

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, ST ANDREWS ROAD, EXMOUTH, ON MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2018 AT 7.15 PM.

PRESENT: Councillors: B Cole (Chairman)
J Trail (Vice Chairman)
B Bailey M Chapman
B De Saram T Dumper
L Elson R Masding
B Nash C Nicholas
P Stott

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

GUEST SPEAKER: Inspector Antonia Weeks, Devon & Cornwall Police.

APOLOGIES: Councillors F Caygill, T Darville, P Garbutt, S Gazzard, C Gough, T Hill, J Humphreys, D Nicholas, K Norton, R Scott, B Taylor, B Toye & M Williamson. Devon County Councillor C Channon.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and members were asked for agenda item 9 to be brought forward after agenda item 5.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting that wished to speak.

C18/001. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27th November 2017 were agreed and noted as a true record with the change under minute C17/149 Local Bodies from 'The Fairtrade Corporation' to 'The Fairtrade Foundation'.

C18/002. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters that arose from the minutes.

C18/003. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were 4 declarations of pecuniary interest or dispensation made at that part of the meeting.

Item	Councillor	Declaration type		Reason
		Pecuniary	Personal	
C18/007	Cllrs. M Chapman, Nicholas, B Cole & J Trail		X	Grant application They knew the Brixington Church rector and his wife.

C18/004. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the agenda that would be discussed in Part II of the meeting that involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Antonia Weeks to the meeting in respect of agenda item 9.

C18/005. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON LOCAL POLICING MATTERS FROM INSPECTOR ANTONIA WEEKS

Inspector Antonia Weeks gave an update on local policing in the Exmouth Area and responded to members questions. Items covered: -

- The problematic group of young people experienced in Exmouth before Christmas had been identified and appropriately dealt with, some awaiting court appearances, one has received a Criminal Behavior Order, some undergoing sanctions under the Youth Offending Team and others have moved away from Exmouth. It was expected that criminal activities from the group would be greatly curtailed.
- Social media had recently put local policing in a bad light. Exmouth Police Station was fully functional but not open to the public. The local Youth Prevention Officer, Simon Evans, was working closely with schools and Community College students, particularly those seen as at risk of offending.
- Crime statistics are now recorded more accurately.
- Vehicle vandalism and house burglary had reduced but shoplifting had slightly increased and was probably linked to drug/drink dependency. There was no limit to the value of goods where shoplifters were prosecuted as had been rumoured. Actively working with Open Door.
- There had been some drug seizures and anti-social evictions from premises. One eviction had resulted in an occupant taking residence in a tent on The Strand which had highlighted that the current PSPO on The Strand did not cover removal of a tent and the occupant.
- Exmouth had 28 response officers which included 3 Neighbourhood teams. There had been 7 new recruits, 2 Police Officers had retired and one transferred to CID. Across the area a PCSO had left Budleigh and one Ottery St Mary.
- Various degrees of response by Police Officers were put forward by members.

C18/006. 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 B Bailey that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 20th November & 4th December 2017 (as previously circulated) be received.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 20th November & 4th December 2017 be accepted and adopted.

- **Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk highlighted some of the items within her report.

- Junction of Salterton Rd and Liverton Business Park – correspondence had been received from Clinton Devon Estates which stated that no concerns had been raised by the Fire and Ambulance Service in respect of dangers at the junction which was a contradiction to the letter the Town Council had received from the services. Should Liverton Business Park wish to expand in the future Devon County Council's Highway team would probably insist on an audit of the junction as part of the planning application.
- A replacement Licensing Officer for EDDC would be recruited soon. No further details had been received as to the street licensing charging structure for use of The Strand for commercial and charity events. District councillors would pursue the issue.
- The new TIS website has now been migrated onto the Exmouth Guide domain and hits had increased significantly.

- **LAG**

The notes from the meeting held on 6th December 2017 were noted. Councillor Nash reported that shoplifting had risen by 42% and theft from sheds and barns had increased over the seasonal period. The PSPO system did not give the Police the power to remove tents and the tent dwellers from those areas in the Town covered by the order.

- **Flooding and Land Drainage**

The notes from the meeting held on 11th December 2017 were noted.

- **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

The notes of the meeting held on 12th December 2017 were noted. An Extraordinary Town Council meeting was to be held on 22nd January to consider the endorsement of the draft Neighbourhood Plan before it proceeds to the Pre-submission Consultation.

- **District Councillors' Reports**

- Universal Credit would be introduced in Exmouth in September 2018. East Devon had added 26 houses to their housing stock. EDDC had put aside £150,000 for renewal of equipment. The toilets at the bus station were to be redecorated.
- Broadband coverage had been increased in Exmouth Littleham Ward.

- **County Councillors update**

- Apologies from Councillors R Scott & C Channon
- 26 Traffic Orders would be signed off that week.
- The Exton to Exmouth footpaths had been cleaned up.
- The entrance to the Town was to be cleaned up, shrubs tidied up and wall repainted by the Local Arts Group.

C18/007. GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applicant	Description	Amount Requested	Decision
East Devon Support Grant (Parkinson UK)	Contribution towards costs of meetings, hall hire and administration	£500.00	Agreed.
Brixington Community Church	Parent Pop In	£559.00	Agreed.

RESOLVED that the grants be agreed as above.

C18/008. BUDGETARY CONTROL AND AUTHORITY TO SPEND

Authorisation was sought for the following payment(s):

27.10.17	Boyces of Manstree	£3,460	
04.12.17	Fantastic Fireworks	£3,600	New Year's Eve
04.12.17	Sound Events	£7,485	Christmas Lights
27.10.17	EDDC	£16,966.15	October Salary
16.12.17	EDDC	£16,732.44	November Salary

Councillor B Nash proposed, seconded by Councillor B Bailey that the expenditure listed above be approved.

RESOLVED that the above payments be approved.

C18/009. TO RATIFY THE 2018/19 BUDGET AND ASSOCIATED PRECEPT

The Town Clerk gave feedback from the informal budget meeting, presented the proposed budget and answered questions from Councillors. Based on the proposed budget, the precept for 2018/19 would need to be set at £747,843, which would equate to a Band D rate of £58.59p. This represented no increase to the Band D Rate compared to 2017/18. Approximately £73,000 would be allocated to reserves and a sinking fund would be formed to support the purchase of independent premises in the future. Councillor L Elson proposed, seconded by Councillor T Dumper, that the 2018/19 budget and the associated precept be ratified.

RESOLVED that the 2018/19 budget and the associated precept be ratified.

C18/010. TO CONSIDER AND AGREE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TOWN HALL WORKING PARTY REGARDING ASSET DISPOSALS

The notes of the Town Hall Working Party which met on the 4th January, 2018 had been previously distributed. Agreement was reached that certain items could be sent to auction whilst Twinning memorabilia would be looked at by members of the Twinning Association; the Exmouth ship plate be offered for loan to the local sea cadets and the Exmouth rowing boat model be offered to the RNLI. A number of certificates would be removed from their frames and mounted in a memory book. The Chairman and Vice Chairman's wooden chairs would be stored at the Blackmore Theatre. Councillor B Bailey proposed, seconded by Councillor Bruce De Saram that the identified assets be sold and the income received be put towards new premises for the Town Council.

Note: Councillor S Gazzard was present at the Town Hall Working Party meeting but had not been recorded as present on the attendees list.

C18/011. TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO REFURBISH THE COUNCIL'S FINGER POSTS

Members had before them a report dated 8th January, 2018 (previously distributed) which gave details of the need to refurbish the Town's fingerposts which were currently in various states of dis-repair. The estimated total cost was at a maximum £9,000 which could be covered out of the Town Management fund. There was also an application pending to Devon County Council's Community Enhancement Fund which would possibly support some of the cost. Councillor B Bailey proposed, seconded by Councillor J Trail, that the refurbishment of the Town's fingerpost should go ahead.

RESOLVED that funds up to the maximum of £9,000 be set aside for the refurbishment of the Town's fingerposts.

C18/012. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE WHETHER THE REGENERATION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE SHOULD BE REINSTATED AND IF SO, THE FREQUENCY, REMIT AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE MEETING.

Discussion took place amongst members as to whether the reinstatement of the Regeneration and General Purposes Committee should take place. A proposal was put forward that regeneration items be listed on the Full Council agenda every other meeting to commence from the new Mayoral year with the first items being listed on the June Full Council meeting. A review would be carried out after 12 months to assess whether the system was effective. Councillor T Dumper proposed, seconded by Councillor B Nash, that the proposal be trialled.

RESOLVED that regeneration items be listed on the Full Council agenda every other meeting to commence from the new Mayoral year 2018, with the first items being listed on the June Full Council meeting for an initial period of 12 months and then reviewed.

C18/013. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council would be held on 5th February 2018 at 7.15pm. at the Town Hall Council Chamber.

The meeting concluded at 8.45 pm.

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