

**Climate Change TAFF**  
**Notes of Meeting, Friday 28 November 2019, 1300**  
**Exmouth Town Council Meeting Room**

**Attendees**

TD	Tim Dumper	Councillor/Chair	Exmouth Town Council
BB	Brian Bailey	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
AC	Andrew Colman	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
FC	Frank Cullis	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
OD	Olly Davey	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
MR	Michael Rosser	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
SG	Steve Gazzard	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
DP	David Poor	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
NN	Nicky Nichols	Chair	Transition Exmouth
CC	Catherine Causley	Events Coordinator	Transition Exmouth
LB	Lisa Bowman	Town Clerk	Exmouth Town Council
JW	Jennifer Wellington	Note-taker	Exmouth Town Council

**Welcome and Apologies**

AT	Andrew Toye	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
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1. TD welcomed those present to the meeting and clarified apologies.

**Notes of the last meeting**

2. The notes of the last meeting were approved without comment.

**Matters arising**

3. No matters arising.

**To consider the submission from Transition Exmouth (TE)**

4. TE gave an update on their recent 'One Exmouth, One Planet' networking event held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 which was well attended. The ideas which were collated after the event formed the basis of the submission document, that was circulated with the agenda to members. The ideas from the event were also submitted to Devon County Council's (DCC) Devon Carbon Plan.

5. LB confirmed that point 7 and point 8 of the 12-point submission document were out of the jurisdiction of Exmouth Town Council (ETC) and therefore could not be incorporated into any recommendation to Full Council. It was suggested that for point 7, introduction of a 20mph speed limit, that members refer to Devon County Council's highway's team; however it was noted that there are strict criteria relating to the implementation of 20mph speed limits and zones

**Action: LB to circulate a copy of the government's report into the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits and zones.**

For point 8, creating a permaculture bed in Manor Gardens, it was noted that Manor Gardens is owned by EDDC and further suggested that TE contact Exmouth in Bloom as they work in collaboration with East Devon District Council (EDDC).

6. LB added that Ride On Exeter, who collect bikes, restore and resell them to encourage more people to cycle, had been in contact with ETC to establish if ETC could help with the scheme in Exmouth and this could be pursued further.

7. Additionally, progress with investigating the possibility of installing public water bottle filling stations in Exmouth has been slow. However, the Deputy Town Clerk of ETC has been in contact with Sidmouth Town Council who have installed similar stations for advice on how this was achieved.

8. ETC cannot sub-let the EDDC meeting rooms at the Town Hall so it was suggested that a recommendation to Full Council be submitted to allocate a budget to cover the cost of partnering events with TE and this could then cover the cost of external room hire costs.

Councillor Gazzard PROPOSED, Councillor Poor SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that the TAFF recommends that a budget of £2500 is allocated to Climate Change initiatives for delivery in partnership with TE.

9. The following points from the submission document were discussed in further detail:

- Point 1 – TE’s bid to the Lottery Climate Action Fund would be to complete a feasibility study. If successful, a Community Eco-Hub space would be pursued
- Point 2 – ETC use of pesticides and herbicides would form part of the recommended audit of Exmouth Town Council’s business practices.
- Point 7 – although not within ETC’s jurisdiction, DCC Highways Officer, Lee Cranmer, can be contacted through ETC’s Exmouth Transport Partnership Working Party receive updates on the potential for 20mph zones to be introduced in Exmouth.
- Point 3 –the creation of a dedicated environmental website will form part of the recommendation to Full Council; however further discussion will be necessary regarding the day to day management and editing of the site
- Point 6 – ETC had previously provided a grant via the Exmouth Community Fund to a local business who encourage pre-primary school children to get active by supplying balance bike riding lessons to develop motor skills. Members queried whether some of the District Council’s Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts could be used to increase the number of cycle paths in Exmouth and to improve the ones already in place. However, LB confirmed that spend priorities for this money has already been allocated by EDDC through their 123 List of infrastructure project priorities across the district and that there is a significant shortfall in terms of meeting the projected needs of the Local Plan.

**Action: LB to circulate the EDDC CIL report which details the District Council’s spending priorities**

#### **Demonstrating leadership through our own actions: Update on ETC audit**

10. LB has been in contact with an auditor who will be sending a quote to undertake an environmental audit of the ETC office and processes as well as Gorfin Hall. This quote will be included within the report for Full Council.

11. Additionally, LB had been in touch with CCLA Investment Management Limited to check the status of the Council's investments in terms of its ethical investment policy.

Members were informed that the company is rated by the UN Principles of Responsible Investment.

**Action: LB to circulate a copy of CCLA's approach to stewardship and ethics.**

12. No progress has yet been made on installing solar panels at Gorfin Hall. However, it was confirmed that the energy supplier contract will run for 3 years, after which ETC will investigate a more environmentally friendly supplier.

13. ETC has entered into a unilateral agreement with the operator of the Bystock solar park and has used accrued income to fund Wild Exmouth (EDDC) @£12,000 and another £5,000 has been allocated to the ETC Community Fund to which local organisations can apply for financial support. These projects meet the criteria that income must be used for community benefit but there is also scope to use the money for climate change mitigation projects in future.

#### **Update on networking events/contact with EDDC and DCC**

14. The ETC Deputy Town Clerk had attended the Devon Communities Resilience Forum which included information on Councils' response to emergencies such as flooding and risks associated with an increase in global temperatures.

15. SG updated members on a recent Community Resilience Volunteer meeting organised by ETC in relation to the approved ETC Community Resilience Plan. This meeting included an exercise of a potential emergency. Another meeting may be scheduled in the New Year.

16. OD updated members about a Carbon Footprint workshop he had attended which taught attendees how to calculate your carbon footprint using a formula. It was suggested that ETC try to calculate their own carbon footprint as a baseline is needed to measure any improvement. This may form part of the audit which is being recommended to Full Council.

17. TD explained how the County Officer for DALC had now secured a place on the DCC Carbon Response Group and that each DALC meeting features an update on steps taken to tackle climate change and advice for DALC members.

18. Members queried whether residents could be informed of ways to recycle their Christmas waste and were informed that EDDC had already created a bin hanger with information relating to wrapping paper, cards and Christmas trees.

#### **To consider a recommendation to form a Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party**

19. TD PROPOSED that a Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party should be formed, incorporating the existing Plastic Reduction Working Party when the current TAFF is dissolved.

MR SECONDED the proposal and it was RESOLVED that this should form part of the recommendation to Full Council.

### **Preparing for the report to Full Council – next steps**

20. It was agreed that LB will draft the Climate Change TAFF's recommendation report, which will be circulated to members for comment before going to Full Council for approval on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

21. The report will include the following:

- Details of the existing initiatives being pursued by the Town Council's various working parties;
- A recommendation that an external auditor is appointed to calculate the Town Council's carbon footprint and conduct a review of Exmouth Town Council's processes with a view to identifying improvements;
- The edited list of suggestions from TE's Our Exmouth, Our Planet meeting;
- The recommendation that Exmouth Town Council create a Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party, which will incorporate the current Plastic Reduction Working Party;
- A recommendation that Exmouth Town Council should allocate a budget of £2,500 to Climate Change initiatives which will be delivered via partnership with TE.
- Draft Terms of Reference for the new working party;
- A call for nominations to the new working party;

### **Other matters raised**

22. Members queried the process for creating a new working party and associated membership, including outside bodies. LB confirmed that the Terms of Reference for the new Working Party would need to be ratified by Full Council and if approved, could include reference to the fact that representatives from external organisations would be invited as voting members and that relevant experts i.e. from the University of Exeter could be invited on an ad-hoc basis. Councillor representatives would be nominated and approved by Full Council. The merging of the Plastic Reduction Working Party and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party would therefore need to be managed carefully in terms of ongoing initiatives by the former and Councillor representation.

23. LB confirmed that John Golding had not been able to attend this meeting but will be invited to a future meeting.

24. Councillor Bailey queried whether the Council would be reviewing its use of vehicles and LB confirmed that this would fall within the scope of an audit. LB also confirmed that EDDC had been trialing electric vehicles for their own fleet.

Meeting finished at 14.50.