

Exmouth Town Council

Community Organisation Liaison Panel (COLP)

Notes of the meeting held at 9.30am on Monday 24 th June 2019 in the Chamber, Town Hall

Present

Councillor David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Aurora Bailey	AB	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Frank Cullis	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Jennifer Wellington	JW	Exmouth Town Council
Nick Christo	NC	East Devon District Council (EDDC) Street Scene
Adrian Toole	AT	Transition Town Exmouth
David Radford	DR	Exmouth Civic Society
Ian Cann	IC	Exmouth Civic Society
Roy Pryke	RTP	Exmouth Community Association
Tony Siddall	TS	Churches Together

Apologies

Councillor Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Councillor
Councillor Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Councillor
Councillor Tim Dumper	TD	Exmouth Town Councillor
Geoff Skinner	GS	Exmouth Community Association
Noel Harrower	NH	Transition Exmouth
Revd. James Hutchings	JH	Churches Together

1. Election of Chairperson

CJ welcomed members to the meeting and asked for nominations for Chair. DP was nominated by FC and seconded by AB. No further nominations were received. Members were asked to vote, and DP was duly elected as Chair.

2. Welcome and apologies

DP welcomed members as the newly elected Chair and asked for any apologies. He also passed on his thanks to Revd. JH for all his work in Exmouth and to wish him well in his new role.

AT also wished to thank members for the condolence card sent to him.

3. Notes

TS proposed, seconded by RTP that the notes of the meeting held on the 18th March 2019 were approved.

4. Terms of Reference (ToR)

The ToR had been previously circulated, and members were asked to note the newly adopted ToR for COLP. AT asked whether the revisions suggested previously had been included within these new ToR to which CJ explained that it that version that was slightly tweaked to conform to the template used for all Town Council Working Party Terms of References. All ToRs, including COLP's, were approved at the Full Council meeting in May 2019. Members felt that they wanted more time to look at the ToR and to have the opportunity to comment on them.

Action: Members to bring any comments regarding the ToR to next month's meeting for discussion.

Action: DP to invite other community organisations to COLP to make the Working Party more representative of those living and working in Exmouth to be discussed at the next meeting.

5. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

6. Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Strategy Update

CJ provided an update of plans for the Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Strategy, which included setting up a Monitoring Party and the production of an annual progress report. IC raised a concern that the Monitoring Party may only include Councillors and not members of the community who were heavily involved in the production of the Neighbourhood Plan. He felt they were best placed to monitor the Plan's progress.

AB explained that some Councillors had been involved with the Neighbourhood Plan from the beginning.

Action: To review the Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Strategy when available and provide comments to the Town Council accordingly.

The Neighbourhood Plan will continue to be a regular agenda item for COLP.

AT raised a further concern that there have been rumours that ideas and projects within the Neighbourhood Plan that relied on the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money would not receive this income and therefore would not be able to go ahead. CJ confirmed that funds were limited and not all projects may be fulfilled. However, the Town Council had agreed that projects as highlighted in the Neighbourhood Plan had been brought to EDDC's attention.

Action: CJ to email members the resolution from the Town Council meeting which agreed to use the Neighbourhood Plan when spending Section 106 and CIL money.

7. Street Scene Update

NC provided an update:

- The summer flower bedding around the town has been planted, with some of the flowerbeds yet to be sponsored. Seasonal staff that were recruited previously had been retained which made for more efficient working around the town.
- South West in Bloom judging will take place on the 15th July 2019, with Exmouth in Bloom hoping to enter the National Competition in 2020.
- The Blue Flag awarded to Exmouth Seafront is now flying.
- Several events have taken place recently in the town including Exmouth Festival and Pride, with Street Scene Operatives working hard to clean-up afterwards. The weekend of the 29th June is set to be busy with three events taking place.
- The Tidal Defence Works along the sea wall have started, however the work around Imperial Road were slightly delayed. The sea wall works are set to be completed by the end of the summer holidays (August 2019).
DP added that the Environment Agency (EA) were holding a public drop-in session at Exmouth Town Hall regarding the Flood Defence Works.

- The Robo-mower trial that is taking place in Manor Gardens appears to be working well, giving Street Scene Operatives more time to do other work. Additional work that has been taken on, in conjunction with Exmouth Town Council, are weeding and cutting of verges of the highway which Devon County Council no longer provide.
- A few incidents with travellers have been dealt with quickly and the travellers have moved out of the district.
- EDDC Housing have been working closely with those who are homeless, including rough sleepers and those living in caravans.
- The Big Belly Bins along the seafront are set to be replaced with 240L bins. As the Big Belly Bins are still under lease for another year, they will be moved to other locations.
Issues were raised as to the location of these new bins and if they are fire resistant due to the public putting in hot BBQs.
NC confirmed that he would investigate the locations prevent pinch-points between pedestrians and cyclists. He also confirmed that, although the bins were not fire-resistant, the bin itself would melt if it caught on fire but it should be contained within the bin housing. Therefore, only the bin would need to be replaced, not the whole unit.
- In a recent waste audit by the Town Council it was found that the recycling quality within the public recycling bins in Exmouth was poor, so work needed to be done to educate the public on how best to recycle.
- Street Scene have been working with Clean Streets Exmouth to help communities get involved in cleaning the public areas in the vicinity of the streets where they live. NC explained that if any community groups wanted to get involved with any street cleans to contact Street Scene.
Further to this, issues were raised regarding beach cleans; how they can be sporadic and that litter was under the sand, rather than on top of it. It was suggested that when the beach was combed by EDDC, litter was being buried. Perhaps a litter pick could be organised prior to a beach comb. NC was unsure that this was the case but said he would pass this on to his team. Opportunities for training for beach cleans may also be beneficial.
Action: AT to send NC and CJ contact information for an organisation in Cornwall who offer beach cleaning training for consideration.
- Wreaths displayed on the War Memorial are removed to each year after the last May Bank Holiday to replant the flower beds. However, this year the wreaths were removed by Street Scene without the Royal British Legion (RBL) being made aware which caused confusion.
The wreaths are being stored by Street Scene for the RBL to collect.
Action: NC to check that the contact information he has for the RBL is correct to ensure that are contacted on wreath removals in future.

- IC asked NC for clarification on whether the area between low and high tide was covered under the Beach PSPO.

Action: NC to contact EDDC's Legal Team and confirm via CJ.

8. Agenda items requested by members

Bins on Tower Street and Bath Road

Concerns were raised regarding bins that are left at the top of Tower Street and along Bath Road. It was felt that, as this is a public pathway, the bins should not obstruct the path.

Action: COLP members were advised to report this to DCC Highways.

Access across the Imperial Recreation Ground for flood defence purposes

DR had spoken with Kier and received a letter from the EA stating that the walkway from Camperdown Terrace to the Imperial Recreation Ground would be closed to vehicles as well as reduced access to the slipway as work is scheduled to take place in this area.

Action: DR to email his concerns to Kier and attend the public drop-in session for the Flood Defence Works on the 28th June to clarify any queries regarding these closures.

Beacon and Gunfield Gardens

It was confirmed by NC that only what is currently there will be maintained, with no additional planting due to be carried out at the Beacon and Gunfield Gardens.

NC added that wild flower patches were trailed opposite Ocean and some beds by the London Inn carpark had been sown with wild flower seeds which are maintained in the winter months.

Other more environmentally-friendly gardening approaches have been adopted including letting grass grow longer underneath trees, less cutting back of trees and planting more permanent plants in some flower beds.

AOB

VE Day event, 8th May 2020

TS explained that the RBL are hoping to organise an event to celebrate VE Day on the 8th May 2020. He asked whether a community event could be arranged, for example a tea dance, tea party/street party.

Home Office Forced Marriage Campaign

Information on the Home Office Forced Marriage Campaign was attached to the agenda to be circulated to COLP member's organisations.

Devon Air Ambulance night landing sites

Devon Air Ambulance were seeking suitable sites for the Devon Air Ambulance to land at night. Currently Exmouth has one site on the grounds of Exmouth Football Club.

9. Dates of future meetings (Chamber Room at 9.30am unless otherwise stated):

22nd July

19th August

30th September

28th October

25th November

The meeting finished at 11.23am.

Outstanding Street Scene actions:

- **Action:** SK to chase PB regarding the litter picking boards as requested by PS.
- **Action:** SK to investigate options for wooden barriers at the Imperial Recreation Ground.