

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EXMOUTH ON MONDAY 18TH APRIL 2016 AT 7.00 PM.

PRESENT: Councillors: B Cole (Acting Chairman)
L Elson (Acting Deputy Chairman)
B Bailey F Caygill
B De Saram T Dumper
P Garbutt S Gazzard
P Graham A Greenhalgh
T Hill J Humphreys
R Masding B Nash
C Nicholas R Scott
P Stott B Taylor
B Toye J Trail
M Williamson

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

Guest Speaker: Toby Russell, Community Helipads Development Officer, Devon Air Ambulance

C16/027. APOLOGIES

Councillors D & M Chapman, T Darville & C Gough

Acting Chairman, Councillor B Cole, wished Councillor D Chapman well and informed members that he would get some hospital results today.

The two newly elected councillors, Councillor Bruce de Saram, Littleham Ward and Councillor Pauline Garbutt, Halsdon Ward were welcomed as members of Exmouth Town Council.

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

Councillor B Cole asked that agenda item 9 be brought forward and invited Toby Russell to speak.

C16/028. PRESENTATION BY TOBY RUSSELL, COMMUNITY HELIPADS OFFICER, DEVON AIR AMBULANCE

Toby Russell informed members that the Devon Air Ambulance wished to extend their hours of response until midnight and sites for possible night landing were needed within Exmouth. The equipment needed had been identified and he wished to work with the community to identify possible night landing helipad sites and hoped the extended service would be in place by Christmas 2016. The helipad site would become a community asset and would have to be supported financially by the community. An ideal site would be at least 50 square metres,

flat, grass or hard surface, access for vehicles and free of trees within the landing area. The site would need be floodlit and MAT Electrics were the preferred supplier should floodlights not be in place and costs had been identified. Several suggestions for potential sites were put forward by members and once identified would not take too long to commission. Several funding avenues could be explored, Solar Energy projects, CIL revenue and Parishes Together Fund. A TAFF would be formed to look at possible helipad sites, members elected were Councillors B Bailey, F Caygill, B Nash, B De Saram and S Gazzard.

C16/029. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 22nd February 2016 were agreed and noted as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr. M Williamson Seconder: Cllr. S Gazzard

C16/030. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

C16/031. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests or dispensations.

C16/032. URGENT BUSINESS

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

C16/033. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that Agenda item 17 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:

C16/034. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

There were no questions under Standing Order 10.

C16/035. REPORTS AND MINUTES 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 T Dumper that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 8th & 22nd February and 7th & 21st March 2016 (as previously circulated) be received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 8th & 22nd February and 7th & 21st March 2016 be accepted and adopted.

- **Local Action Group**

Councillor B Nash gave a verbal report from the LAG meeting held on 2nd March 2016. Notes had previously been received by members. The introduction of the Psychoactive Substance Act which came into force on the 6th April 2016 was welcomed by members.

- **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

Members had previously received notes from the meetings held on 22nd February and 3rd March 2016. A questionnaire had been produced and would shortly be sent to all residents in Exmouth and once completed would be deposited in the widely distributed collection boxes. A community day for all to attend and out forward ideas would take place on 28th April at Exmouth Town Hall with 3 sessions held throughout the day, each one starting with an awareness talk. To follow on, in May/June, every ward within the town would hold open sessions where residents would have another opportunity to ask questions and put forward suggestions and ideas. The Town Clerk would circulate to all members a list of the ward sessions and locations for the future open meetings.

Note: Cllr. C Nicholas left the meeting.

- **Town Team and Tourism Forum**

Members had previously received notes from the meeting held on 3rd March 2016. Cllr. B Nash gave a verbal report on the introduction of life sized fossils and dinosaurs that, once sponsored, would be placed around Exmouth. Progress had been made by the EDDC Officer for listing and development, Rachel Danemann, who had made contact with the new owner of Thomas Tucker with a request for the outside to be repainted. The Town Clerk gave an update on the Strand Management Plan which was slowly progressing as EDDC were reviewing the current booking procedures and their legal team were identifying who would give permission for what.

- **DALC Larger Councils Committee**

The Town Clerk had attended a DALC special meeting chaired by John Connell held on 18th February 2016 and members had previously received the notes from that meeting. The Clerk reported that the Heart of the SW devolution bid had been submitted by EDDC and members asked if a representative from EDDC could attend a council meeting to give feedback on the thinking behind the bid.

Note: The acting chairman suspended Standing Orders and welcomed Devon County Councillor E Wragg to give the county councillor report below.

- **County Councillor Report**

- i. DCC was to increase its Council Tax by 4% (2% to support social care of the elderly) for 2016/17.
- ii. Cutbacks within the School Crossing Patrol provision had been reinstated.

- iii. The proposed cut of 10% funding for Citizens Advice Bureau had been reinstated and in future £400,000 per year would become core funding.
- iv. Cllr. E Wragg was now a member of the School Transport Appeal Panel which was non-political. The school transport budget was currently £21 million.
- v. She was also a new active member of DCC Corporate Parenting Board formed as a result of the inadequate service provided by DCC Safeguarding Department. There was currently no residential provision within the county for youngsters with mental health conditions.
- vi. Richard Westlake, Chairman of DCC Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, had along with some members visited St John's Court in Exmouth and met with DPT managers, campaigners and service users. A recommendation would now be put to DCC Cabinet.
- vii. Dinan Way link road had been given DCC Cabinet approval with a recommendation that the alternative route be accepted.
- viii. The traffic and parking revenue was to soon take place in Exmouth. A new law would be introduced by Central Government next year which would make pavement parking illegal.
- ix. At a recent HATOC meeting the request for a pedestrian crossing at Withycombe School was unsupported. A school crossing patrol person would be supplied by Norse.
- x. The DCC Highways Officer had recently had a road accident so he would be unavailable for a while.
- xi. All primary schools were to become Academies funded by Central Government.
- xii. Cllr. E Wragg had met with DCC, EDDC Streetscene and Town Council staff with a view to rejuvenating the Lambeth Walk entrance to the town.

C16/036. TO REVIEW THE TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND CONSIDER PROPOSED CHANGES

Members had before them a revised version of a report previously considered when Colin Poole was in the post of Town Clerk. Lisa Bowman, the current Town Clerk, gave the background to the revised report for the benefit of new members. It was agreed to change the term 'Champion' for 'Lead Councillor' and that the Accounts Sub-Committee would meet on a more regular basis. A change in start time for the monthly Full Council meeting to be given consideration. Councillor L Elson proposed seconded by Councillor B Nash that a pilot of Full Council meetings be held on a monthly basis for a period of nine months.

RESOLVED that Regeneration and General Purposes Committee and Finance Committee be suspended in favour of monthly Full Council meetings for a pilot period of nine months.

C16/037. BUDGETARY CONTROL AND AUTHORITY TO SPEND

As per our Financial Regulations (adopted in Nov 2015), approval was required for items over £5,000, evidenced by a minute reference. Expenditure could be authorised that exceeded the amount provided in the revenue budget for that class of expenditure other than by a resolution of the Council, or duly delegated Committee.

Authorisation was sought for the following payment(s):

22nd Jan 2016	ETC Staff Costs (wages recharge January) – £17,893.42
2 nd Feb 2016	EDDC Grounds Maintenance - £30,236.00
19 th Feb 2016	Festoon Lights - £12,116.00
17 th Feb 2016	DCC – contribution to bus service £8,436.00
16 th March 2016	ETC Staff Costs (wages recharge February) – £18,204.48
31 st March 2016	ETC Staff Costs (wages recharge March) – £18,304.78

RESOLVED to approve the above payments.

C16/038. TO AUTHORISE EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL'S ARTS MANAGER TO ESTABLISH A KICKSTARTER CROWDFUNDING WEBSITE TO FACILITATE ONLINE DONATIONS FOR THE FESTIVAL

The Town Clerk explained that a crowdfunding website could be established for the Exmouth Festival which would facilitate online donations via mobile phones and other devices to a festival Town Council account. Councillor B Bailey proposed seconded by Councillor J Trail that a crowdfunding website was formed.

RESOLVED that a crowdfunding website be setup to facilitate online donations for the Festival.

C16/039. TO NOTE THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS FOR HALSDON AND LITTLEHAM WARDS

Bruce De Saram would represent Littleham Ward and Pauline Garbutt would represent Halsdon Ward. Some postal votes had been distributed prior to information on nominated candidates being made available so those voters did not feel they could make an informed choice.

C16/040. TO CONSIDER MAKING A FORMAL REQUEST TO DCC FOR A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT WITHYCOMBE ROAD

Feedback in respect of this item had previously been given by Councillor E Wragg but concern was shown by members for the safety of all school children within the town. Councillor B Bailey proposed that the Town Council support his request for a pilot scheme for funding for a pedestrian crossing at Withycombe Primary School

which could be provided by CIL payments and if successful be pursued for other schools in Exmouth.

RESOLVED that a pilot scheme for funding for a pedestrian crossing at Withycombe Primary School be provided through other funding methods and if successful be pursued for other schools in Exmouth.

C16/041. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL ARISING FROM EXMOUTH TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP THAT EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL SHOULD CALL UPON EDDC TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN ETC, EDDC AND DCC TO ENSURE THAT INTEGRATED TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE COMMITTED TO IN STRATEGY 22 OF THE ADOPTED LOCAL PLAN IS IMPLEMENTED TO FACILITATE INTER-MODAL CONNECTIVITY AS PROMOTED BY GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT POLICY FOR TRAIN, BUS AND TAXI USERS, CYCLISTS AND THE DISABLED

Councillor T Dumper proposed, seconded by Councillor M Williamson, on behalf of Exmouth Transport Partnership that the Town Council call upon East Devon District Council to initiate discussions between ETC, EDDC and DCC to ensure that integrated transport interchange committed to in strategy 22 of the adopted local plan was implemented to facilitate inter-modal connectivity as promoted by government transport policy for train, bus and taxi users, cyclists and the disabled.

RESOLVED that the Town Council call upon East Devon District Council to initiate discussions between ETC, EDDC and DCC to ensure that integrated transport interchange committed to in Strategy 22 of the adopted East Devon Local Plan was implemented to facilitate inter-modal connectivity as promoted by government transport policy for train, bus and taxi users, cyclists and the disabled.

C16/042. TO CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PARISH POLL ON APRIL 20TH, 2016

There were 22 Polling Stations within Exmouth which were mostly the same as residents' normal election polling stations. A list had been provided and had been placed on the Town Council notice board. There would be no postal or proxy votes nor poll cards. The polling stations would be open between 4pm and 9pm. The result of the Town Poll were not binding and members would have to consider whether to take the outcome forward.

Note: Councillor J Trail left the meeting at that point.

C16/043. TO RECEIVE THE HR GROUP MEETING NOTES AND RATIFY ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

The minute from that agenda item was discussed under Part ii of the meeting and was held by the Town Clerk.

C16/044. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 at 7pm

The meeting concluded at pm.

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

Appendix

Mrs Dot Taylor made a request for support from the Town Council to resist the closure of St John's Court which was the only mental health and recovery unit in Exmouth, the largest town in Devon. The closure was proposed in July 2015 but a compromise was granted in the form of a retained hub within St John's Court after a meeting attended by 100 service users, supporters and Hugo Swire, MP, put pressure on Devon Trust Partnership to retain a mental health facility. Devon County Council's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee met on the 14th April and agreed to visit the facility.