

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2015 AT 7.00 P.M.

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

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

C15/029. APOLOGIES

Councillors B Cole, S MacQueen & R Turner

Note: There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

C15/030. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23rd February 2015 were proposed by Councillor P Stott, seconded by Councillor S Gazzard and noted as a true record.

C15/031. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters that arose from the minutes.

C15/032. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests or dispensations.

C15/033. URGENT BUSINESS

There was one item to be dealt with under urgent business.

St Johns Court – Dot Taylor had informed some members that St Johns Court had been identified for possible closure as part of the £18 million savings that had to be made by the Devon Partnership Trust over the next 3 years. Councillor Eileen Wragg stated she would be in discussion with a Devon County Council representative on the matter particularly in light of the money that had been spent on a recent upgrade of the building. The Mayor proposed and members agreed that a letter be sent to Devon Partnership NHS Trust, Devon County Council and Dot Taylor who had brought the matter to the council's attention.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent on behalf of Exmouth Town Council to Devon Partnership NHS Trust and Devon County Council.

C15/034. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that Agenda item 12, 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:

C15/035. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

There was one question under Standing Order 10 which had been submitted by Councillor Malcolm Mitchell which read:-

"What progress has been made or is likely to be made in the implementation of a Legacy Fund by Exmouth Town Council, and what publicity will be given when such a fund is set up, both locally and on the Town Council Website?"

Councillor Bill Nash had explored various types of Legacy Funds and one that had a match funding aspect would be favoured but it would take considerable time to implement. A decision was made that a trust fund be created initially with a view to the transfer of funds to a match funding account at a later date. Councillor B Nash proposed seconded by Councillor T Dumper that a trust fund be set up as soon as possible.

RESOLVED that a trust fund be created as soon as possible with a view to the transfer of funds to a match funding account at a later date.

C15/036. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES, OTHER LOCAL BODIES, THE TOWN CLERK / TOWN MANAGER as appropriate (Standing Order 6.2)

- **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Councillor L Elson proposed, seconded by Councillor M Chapman, that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 23rd February, 9th & 23rd March and 7th April 2015 (as previously circulated) be received. Councillor L Elson reported that discussions had taken place at some of the meetings which had focused on how planning applications were dealt with at EDDC and the comparison of those procedures and decisions when compared to the charts supplied by EDDC as some applications did not fall in line with EDDC procedure, in particular the Courtlands House application. The Town Council Planning Committee would monitor the situation.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 23rd February, 9th & 23rd March and 7th April 2015 be accepted and adopted.

- **REGENERATION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Councillor P Stott proposed, seconded by Councillor V Duval-Steer, that the minutes of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee held on 9th March 2015 be received.

Councillor T Cope, in respect of minute G15/028, wished to alert the Town Council that as the Supplementary Street Cleaner now worked across several parishes there could be a case to raise funds, to assist with the cost, through the Parishes Together Fund and the New Homes Building bonus money.

A correction to be made under minute G15/24 Street Names – the name was Parminter and not Parmiter as noted in the minutes.

An update on progress of the Community Pay Back Scheme was given by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee held on 9th March 2015 be accepted and adopted.

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Councillor D Chapman proposed, seconded by Councillor I Stewart, that the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 23rd March 2015 be received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 23rd March 2015 be accepted and adopted and in particularly the resolution in Minute G15/027.

Councillor T Cope asked if the Town Clerk had made any progress in respect of cuts to local bus services (minute G15/023). Devon County Council would be meeting the next day and would take into account the public consultation responses before they announced their decision. The Town Council would respond appropriately.

- **TOWN AND TOURISM FORUM**

Councillor A Greenhalgh gave a verbal report on recent topics.

The Exmouth clean up within the town took place on the 8th March with the support of the Exmouth Journal. The clean ups took place quarterly and concentrated on one spot within the town.

The table tennis tables in the Strand purchased with Town Team Partnership funds were very popular.

The Town Team were in support of the dinosaur project which would be part funded by Partnership funds and local sponsorship. DCC Highways would not support dinosaurs on the town's roundabout due to safety reasons. Suggestions were put forward by members for possible places that would accommodate a dinosaur such as the grassed area at Brixington shops, Orcombe Point paved area, Phear Park and Manor Gardens. Schools could create their own paper mache dinosaur models and a dinosaur trail could form part of a spot the dinosaur competition. More discussion on that topic would take place at the next Council meeting.

- **EXMOUTH VOLUNTARY CAR SERVICE**

Councillor B Taylor gave an overview of the report (previously received) which gave statistics of the 8,362 car journeys that had been carried out over the last year and the categories they provided a service for. EVCS also had a befriending service which provided support for people who had left hospital.

- **SECTION 106 WORKING PARTY**

Councillor B Nash had attended a meeting with the Working Party and EDDC Officers which identified that some Section 106 funding would be spent on energy bikes. There would be two peddle bikes and one hand bike complete with mobile phone charging outlets located in the sunken garden area by the Pavilion, near to the outdoor gym.

- **REGENERATION PROJECT MEETING**

Councillor J Humphreys gave a verbal report on the items discussed at a recent meeting.

The Strand would soon be soft landscaped.

The Premier Inn with its good design was open and running well with bookings all taken up until September.

Solicitors had been appointed in respect of the Sea Scouts new building.

Communication was ongoing between DCC and Marks and Spencer for a food store on the bus station site.

A road design had been submitted for Queens Drive road re-alignment along the seafront.

Mamhead Slipway had been given the go ahead by EDDC and work would commence in July 2015.

There was no update on the installation of the Strand bus shelter and a request was made for the item to be placed on the next Council agenda for discussion.

C15/037. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR EXMOUTH

The provision of a Neighbourhood Plan for Exmouth had been discussed at the recent COLP and Regeneration and General Purposes meeting with a recommendation that the Neighbourhood Plan designated area cover the whole of Exmouth. Discussion took place amongst members which highlighted the advantages gained from the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan, in particular the increase in CIL from 15% to 25% and the importance of a plan in planning terms. Once identified the Town Council would apply to EDDC for £2,000 so that the process could proceed. Lympstone had just gained support from residents for theirs. Councillor P Stott proposed seconded by Councillor M Williamson that the designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan be the whole of Exmouth. All

members were in support with the exception that Councillor I Brownbill abstained.

RESOLVED that the designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan be the whole of Exmouth and that an application to East Devon District Council be submitted.

C15/038. TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A COMMUNITIES ACCOUNT AND A NEW DEBIT CARD WITH BARCLAYS BANK

A Communities Account was needed to enable the Town Council to pay in cash sums of money without incurring bank charges. There was also a need to obtain a debit card facility with a limit of £200 to be made available for small purchases with the Town Council which had in the past been funded by credit cards belonging to staff members and then reimbursed. Financial controls would be put in place which would be based on the new Practitioners Guide for Local Government alongside an update in the Council's Financial Regulations. Councillor D Chapman proposed seconded by Councillor T Cope that a new Communities Account be provided by Barclays Bank and a new debit card facility with a limit of £200 for the Town Council's use. All members were in support.

RESOLVED that a new Communities Account for paying in cash and a new debit card facility with a limit of £200 be provided by Barclays Bank for the Town Council's use.

C15/039. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had attended Manor Lodge and presented flowers and cards for the celebration of two 100 years old twin sisters. Councillor Bill Nash announced that a reception was to be held in the Committee Room that evening where councillors who were standing down from office would be presented with a badge for their service to the town.

Note: 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 agenda item 17 due to the confidential nature of its contents.

C15/040. NOTES FROM THE HR GROUP

The minute from that agenda item was held by the Town Clerk.

C15/041. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council, which was the Annual Town Council meeting would be held on Monday 18th May 2015 at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm.

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