

## Exmouth Town Council

### Waterfront Working Party

Notes of the meeting of the Waterfront Working Party held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 at 10am in the Chamber.

#### Present:

Councillor Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Fred Caygill	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
David Radford	DR	Exmouth Sea Scouts
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council Officer
Jennifer Wellington	JW	Exmouth Town Council Note Taker

#### Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Tim Dumper	TD	Exmouth Town Council
Nick Christo	NC	Street Scene Area Manager, EDDC

#### 1. Election of new Chair

SG nominated PS to stand as Chair, which was seconded by DP. There were no other nominations and PS accepted the proposal. Members were asked to vote and it was agreed unanimously that PS be the Chairperson of this working party.

#### 2. Welcome and apologies

PS welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted.

#### 3. Notes from the November meeting and Walkabout Inspection meeting in March

The notes of the previous meeting in November 2018 were approved. Outstanding actions from the Walkabout Inspection meeting in March 2019 were discussed in agenda item 5.

#### 4. Terms of Reference (ToR)

Members noted the ToR of the Waterfront Working Party, as previously agreed at the last Annual Council Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

#### 5. Actions arising from the Walkabout Inspection meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

PS worked through the outstanding actions from the Walkabout Inspection meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019:

- Beach Signs – It was confirmed that some of the signs had been installed but FC raised the issue that the signage stating which areas of the beach allowed dogs needed to be more visible.

**Action: PB/NC to make signage more visible.**

Additionally, the ongoing issue of enforcement of dogs on the beach was also discussed. It was felt there was a lack of enforcement from East Devon District Council (EDDC) and the Street Scene operatives when dogs were on the beach when they shouldn't be or on the wrong part of the beach.

**Action: CJ to go back to EDDC Environmental Health to ask about any training that could be provided to the Streetscene operatives with regards to enforcement of dogs on beaches. This would allow them to inform members of**

**the public if necessary when working around the seafront area. A suggestion that leaflets be handed out with information regarding the rules of dogs on beaches.**

- Red flag and flagpole – Although the red flag/flagpole on Mamhead Slipway had been repaired, both SG and FC stated that they hadn't seen a red flag by Harbour View Café.

**Action: PB to action.**

- Beach Shelters – As the beach shelters are an asset to the seafront, it was felt that these needed to be regularly maintained. However, NC had confirmed by email that there was no budget for the shelters, although they are cleaned when time permitted and more frequently due to homeless people sleeping in them. Members of the Working Party considered this “as-and-when” approach not acceptable and wanted more to be done to maintain these structures. PS suggested that some of the money from the Pavilion car park be invested into the maintenance of these shelters.

**Action: The Waterfront Working Party proposes that ETC contact EDDC regarding the refurbishment, and continuing maintenance, of the beach shelters and suggest that the Pavilion car park income be used to help cover this cost.**

- Bins – All of the Big Belly Bins along the seafront are due to be replaced with 240 litre bins once a new waste collection vehicle has been acquired to empty these new bins. NC advised that all the bins would be replaced during the Summer, however members felt that this was too vague and requested a more detailed response.

**Action: CJ to ask NC for a more specific timescale for when the bins will be replaced.**

FC asked if members knew if the businesses along the seafront provided their own bins for their commercial waste.

**Action: Members didn't know so FC to have a look when he is walking along the seafront again and report back to the Working Party.**

- Gunfield Gardens – EDDC Street Scene had worked through the maintenance cycle and will continue to monitor this area. However, it was unknown if the issues raised during the Walkabout Inspection had been actioned. As these issues raised, including a hole in a chain-link fence and unsecure bench, are health and safety related it is of the upmost importance for these issues to be actioned.

**Action: CJ to ask NC if these issues have been actioned or to re-raise the concerns.**

- Electrical wiring fault on the old-fashioned lamppost – It was unclear at the meeting whether the electrical wiring fault on the old-fashioned lamppost had been fixed.

**Action: CJ to contact Councillor Jeff Trail for an update on this issue.**

- Lights and shrubbery behind the Pavilion – It was unclear at the meeting whether the lights behind the Pavilion had been fixed and the shrubbery cut-back.

**Action: CJ to chase NC for an update on this issue.**

## **6. Update on the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme**

Work had begun on the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme however concerns were raised that the contractors had taken up a lot more of the lorry car park than was expected. A knock-on effect of this is that lorries are using other parking spaces, for example along the seafront, to park if the allocated car park nearer the Estuary is full.

As there are a lot of work taking place at the same time, for example the Tidal Defence Scheme and Queen's Drive, FC was concerned that the public may consider this bad planning as both schemes had an impact of public car parking. The Exmouth Festival is due

to take place from the 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and the reduced car parking around the Imperial Recreation Ground may also cause issues.

The Chairperson suggested that FC raises these issues regarding EDDC car parks directly with EDDC Car park Department.

### **7. Update on the Jubilee Clock Tower**

Recent problems with the Jubilee Clock Tower not working have been fixed. However, during this work other more serious issues have been identified:

- Water is leaking in through the roof, causing problems to the clock mechanism and inside wooden structures
- There are gaps around the glass clockface and the Tower itself

It was suggested by the contractor who fixed the clock that the clockface be replaced with a Perspex one. This would allow for a closer seal around the edge.

EDDC conducted a survey of the Clock Tower before ETC took over ownership of it and it was felt by members that the survey would need to be looked at again.

**Action: CJ to look for the EDDC survey.**

**Action: SG proposed that the Waterfront Working Party recommend to ETC that the urgent work is given priority by starting with a more thorough survey to identify all the problems.**

### **8. Update on the Festoon Lights**

CJ updated members that ETC were asked to remove the Festoon Lights from the Mamhead Slipway to the Octagon by Kier as part of the Tidal Defence works. Parking bays along this stretch of road have also been suspended. However, work doesn't seem to have started, and may not start until later in the year or early 2020, so members felt that the lights should be reinstalled. The cost of removal of the lights have been forwarded to the Environment Agency (EA) to reimburse the Town Council.

**Action: CJ to contact the EA to find out the timescale of the work.**

### **9. Update on the Flagpoles**

CJ updated members that there have been a few issues with the flagpoles by the Clock Tower, mainly with a finial falling from the top of a flagpole and shattering on the ground. When carrying out the maintenance work in June, the service provider has suggested that the rest of the finials will be glued to stop them from unscrewing in the wind.

The flags on the flagpoles by the Clock Tower will be organised by Councillor Jeff Trail, with the other flags around the town organised by ETC.

Recently, Exmouth was awarded a Blue Flag award for the seafront. FC asked whether there will be a raising of the flag with an information sign about it nearby and if there will be more than one flag seeing as Exmouth seafront is around two miles long.

**Action: CJ to ask NC about this and whether the flag could be erected on the flagpole opposite the Pavilion.**

### **10. AOB**

- Meeting with EDDC at their Camperdown Terrace Depot – It was agreed that many of the issues raised within this meeting, and outstanding from the previous Inspection meeting, had not been addressed due to no representatives of EDDC unable to attend. SG suggested that a meeting be arranged at the EDDC Street Scene Camperdown Terrace Depot in between this meeting and the next Waterfront Working Party meeting scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> July.

**Action: CJ to arrange a date for this meeting and invite a representative from**

**the EA and Devon County Council (DCC), if possible. All actions to NC to be raised at this meeting.**

- Tidal Defence Scheme Newsletter – The latest newsletter will be circulated to members.
- Bent signpost – There is a bent signpost opposite Aby's that needs removing.  
**Action: CJ to make DCC Highways aware.**

**11. Dates of next meeting**

9<sup>th</sup> July – Walkabout Inspection

22<sup>nd</sup> October

Meeting finished at 11.20am