

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 15TH JUNE 2015 AT 7.15 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors: M Chapman (Chairman)
 B Cole (Deputy Chairman)
 F Caygill D Chapman
 T Darville P Dean
 T Dumper L Elson
 S Gazzard E Gibbons
 C Gough A Greenhalgh
 J Humphreys R Masding
 B Nash R Scott
 P Stott B Taylor
 J Trail M Williamson

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

C15/065. APOLOGIES

Councillors B Bailey, P Graham, T Hill, C Nicholas & B Toye

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

C15/066. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting held on 18th May 2015 were noted as a true record.

C15/067. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters that arose from the minutes.

C15/068. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There was one declarations of pecuniary interests or dispensations.
 The following Councillor declared an interest:

Item	Councillor	Declaration type		Reason
		Pecuniary	Personal	
C15/072	P Stott		X	Her daughter in law rented a beach hut in Exmouth.

C15/069. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items to be dealt with under urgent business.

C15/070. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items to be dealt with that necessitated the exclusion of the press and public.

C15/071. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

There were no questions under Standing Order 10.

Note: The chairman asked that agenda item 12 be brought forward for discussion in light of the interest of those present in the public gallery.

C15/072. TO DISCUSS AND RESPOND TO EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION ON ITS BEACH HUTS, BEACH HUT SITES AND BEACH CHALET SERVICE. (THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON 13 JULY 2015.)

In response, Councillor Mark Williamson proposed the following motion

"Exmouth Town Council unanimously rejects the proposal that Exmouth beach huts will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder. The proposal is procedurally unauthorised (reference Cabinet Minutes 7 January 2015), un-costed, reputationally damaging and harmful to the interests of Exmouth as a premier coastal resort. Exmouth Town Council requests an urgent meeting with the relevant Portfolio Holder to discuss a local way forward". Councillor S Gazzard seconded the motion.

Discussion followed on the possibility of Exmouth Town Council taking responsibility and managing the beach huts in Exmouth, particularly as many users had shown great concern at the thought of losing them in a bidding process. Exmouth would in the future lose 37 of its beach huts when Queens Drive was realigned. Members requested that the 37 beach huts be retained and relocated along the seafront and had a preference for them to be sited on the beach side of the road.

RESOLVED that the motion be carried with all members in unanimous support and Exmouth Town Council to request an urgent meeting with the relevant Portfolio Holder to discuss a local way forward.

C15/073. 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 Trail, that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 18th May and 1st June 2015 (as previously circulated) be received. The agenda item for consideration at that evening's meeting, Dinan Way Extension, was deferred to the Full Council meeting that followed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 18th May and 1st June 2015 be accepted and adopted.

- **REGENERATION PROJECT MEETING**

The Town Clerk informed the committee that a Coastal Communities Fund had become available via the DCLG which could secure £10,000 for the District Council to support scoping possibilities for coastal towns in respect of employment and other opportunities.

Councillor M Williamson gave a verbal update on the discussion that had taken place on revisiting Exmouth's Masterplan, in particular the London Inn site and the visitors centre.

- **THE EXMOUTH WAR AND FLAGPOLE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the AGM and notes (previously received with the agenda) of the meeting held on 21st May 2015 were noted. Councillor J Trail reported that the repair, cleaning and insertion of 5 plaques was in hand. Nominees for representation on the committee were to be put forward to the Town Clerk.

- **EXMOUTH AREA LOCAL ACTION GROUP**

The minutes (previously received with the agenda) of the meeting held on the 15th April 2015 were noted. Councillors B Nash and S Gazzard gave an update of the meeting held on 10th June where the issue of graffiti within the town had been highlighted. Any incidents of graffiti were seen as a criminal offence and should be reported via 999 if seen. The £1,000 reward pledged in the past should be re-launched and the press were asked for their support in helping to do that. A suggestion was made to promote the new graffiti board in Phear Park.

There had been incidents of anti-social behaviour outside the Hush shop and the Police were currently preparing a case under Section 23 to establish an anti-social behaviour order. Any known incidents to be reported by phone on 101. Legal highs were now to be known as Psychoactive Substances.

Seafront boy racers were again creating a nuisance along the seafront and in Maer Road car park particularly at the weekend. The Land Train had now been fitted with a rear camera as an awareness of bad driving incidents.

There had been reports of portable BBQ's being placed in the new Big Belly bins on the seafront which had caused them to reignite. Streetscene would now erect notices which would deter that happening and members requested a receptacle to hold used disposable BBQ's but had been informed that provision would be too expensive. There had been nasty incidents last summer when disposable BBQ's had been moved and the hot sand that remained had burnt a child's feet. A request was made for the press to highlight dangers that were associated with the use of disposable BBQ's.

C15/074. TO DISCUSS AND RESPOND TO THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION'S ELECTORAL REVIEW OF DEVON. (DEADLINE FOR RESPONSES IS 6 JULY, 2015.)

A Task and Finish Forum would be formed to discuss and respond to the Boundary Commission's draft electoral review of Devon. Members of that group would be the Town Clerk, Councillors T Dumper, who would give a written response, L Elson, S Gazzard, C Gough, B Nash, C Nicholas, P Stott and J Trail who would meet at 7pm on Monday 22nd June 2015.

C15/075. TO DISCUSS AND RESPOND TO DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION FOR THE DINAN WAY EXTENSION PROJECT. (THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON 15 JULY 2015.)

Councillor J Trail reported that residents of Summer Lane had given their preference for Route 2, South Route, which would enable the lane to be blocked to traffic should a exit for A La Ronde be created on the new Dinan Way extension subject to the National Trust being in agreement. The roundabout shown on Route 2 to be moved slightly away from Courtlands Cross towards Exeter so as not to disturb local badgers. Members felt that the consultation opportunity had been short and requested that a representative of Devon County Council be invited to the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee meeting that would be held on 29th June at 7pm. Exmouth Transport Partnership Group would also discuss the proposals at their meeting to be held on 2nd July 2015.

Note: Councillor P Stott declared an interest as she lived in Featherbed Lane which was at present deemed a rat-run road.

C15/076. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE TOWN CLERK ON EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S PLANS TO REFURBISH EXMOUTH TOWN HALL.

The Town Clerk had attended meetings with Mark Williams, Richard Cohen and Donna Best in respect of Exmouth's Town Hall and its future. The expected completion date of refurbishment was 2017. East Devon District Council were to engage with councillors and staff on the future proposals and Exmouth Town Council should do the same. A working party were formed which consisted of Councillors D Chapman, P Graham, J Humphreys, P Stott & M Williamson.

Note: The Chairman announced that Councillor Pat Graham had been awarded the MBE.

C15/077. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on Monday 10th August 2015 at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 8.12 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

(Chairman)

Appendix

Mr Geoff Morris wished to speak on two items.

Dinan Way Extension – he wished to support the proposed Valley Route in order to protect the peace and tranquillity of A La Ronde.

Refurbishment of Exmouth Town Hall – he wished the Town Council to consider a new purpose built building that would house both East Devon District Council (EDDC) and the Town Council as he felt the Town Hall was not a long term solution for EDDC. A suggested site would be near the train station, possibly over the newly proposed Marks and Spencer food outlet.