

# EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2015 AT 7.15 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Councillors: M Chapman (Chairman)  
B Cole (Deputy Chairman)  
B Bailey F Caygill  
D Chapman T Darville  
T Dumper L Elson  
S Gazzard P Graham  
A Greenhalgh R Masding  
B Nash C Nicholas  
R Scott P Stott  
B Toye M Williamson

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

The Mayor presented Councillor Pat Graham with a bouquet in celebration of her recent MBE award and said how she was well respected by the people of Exmouth. Councillor Pat Graham had been surprised to receive the MBE as her work on behalf of Exmouth was a way of thanking Exmouth people for all they had done for her family. She thanked all members and her husband Keith for all their past support which had enabled her to achieve the award.

### **C15/078. APOLOGIES**

Councillors J Trail, P Dean, E Gibbons, C Gough, T Hill, J Humphreys & B Taylor

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

### **C15/079. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were noted as a true record.

### **C15/080. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

There were no matters that arose from the minutes.

### **C15/081. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests or dispensations.

### **C15/082. URGENT BUSINESS**

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

### **C15/083. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was agreed that Agenda items 16 & 17, HR Group and Plus Traineeship, 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:

**C15/084. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10**

There were no questions under Standing Order 10.

**C15/085. 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 B Toye, that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 (as previously circulated) be received.

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be accepted and adopted.**

- **REGENERATION PROJECT MEETING**

Councillor M Williamson stated that no meeting had taken place since his last verbal report to committee.

- **EXMOUTH AREA LOCAL ACTION GROUP**

The minutes (previously received with the agenda) of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were noted. A further meeting had taken place on the 29<sup>th</sup> July and Councillor B Nash gave feedback. Some crime figures had increased, in particular dwelling burglaries and violent crime. Following pressure from the Police and local councillors the Hush shop had stopped selling legal highs which had resulted in undesirables no longer frequenting the town and shoplifting had reduced at the same time.

- **FLOODING AND LAND DRAINAGE WORKING PARTY**

Councillor A Greenhalgh, newly elected Chairman of the working party, praised the presentation on 'SUDS' and 'Downstream Thinking' given by representatives of SWW and AECOM. Councillor T Dumper thanked members of that group for their discussions on the development at The Maldens which had resulted in flooding issues for properties nearby and he requested that councillors look seriously at possible flood implications on future planning applications and report back to DCC should they have local knowledge of flood problems that may occur on or near the development site.

- **STREET CLEANING WORKING PARTY**

Councillor T Dumper thanked Councillors R Masding and C Gough for attending a small group meeting to discuss recent demands on the service. As a result of other Councils cutting back on service provision, tasks undertaken by the Town Council's Supplementary Street Cleaner were constantly being added to and it was felt appropriate to regularise

manpower in light of that extra pressure. The Exmouth Festival, gazebo hire and the forthcoming Christmas Cracker were all extra duties.

Discussion took place amongst members in respect of the current trial for 3 week refuse collection within the Colony with concern shown at the 3 week collection of disposable nappies. Larger bins were available on request. The trial would be closely monitored by EDDC and Portfolio Holder, Councillor I Chubb, had stated that he would be happy to attend a Town Council meeting to clarify arrangements.

**C15/086. TO RATIFY THE REVISED RULES AND CONSTITUTION FOR EXMOUTH AND DISTRICT ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

Revised rules and constitution for the Allotment Association had been previously circulated to members for their ratification. Councillor S Gazzard proposed seconded by Councillor P Stott that the revised rules and constitution for Exmouth and District Allotment Association be approved.

**RESOLVED that the revised rules and constitution for Exmouth and District Allotment Association be approved.**

**Note:** Councillor P Graham declared a personal interest as an allotment holder.

**C15/087. TO RATIFY THE DISPOSAL / METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF THE TIS SUMMER HOUSE**

The summerhouse that had been purchased last year to provide a Tourist Information point on the Strand was no longer required and needed to be sold. Discussion followed and authority was given to the Town Clerk to offer it for sale in an appropriate way.

**C15/088. TO AGREE THAT SECTION 106 WORKING PARTY IS GIVEN DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO WORK WITH EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL ON THE FURTHERANCE OF S106 FUNDED PLAY AND SPORTS PROJECTS**

The time scale for decisions to be made in respect of allocating Section 106 funding had been protracted and a request for the Section 106 Working Party to be given delegated authority was discussed amongst members. The Town Clerk advised members that proposals for schemes had already been drawn up in respect of provision and upgrading of play equipment at Imperial Recreation Ground and Phear Park and a contractor had been identified for the installation. The Section 106 Working Party had a ward member from each ward and notes from the Working Party meetings would be circulated and an agenda item on Section 106 funding would be listed on Regeneration and General Purposes Committee when necessary. Councillor S Gazzard proposed seconded by Councillor L Elson that delegated authority be granted.

**RESOLVED that the Section 106 Working Party be given delegated authority to work with EDDC on the furtherance of Section 106 funded play and sports projects.**

**C15/089. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE A RESPONSE TO EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL'S REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS**

For Littleham Ward Councillor A Greenhalgh made a request that voting at Littleham Community Hall be combined with Clayton House Community Centre as either polling station did not serve many voters. Councillor P Graham expressed that Holy Trinity Church was an unsuitable location within the town due to it being up a hill and had proved a difficult access for the elderly. The Baptist Church in Victoria Road had expressed an interest in welcoming voters and this was felt to be a better option. Councillor B Toye asked that a change in polling station from St John The Evangelist Church Hall to either Withycombe Methodist Church or Ratcliffe House, Burnside be made as St John's was sited in Halsdon Ward.

**C15/090. TO RATIFY THE PURCHASE OF DIGITAL MAPPING SOFTWARE**

Members had before them a report by the Town Clerk which gave the detail of digital mapping software and its advantages. A request was made for purchase of the digital mapping software package to support work to be carried out in the future on Exmouth's Neighbourhood Plan and to aid other Town Council projects. Councillor L Elson proposed seconded by Councillor B Bailey that the software be purchased which would be funded by part of the grant allocated by EDDC to support the production of the Neighbourhood plan.

**RESOLVED that the software be purchased which would be funded by part of the grant allocated by EDDC to support the production of the Neighbourhood plan.**

**C15/091. TO DISCUSS THE TOWN COUNCIL'S INITIAL RESPONSE TO OUTLINE PROPOSALS FOR QUEENS DRIVE**

The committee had before them a report which contained a response to outline proposals for Queens Drive prepared as a response to a recent article in the local press. Councillor M Williamson gave an overview and welcomed the investment into Exmouth and wished the Town Council to work in partnership with the agreed developer, for the future of the seafront on behalf of the people of Exmouth and the town's reputation on a national and international basis, particularly in respect of Watersports. Councillor P Stott read the content of the response and proposed support of the response. Discussion followed amongst members with Councillor D Chapman seconded the response. A vote was taken, 12 for, 1 against and 5 abstained.

**RESOLVED that the response be sent to East Devon District Council, a sub-committee be formed to discuss the way forward and how to consult with the public.**

**C15/092. TO GIVE DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE RFO TO USE CAPITAL RESERVES OF £15,000 TO SOURCE A (BEST PRICE) SECOND VAN FOR USE BY THE SUPPLEMENTARY STREET CLEANING TEAM**

The Town Clerk gave the background to the request for delegated authority to be given to the RFO and Finance Chairman for £15,000 of capital reserves to be earmarked for the purchase of a second van. Councillor S Gazzard proposed

seconded by Councillor F Caygill that the RFO and Finance Chairman for £15,000 of capital reserves to be earmarked for the purchase of a second van.

**RESOLVED that the Chairman of Finance Committee and the Responsible Finance Officer use £15,000 from capital resources to source a second van for use by the Supplementary Street Cleaning Team.**

**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 items 16 & 17 due to the confidential nature of its contents.**

**C15/093. NOTES FROM THE HR GROUP**

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

**C15/094. TO RATIFY THE TAKE-UP OF A PLUS TRAINEEESHIP CONTRACT FOR A NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES OPERATIVE**

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

**C15/095. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015 at 7pm.

**The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.**

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

## **Appendix**

Mrs June Dingle, on behalf of residents of Greenpark Road, Brixington, spoke about a large island of very long grass around 40 metres across situated near their properties which was no longer being cut by Devon County Council (DCC) due to budget restrictions. DCC had signposted the residents, many of whom were elderly, to a self-help scheme. Councillor Jeff Trail had in the meantime cut the grass. A request was made for the Town Council to find a suitable solution to the problem.

The Chairman responded that the Town Council at present did not have the resources nor the manpower to deal with the problem.

Councillor Tim Dumper, as chair of the Supplementary Streetcleaner Task and Finish Forum, hoped that discussions would take place on the need for supplementary grass cutting within the town.