration of a community sculpture which had been pledged by the Herson family in appreciation of the family holidays they had and still spend in Exmouth over the last 60 years. Several suggestions came forward and it was agreed that a representative of the council liaise with the family to

identify what type of sculpture they had in mind and as to whether it would require planning permission.

3. Councillors –

- Parking considerations enjoyed by many during the recent week of the Life Saving Championships had added to the enjoyment and success of the event. Councillor E Wragg requested that the Town Council write to the organisers of the championships to thank them for a wonderful event.
- Campervans had permission to park on the seafront but members were concerned about possible fire safety of them parking so close together as most had gas canisters on board. There was currently a shortage of public open space that could be designated to parking of campervans particularly as Pier Head car park would soon be built on. A further discussion took place on the possible use of Maer Road car park which had previously been turned down by EDDC or an approach be made to the National Trust to see if they would make a site down by the Estuary. Councillor S Gazzard proposed, seconded by Councillor D Chapman, that the Town Council would write to EDDC to state that it was felt essential that a site for caravans and campervans was identified as members felt the lack of this facility was having an adverse effect on tourism.
- Councillor M Williamson gave an update on the delay in the finalisation of the new East Devon Local Plan. Planning applications in the transitional period would be judged on their merits.

C14/125. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor S MacQueen proposed, seconded by Councillor P Stott, that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 21st July, 4th & 18th August 2014 (as previously circulated) be received. Matters arising from the Planning Committee held that evening related to discussion under matters of urgent business in connection with items 13 and 14 of the agenda.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 21st July, 4th & 18th August 2014 (as previously circulated) be accepted.

C14/126. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor D Chapman proposed, seconded by Councillor S Gazzard, that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 7th July 2014 (as previously circulated) be received and the recommendations and resolution F14/045 be adopted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 7th July 2014 be received and that resolution F14/045 be adopted.

C14/127. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Mayor thanked the Town Crier for accompanying him on several official events.
- A gift had been received from the recent Langerwehe twinning party and was opened in the presence of the meeting.
- The Jurassic Classic Cycle Ride had raised £70,000 for Prostate Cancer research.
- Exmouth Archery club had hosted a national competition of which 5 competitors were Olympic medallists.
- Exmouth Cricket Club was due to host some finals events.
- The Art Exhibition was still exhibiting at Ocean Blue.
- The Samaritans sign had been erected at Orcombe Point.
- Councillor B Nash and Councillor S Gazzard would undertake the Ice Bucket Challenge on Friday 5th September at 12 noon for charities British Lung Foundation and the Samaritans.
- Thursday 11th September at 11.00am would see the start on the Strand of the Tour of Britain Cycle Race stage 5.

A request was made for the Town Council's PA system to be upgraded and the Mayor confirmed that that would take place before Armistice Day.

C14/128. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE OVER-WINTER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TOURIST INFORMATION SERVICE

Twenty volunteers had been recruited as a result of the article in The Journal and there had been, to date, 5,435 visitors since the launch of the Tourist Information Service at the start of summer. Members were asked to give consideration to a recommendation to site the service within the Indoor Market for the winter months. Detailed accounts would be prepared to reflect the future of the Tourist Service provision. Reference was made to the Tourist Information Service report written by Daryl Nicholas, which had identified a medium term strategy, in particular to look at a digital strategy and the possibility of linking with other towns and villages along the Exe Estuary. A decision was made to form a working party group to look at the next stages of service provision and identify what was required for the town. Members nominated for the group were Councillors D Chapman, P Stott, S Wragg, S Gazzard and B Nash plus the Town Clerk with a request for meetings to be held in the evenings. Other members would be welcome to contribute. Councillor J Humphreys proposed, seconded by Councillor E Wragg, that the Tourist Information Service be relocated within Exmouth's Indoor Market for winter 2014-15 and a working party group be formed to look at the future need of the Tourist Information Service. On a vote, all members were in favour with one abstention.

RESOLVED that the Tourist Information Service be relocated within Exmouth's Indoor Market for winter 2014-15 and a working party group be formed to look at the future need of the Tourist Information Service.

C14/129. TO DISCUSS EDDC'S TEMPORARY EVENT LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS – TOWN COUNCIL'S INVOLVEMENT

Complaints had been made to the Town Council and members in respect of recent markets held on the Strand. Councillors were currently advised about

temporary licences for forthcoming events on the Strand in the Town Council's weekly bulletin although some event notifications were being received at short notice which gave little time for Councillors to respond. The opportunity to voice any concerns about events would need to be done at that stage to Jamie Murrell from EDDC who had the responsibility for the administration of events. Councillor P Stott had asked EDDC to provide an overview sheet on services available to support temporary events so as to provide information to people who wished to put on events. The cost to hire the Strand was currently £110 a day which members felt was unrealistic once costs of removal of litter, policing and potential loss of income and nuisance to local traders had been taken into consideration. Criticism had been made on the layout of markets stalls, lack of waste disposal facilities and absence of food hygiene certificates on food stands. A previous request to EDDC for a particular continental market not to return had been ignored. Members felt that procedures currently in place for temporary events needed to be reviewed and that EDDC's Scrutiny Committee may need to be aware of the process. Temporary event licence requests could be discussed at fortnightly Planning Committee meetings. Councillor E Wragg proposed, seconded by Councillor T Cope, that the procedure for temporary event licensing be reviewed and be brought before EDDC Scrutiny Committee for approval. All committee members were in agreement. The Town Clerk would meet with Jamie Murrell to obtain an overview of the system.

RESOLVED that the procedure for temporary event licensing be reviewed and be brought before EDDC Scrutiny Committee for approval.

Note: Councillor B Taylor asked to be excused from the meeting and left the room.

C14/130. PLANNING COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTION POLICY (RESERVES) AND WARD REPRESENTATION AT EDDC DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The agenda item had been discussed under Urgent Business at that night's Planning Committee meeting. A request was made for a motion to be added to the next Full Council meeting agenda to request that an amendment be made to Standing Orders to vary the constitution of the Town Council Planning Committee to state that reserves who attend on behalf of a member of the committee could vote and that would include an ex-officio, should they be attending in the capacity of a reserve. Clarification was given on who could attend EDDC Development Management Committee as a representative of an individual or as a representative of the Town Council.

C14/131. PLANNING COMMITTEE PUBLIC SPEAKING POLICY – REVISION

The agenda item had been discussed under Urgent Business at that night's Planning Committee meeting and members did not wish the public speaking rules to be revised.

C14/132. RELAXATION OF THE SECTION 106 WARD RESTRICTIONS

Section 106 expenditure is currently restricted to the ward that has borne the associated development, which has resulted in some funding not being allocated.

Councillor L Elson proposed, seconded by Councillor R Turner, that the restriction be lifted and funding be spread throughout the wards where necessary.

RESOLVED that the restriction be lifted so that Section 106 funding can now be spread throughout the wards where necessary projects are identified.

Note: Councillor T Cope had earlier registered an interest for the next agenda item and left the room.

C14/133. POTENTIAL PARISHES TOGETHER FUND APPLICATIONS

The Town Clerk advised that she was in the process of investigating the provision of solar lights along the Exe Estuary path and gave an overview of the current projects put forward for consideration.

Note: Councillor T Cope rejoined the meeting.

Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting for item 17 due to the confidential nature of its contents.

C14/134. HR GROUP

The minute for that item is held by the Town Clerk.

C14/135. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday 29th September 2014 at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.00 pm.

Signed..... Date.....
(Chairman)

APPENDIX

PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Sue Arnold, a volunteer for the Exmouth Town Council Tourist Information Service, spoke to state that during the months of operation it had been identified that there was an apparent need for the tourist service which had provided a heart for Exmouth and given visitors a welcoming friendly face. Local businesses had been able to promote what was available in the Town and visitors had an overview on what was available. The information provided by the service had given a valuable ripple effect as visitors were motivated to return to Exmouth.

She requested that the Town Council members found a way to fund and continue the service for visitors in some form. Henry Wright was praised for his amazing commitment to the job he has done throughout the summer.

The topic was further discussed under agenda item C14/128 that evening.