

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ROLLE ROAD, EXMOUTH, EX8 1AB ON MONDAY 12TH JUNE 2017 AT 7.00 PM.

PRESENT: Councillors: B Cole (Chairman)
J Trail (Deputy Chairman)
B Bailey F Caygill
M Chapman T Dumper
P Garbutt S Gazzard
C Gough P Graham
J Humphreys R Masding
B Nash C Nicholas
R Scott P Stott
B Taylor B Toye
M Williamson

DCC Councillor Littleham and Budleigh Salterton Coastal, C Channon

OFFICERS: Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk & Sue Cody, minute taker.

GUEST: Tony Alexander, Principle of Exmouth Community College

GUEST SPEAKERS: Kevin Grady, Transformation Programme Manager, & Peter Leggatt, Head of Communications for DPT

The Mayor welcomed all present and gave a special speech to acknowledge the 15 years that Tony Alexander had given to Exmouth in his role of principal of Exmouth Community College. The college had been given outstanding status and raised the profile of education within the Town. A Town Council plaque was presented to Tony Alexander in gratitude for all his time spent in Exmouth; he would be sadly missed by his pupils and Exmouth Town Council. Tony Alexander was delighted to accept the plaque and thanked the Town Council for their support to the college and himself and in particular to the ECC Community Cadets. He also gave special thanks to the school Governors, in particular Jill Elson and Liz Lee and parents. The old Humanities block was to be replaced by a new £12-15 million block plus a new Maths block in 2018.

APOLOGIES: Councillors T Darville, B De Saram, L Elson, T Hill, D Nicholas & K Norton

The Chairman asked members for agenda item 10 to be brought forward after agenda item 7 and welcomed Kevin Grady, Transformation Programme Manager & Peter Leggatt, Head of Communications to the meeting in respect of that agenda item.

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

C17/081. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting held on 12th June 2017 were agreed and noted as a true record with the addition on page 141, paragraph 6, of two points. To note that Inspector Weeks did state that more important police issues prevented the policing of parked cars obstructing the back lanes in the Colony and that the Deputy Leader of DCC was Stuart Hughes who was the Cabinet member for Highways.

Proposed: Cllr. J Trail **Seconded:** Cllr. M Williamson

C17/082. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There was one matter arising from those minutes: the agenda item on Campervans would be referenced under agenda item 8, Local Action Group.

C17/083. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were 5 declarations of pecuniary interests or dispensations.

Item	Councillor	Declaration type		Reason
		Pecuniary	Personal	
C17/087	M Williamson		X	His wife had received treatment at St. Johns Court
	J Trail		X	His mother-in-law had alzheimers
C17/88	C Nicholas		X	Represented Cllr. J Elson at the WEB meeting
	P Stott & B Nash		X	Owned campervans

C17/084. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

C17/085. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was agreed that agenda item 14 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:

C17/086. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 10

There were no questions under Standing Order 10.

C17/087. DISCUSSION SESSION WITH KEVIN GRADY, TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME MANAGER & PETER LEGGATT, HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEVON PARTNERSHIP TRANSPORT (DPT) IN RESPECT OF THE PROPOSED SALE AT ST JOHNS COURT

Peter Leggatt gave an overview of the current situation and confirmed that the proposed sale of St Johns Court had been put on hold for 12 months as to date alternative premises had not been identified and all NHS buildings were currently being analysed as to their usage. Staff had been informed that day. The demand for mental health service provision was increasing locally and maintenance of front line services was paramount although St John's Court was only working at 50% capacity now that the bed provision had been relocated to Franklin Hospital, Exeter. Dot Taylor was thanked by members for her campaign against closure of mental health services in Exmouth. Expansion of mental health provision had been agreed within Exeter with a new Psychiatric Intense Care Unit to be built and the possibility of a mother and baby unit to go alongside. The DPT and DCC Social Care were in discussion about the current provision particularly bed blocking and models for service delivery were being addressed.

The Chairman thanked Kevin Grady and Peter Leggatt for their time and returned to the agenda.

C17/088. REPORTS AND MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES, OTHER LOCAL BODIES, THE TOWN CLERK / TOWN MANAGER as appropriate (Standing Order 6.2)

- **Planning Committee**

Councillor J Trail proposed, seconded by Councillor P Stott that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 22nd May, 5th & 19th June 2017 (as previously circulated) be received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 22nd May, 5th & 19th June 2017 be accepted and adopted.

- **Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk gave additional information to support the report which had been accepted. Members were asked to submit ideas for discussion in respect of the Parishes Together Fund. The Jurassic mural behind the Ocean building was complete and would be opened by the Mayor on 27th July. The Town Clerk would write to Graham Bell and Gillie Newcombe to thank them for their contribution. It was also reported that the mobile CCTV camera had been deployed in the Estuary-side carpark in response to recent vandalism of buses.

- **NPSG** - notes of meeting held on 9th May 2017 (previously circulated) were noted. The notes of the 22nd June had not yet been approved by NPSG. The 3rd Neighbourhood Plan newsletter had been produced and was to be distributed. The five chapters had been produced in draft format and thanks were given to those involved, Ian Cann, Roy Pryke, Keith Bungay and David Radford. A video was in the process of being made and would be shown at the next Full Council meeting on 7th August and there would be an open day at Ocean on the 17th September to promote the draft plan.

- **Local Action Group** – notes from meeting held on 7th June 2017 had been circulated by email prior to that meeting. Councillors B Nash and S Gazzard had attended the meeting. Feedback on the campervan issue was given and it was reported that EDDC had produced a leaflet to welcome campervan owners and to alert them about consideration to others along with other useful advice. The recently formed Campervan TAFF group was to meet on 14th July to look at a way forward with consideration given to relocation of campervans away from Queens Drive. Slow progress was being made with Speed Watch but volunteers would be trained in the near future. A cross party awareness session on Modern Day Slavery would be held at the Telfer Centre. It was noted that there had been an incident of slavery in the Town.
- **COLP** – notes from the meeting held on 5th June 2017 were noted.
- **Flooding and Land Drainage Party** – Blocked drains in the Town were currently being logged on street maps to assist with clearance. There was a problem with parked vehicles that hindered the drain clearing programme. The shifting of sand from Pole Sands to Dawlish Warren beach was ongoing but residents were still concerned that its removal would create flooding in Exmouth.
- **Web Community Health and Wellbeing Board** - had met on 12th July. The Budleigh Well-being hub would provide up to 70 different services. A bus service would be provided twice daily.
- **Devon County Councillors**
Councillor C Channon welcomed the opportunity to work alongside Town Council members and share information. Current issues were Plumb Park and Queens Drive developments, potholes, overhanging hedges on pavements, broken paving and campervan parking. She wished to thank Tony Alexander for his hard work.

Councillors J Trail and R Scott were in the process of identifying broken paving within Exmouth, identifying illegal parking within loading bays, alerting residents to over- hanging hedges and putting signs on vehicles parked on pavements. DCC funding restrictions meant that associated parking problems could not be dealt with at an adequate level.

- **Other points raised**
DCC Social Services had a shortage of carers for the provision of elderly care. There appeared to be a discrepancy in parking fees across East Devon. Car park revenue was invested in parking service provision. The CAB would put on a presentation for EDDC Scrutiny Committee next Thursday. Volunteers were needed in Exmouth CAB office.

C17/089. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF EAST DEVON - TO NOTE THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

As a result of the changes it was noted that Withycombe Ward councillors had been reduced from 3 to 2 making 14 district councillors for Exmouth in total.

C17/090. TO CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TOWN HALL WORKING PARTY IN RESPECT OF EDDC'S OFFER FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL TO RETURN TO EXMOUTH TOWN HALL UNDER NEW LEASE ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor M Williamson gave an overview of recent discussions held between councillors on the Town Hall Working Party and EDDC Officer, Richard Cohen, and follow up feedback in respect of the proposed Heads of Terms that would govern the Council's return to the Town Hall. Discussion followed on the pros and cons of whether to remain at 44 Rolle St or to return to the Town Hall. The Town Hall Working Party had voted to return to the Town Hall.

Councillor M Williamson proposed, seconded by Councillor B Nash, three motions for consideration:

1. That the Town Council accepts the recommendation of the Town Hall Relocation Working Party to move back to Exmouth Town Hall.
2. That the Town Clerk in consultation with the Mayor/Chairman of the Town Council be given delegated authority to resolve any outstanding matters identified by the Working Group.
3. That the Town Council establishes a Town Council Premises Working Group to explore future options for independent Town Council accommodation and that a Sinking Fund be created for this purpose.

With the addition of 'with the provision that a further meeting of the Town Hall Working Party to be convened if considered necessary and the notes distributed to all members.' at the end of motion 2.

On a vote on all 3 motions the motions were carried.

RESOLVED that the Town Council move back to the Town Hall, the Town Clerk be given the delegated authority to resolve any outstanding matters identified by the Town Hall Working Group with the provision that a further meeting of the Town Hall Working Party to be convened if considered necessary and the notes distributed to all members, and that the Town Council establishes a Town Council Premises Working Group to explore future options for independent Town Council accommodation and that a Sinking Fund be created for this purpose.

C17/093. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BRIAN COLE ON MONIES RAISED FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY (MAYOR'S CHARITY 2016/17).

A Cheque for £882.37p had been presented by the Mayor on behalf of the Mayor's charity for 2016/17 to the Alzheimer's Society.

C17/092. BUDGETARY CONTROL AND AUTHORITY TO SPEND

Authorisation was sought for the following payment(s):

01.06.17	DESIGN AGENCY HOST & MAINTENANCE OF WEBSITE	2,100.00
01.06.17	EDDC SALARY RECHARGE MAY 17	23,904.59
01.06.17	STRATTON CREBER RENT – ROLLE ST JUNE -SEPT	3,750.00
01.06.17	WIRED PROGRESS WEBSITE & VIDEO FESTIVAL	2,966.50
22.06.17	EXKAS SECURITY @ FESTIVAL	5,517.75
22.06.17	BOYCES @ MANSTREE SUMMER PLANTING – FLOWER TOWERS	5,638.00
22.06.17	BOYCES @ MANSTREE PLANTS – EXMOUTH IN BLOOM - SLA	2,667.95

Councillor M Williamson proposed, seconded by Councillor T Dumper that the expenditure listed above be approved.

RESOLVED that the above payments be approved.

PART B of the meeting.

C17/094. NOTES OF THE HR GROUP

The agenda item above was deferred until the next meeting.

C17/095. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on 7th August 2017 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting concluded at 9.38 pm.

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

Appendix

Mrs Dot Taylor read out the following statement

‘Good evening – I am pleased at long last to be able to address the Town Council Members and Representatives of the DPT.

Following on from the Town Council Meeting last year, when the Council Members unanimously voted to oppose the relocation of St John’s Court, and the sale of the building, the DPT were requested to attend a Town Council Meeting to justify the relocation and sale of St John’s Court.

The Campaign Group have recently been meeting with Kevin Grady, DPT and have received confirmation that the Rolle Deaf Academy, GP Surgeries and the Budleigh Health Hub are no longer being considered. We now need an assurance that Exmouth Hospital is also now not being considered.

The DPT need to take into consideration the stress and anxiety the uncertainty has, and is causing service users, carers and staff at St John’s Court.

As funding has been substantially reduced to Rethink they are no longer able to provide an adequate service, and are in jeopardy of closure. There are now only four staff members, and the gates are closed the majority of the time. There is no drop-in service, and service users can only be referred if they have a care co-ordinator. MIND in Honiton has closed permanently.

East Devon CA - Healthwatch asks the questions “how are the DPT, Exmouth Town Council and the EDDC Health Committee going to fill the gap in services to those mental health patients, who now have no line of support, or have to join the queue in the convoluted DPT referral system. A climate of uncertainty creates much psychological distress: not knowing what is available can be traumatising. What is the DPT doing to advertise where these patients go to get the same help and support given by Rethink?” Even the local GPs do not know that they can no longer refer patients!!

Question raised by Father Robert Sellers “how does the DPT expect to improve inclusion, bearing in mind that many with mental health problems, are both poor and marginalised, with a policy of increased centralisation, and assessment in fewer centres, making access more difficult, travelling more complex, time consuming and costly?”

Why has the Trust not kept a Satellite Assessment Hub for Exmouth, as they have elsewhere? Exmouth Town and surrounding area has the largest population in Devon.

Dr Keith Edwards states “It is vital that our current NHS healthcare facilities and buildings are retained, developed and expanded, as outlined in the East Devon Local Plan. 2013 -2031, and in the Draft Exmouth Neighbourhood Plan.

Ian Cann states: An NHS Trust Core Report was released on Friday 7th July. It stated.

1. That NHS Mental Health Services are now overwhelmed by rising demand.
2. Central Government additional monies are not getting through to frontline services.
3. The workforce to meet demand is not in place.
4. Does the DPT recognise these failings, and what are they doing about it?

I look forward to answers to these questions, and the re-assurance that Exmouth Hospital is no longer being considered. St John's Court is fit for purposed, has 50 trained staff and parking for over 40 vehicles. The DPT have invested tax payers' money in making St John's Court a vital Mental Health and Recovery Unit.'

Alderman David Scott had three items he wished to comment on.

St John's Court should not be closed as Mental Health difficulties within the population were rising and people should have the facility provided locally so that relatives and carers did not have to travel huge distances to visit.

He wished to report that the Town Council's Rolle St office provided a nice welcome to visitors and if they were to remain here could a member of the Police Force share the space so as to enable the public to have access to that service and costs could be shared.

He felt that the clock in the Magnolia Centre was a disgrace particularly as it was not working. EDDC Property Services had stated they had no budget to refurbish it.