

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Exmouth Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, St Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 13 June 2022 at 6:30pm

Present:

Councillors:

S Gazzard (Chairman)
A Sadiq (Deputy Chairman)

A Bailey	B Bailey
J Whibley	A Toye
T Dumper	A Whipps
F Cullis	O Davey
B De Saram	C Nicholas
P Stott	M Chapman
F Caygill	E Beech
M Rosser	

Officers: Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk

In attendance: County Councillors Richard Scott and Christine Channon.

Apologies:

Apologies were accepted from Councillors A Colman, L Elson, D Poor, B Toye, J Whipps, A Boatright, I Kirvan, T Woodward.

The Chairman then welcomed all to the meeting and proposed that the order of the agenda be changed to allow the higher priority recommendations and motions to be debated first. This was seconded by Alex Sadiq and unanimously agreed by all.

Public Forum: There was one member of the public in attendance who had registered to speak in favour of Councillor Rosser's motion about the sewage convoys. He stated that it was imperative that South West Water cease the importation of sewage to the Maer Lane treatment works and that the sewage plant is upgraded in order to address the related detrimental impacts on the Town.

C22/036. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Pauline Stott proposed, seconded by Councillor Tm Dumper, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 16 May January 2022 be approved.

The minutes of the meeting (previously circulated) were received and signed as a correct record.

C22/037. Matters arising from the Council meeting minutes (for information only)

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

C22/038. To receive any declarations of interest from Members and agree dispensations.

There were no declarations of interest.

C22/039. To resolve that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of item(s) in Part II of the agenda as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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.

C22/040 Recommendation by S106 & CIL Working Party

The notes of the meeting held on 31st May 2022 were brought forward to allow two recommendations from the working party to be debated.

A discussion ensued regarding the request by East Devon District Council for a contribution towards the cost of flood lights in Phear Park with various members expressing a preference for funds to be spent on higher priority projects.

Councillor Pauline Stott subsequently proposed, seconded by Councillor Mike Rosser and it was agreed (via a recorded vote - requested by Councillor Maddy Chapman and seconded by Councillor Bruce De Saram) that the Town Council agrees to contribute £20,000 from its accrued CIL funds towards the cost of Phear Park flood lights. The funding is conditional on there being no ongoing liability on the part of the Town Council for maintenance of running costs.

RESOLVED that the Town Council agrees to contribute £20,000 from its accrued CIL funds towards the cost of Phear Park flood lights. The funding is conditional on there being no ongoing liability on the part of the Town Council for maintenance or running costs)

A second recommendation had been tabled by the Working Party that the Council agrees to contribute £400,000 from the Town Council's accrued CIL funds as match funding for the County Council's Levelling Up Round Two bid. This was pursuant to a presentation on 30 May 2022 by Hannah Clark, Transport Planning Team Leader Planning, Transportation and Environment at Devon County Council, attended by County Councillor Richard Scott. Councillor Mike Rosser had subsequently put forward an amendment to make the funding conditional on the implementation of a strategy to mitigate the impact of the Dinan Way extension on the Littleham housing estate. This was seconded by Councillor Fred Caygill. Members debated the amendment and other matters relating to the request from the County Council in the context of further input from County Councillor Scott and amendments were then verbally agreed by Councillor Rosser, put to the vote and carried. The substantive motion was subsequently proposed by Councillor Alex Sadiq, seconded by Councillor Tim Dumper and it was

RESOLVED that the Council agrees to contribute £400,000 from the Town Council's accrued CIL funds as match funding for the County Council's Levelling Up Round Two bid. The Council is concerned that increasing traffic using Dinan Way may result in the creation of a rat run through the narrow residential streets of the Littleham housing estate by traffic heading to Sandy Bay and that this will create a risk to children and pedestrians living in the area. As such, Exmouth Town Council asks Devon County Council to implement a strategy to ensure that this will not happen.

C22/041. Motion from Councillor Mike Rosser

Councillor Mike Rosser had tabled a motion relating to sewage convoys and pollution in Exmouth. The motion was debated at length and various amendments were proposed with the outcome that a substantive motion was subsequently proposed by Councillor Mike Rosser, seconded by Councillor Olly Davey and it was **RESOLVED** that

ETC thanks the "End Sewage Convoys and Pollution in Exmouth" group for their research and their documents – see attached - evidencing:

- 1) Increase of sewage discharges at Maer Rocks.**
- 2) That sewage is discharged not just when there has been heavy rainfall**
- 3) That convoys of lorries have been importing sewage into Exmouth.**
- 4) That on occasions sewage has overflowed from the SWW storage tank onto the Maer Nature reserve.**

ETC is extremely concerned about the increasing amount of sewage being imported into Exmouth by lorry, the consequential damage to roads and the resulting carbon footprint.

ETC is also extremely concerned about the quantity of sewage being discharged at Maer Rocks, which is adjacent to bathing areas of the beach.

ETC will write to the CEO of SWW and invite her to address the next Council meeting to explain what SWW are doing to address these concerns. If she is unable to attend. ETC will ask her for a statement of what specific action is being taken by SWW with time scales to address these issues.

A priority for ETC is the safety of all beach users (throughout the year – not just within the bathing season) and as such the need for them to be informed when sewage is being discharged near to the beach. ETC considers that current systems for alerting beach users are inadequate. ETC will ask EDDC to urgently put into place a year-round system to alert all users when sewage is discharged – e.g. brown flags/ red lights with accompanying notice boards

ETC is also concerned that new housing development will increase the quantity of sewage and will ask SWW if measures are in place to meet this need. If this is not the case, ETC will ask EDDC to carefully consider development in light of the sewage capacity.

ETC will write to the appropriate regulatory bodies including OFWAT to highlight the issues.

ETC will issue a press and media statement explaining what it will do regarding these concerns.

C22/042 To review and adopt the Annual Accounts for 2021/2022

It was proposed by Councillor Pauline Stott, seconded by Councillor Maddy Chapman and Members subsequently approved the following accounts, details of which had been circulated prior to the meeting:

- Income and Expenditure Accounts for year ending March 31st 2022
- Balance Sheet for year ending March 31st 2022
- Earmarked Reserves as at March 31st 2022
- Asset Register as at March 31st 2022

C22/043 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022

Members considered the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, as follows:

I. To review and receive the Annual Internal Audit Report

Councillor M Chapman proposed, seconded by Councillor Pauline Stott, and it was RESOLVED that the Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/2021 be accepted.

II. To consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement

Councillor M Chapman proposed, seconded by Councillor P Stott, and it was RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement 2020/2021 be approved.

III. To consider and approve the Annual Accounting Statements

Councillor M Chapman proposed, seconded by Councillor P Stott, and it was RESOLVED that the Annual Accounting Statements 2020/2021 be approved.

C22/044. To receive and consider reports and minutes of committees, Working Parties, other local bodies and the Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk, District and County Councillors as appropriate.

Councillor Pauline Stott then proposed, seconded by Councillor Joe Whibley and it was agreed that the remaining notes be accepted en bloc:

Planning Committee: the notes and minutes of meetings held on 28th March, 11th April, 25th April, 9th May & 23rd May 2022

Town Clerk's Report

Deputy Clerk's Report

Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party: notes of the meeting held on 12th April 2022.

Community Organisations Liaison Panel: notes of the meetings held on 25th April & 30th May 2022.

Festival and Events Working Party: notes of the meetings held on 7th April & 20th May 2022.

Flooding and Land Drainage: notes of the meeting held on 10th May 2022.

Town Maintenance Overview Working Party: notes of the meetings held on 14th April & 12th May 2022.

Town Premises Working Party: notes of the meeting held on 9th May 2022.

Waterfront Working Party: notes of the meeting held on 5th April 2022.

Reports from members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies

- **Exmouth Queens Drive Delivery Group:** notes of the meeting held on 3rd May 2022.
- **WEB Health and Well-being Board:** notes of the meeting held on 5th May 2022.
- **Exmouth Twinning Association:** report from Councillor Tim Dumper appended.
- **DALC Larger Councils Committee:** notes of the meeting held 11th May 2022.
- **Fairtrade:** report from Councillor Tim Dumper appended.
- **Councillor David Poor:** report appended.

- **District Councillors' Reports:** reports from Councillor Olly Davey and Councillor Joe Whibley were noted and are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

- **County Councillors' Report**

Councillor Christine Channon gave a verbal update on a number of County Council issues including work by the Children's Scrutiny Committee, traffic calming measures being proposed and implemented outside the Deaf Academy, the proposal for a speed / ANPR camera for Carlton Hill, and an update on measures being taken to address vehicles being traded on Salterton Road as well as forthcoming traffic orders pertaining to Exmouth.

Councillor Channon welcomed the support of the Town Council in respect of motion relating to sewage issues in the Town and thanked the Town Council for its consideration of the matter.

Councillors Alex Sadiq and Frank Cullis left the meeting at 9pm.

C22/045. To approve a recommendation from the HR Group that the Council adopts an enhanced TOIL (time off in lieu) policy.

Councillor Tim Dumper proposed, Councillor Joe Whibley seconded and it was **RESOLVED** that staff who are required to work on Saturdays, Sundays, and Bank Holidays in support of Town Council events receive enhanced TOIL. TOIL will be granted at a rate of one and a half hours for every hour worked on Saturday. For hours worked on a Sunday or Bank Holiday, TOIL at a rate of two hours for every hour worked will be granted.

C22/046. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday 11 July at 6:30pm.

The meeting concluded at 9.10 pm.

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

Appendix – Exmouth Town & District Councillors' Reports

Exmouth Town Councillor David Poor

Allotments Committee

The Allotment Association held its AGM in April, it was the first face to face meeting since the first lockdown. At present the committee continues to meet via zoom. I was unable to make the meeting because of the effects of Covid, but the Committee felt it went well. Award Certificates for well-kept plots and achievements were presented by site coordinators. These were well received and a thank you email, and certificate will go to artist /designer who gave the Association free use of her work. overall, the finances of the Association remain healthy and as I have said before I think the Association is well run and is something this Council can be very proud of. The Committee has agreed to co-opt an additional member who will start attending meetings in June. The Committee has also agreed to look again at making minor changes to its rules and will distribute these to this Council for it to agree. In May the Details Jesse Collings Community Room which was part of the Shed on Hamilton Lane was opened by Mike Hawkins, a long-term member and previous committee member, who gave a talk about the history of the site and the value of Allotment gardening. It will be used for a variety of activities such as courses, small meetings and presentations of interest to allotment holders.

WEB Community and Health and Well Being Board

Minutes of the May meeting have been distributed and I am more than happy to answer any specific questions.

The minutes show this Board has expanded its co-ordinating role across the NHS, and Primary Care services. There is now a particular focus on the Mental Health and wellbeing of young people, there will be another Fayre organised to which local schools will be invited and there is now a specific multi agency group set up to look at this issue. In addition, the Board now includes two pupils from ECC.

Littleham Health and Well Being Fayre

This was held at the Littleham Leisure Centre on the afternoon of the 25th of May. It was organised by Active Devon and Seachange (based at the Budleigh Hub). There were many groups present such as the Mens Shed, Devon Carers, Age UK, Healthscape and the Mental Health and Well Being team from the local GP surgeries. It was well attended with a number of activities for children and walking rugby for those of us who are a bit older. I hope that it could act as a catalyst for a multi-agency group to look at the specific problems for the Littleham Estate.

David Poor

Exmouth Town Councillor Tim Dumper

DALC County Committee

Attended a rather sparsely attended County Committee this morning. Positive news on membership - this year's campaign to fill Committee vacancies has been successful, although it doesn't so far seem to have resulted in higher attendance figures!

Several Task and Finish and Policy Groups operating, Housing, Social Care, Economy, Climate, Rural Roads (note that Summer Lane is a road in Exmouth which has an active campaign to make it quieter, in addition to the Dinan Way extension proposal). Please feed anything into me that you think might have a wider than Exmouth application for any of these topics.

Hybrid Conference due in October.

Exmouth Twinning Association

We are preparing for visit to Dinan travelling this Friday 17th. This is the 50th anniversary of the link with Dinan in Brittany!

We are hosting a party from Langerwehe for 6 days from July 13th.

On behalf of ETA, I would like to thank Exmouth Town Council for its ongoing financial and other support for these events which are partly civic in nature.

Exmouth Fairtrade

The steering group are preparing for running a stall at the Organ Donation fair in July. We are also putting together the bid for renewal of Exmouth's Fairtrade Town status.

Tim Dumper

Exmouth District Councillor Olly Davey

Since our last meeting in April, these are updates on the EDDC committees I sit on. Strategic Planning: The £400K CIL allocation for the Levelling Up fund Exmouth bid was removed at one meeting, and reinstated at the next, when it became clear that DCC

intended to submit a bid for Round 2. There was an interesting discussion around this, with at least two councillors sounding greener than myself in opposing further road building and suggesting that the Dinan Way extension would simply move congestion to a different point. As we are discussing our contribution this evening, I shall say no more.

We also had a useful digest of the proposed changes to planning and their implications. The proposed "zoning" idea for areas of permitted development has now been quietly dropped, and as this has still to go through Parliament, there may be further amendments.

We also had a very useful and detailed review of employment land in E Devon.

Planning: The permanent use of Queen's Drive space for its current uses of entertainment, leisure, and recreation were agreed. A proposal to develop the Red Cross hall in South St was deferred for further negotiation over the size of the proposed building and some concerns over parking and has now been approved by an officer.

Queens Drive Delivery Group: This met on 3rd May. Leases for pitches have all been agreed, but there have been a few delays in other areas. We continue to press

for cycle parking, which is inadequate along most of the seafront. The Service Lead has promised to investigate providing this. The Group will now be renamed to reflect a slightly changed remit covering more of the general development of the town, though the primary concern will continue to be the seafront, where, as you will know, the new officer is keen to proceed as quickly as possible with consultation to determine what kind of seafront we want and how it should develop.

Outside Bodies:

Allotment Committee: Routine management and improvement of the allotment site continues to take place. Security is still a concern, and holders are being urged not to leave gates open when leaving unless there are others still on site.

Olly Davey

Exmouth District Councillor - Joseph Whibley

Since the last meeting I have attended the District Council Scrutiny Meeting, where a few issues pertinent to the Town Council were discussed.

Public speaking focussed on the John Humphrey investigation at EDDC, and the reasons why it has not yet begun. The chief executive assured the committee that the complexity of the situation meant that he would not be able to present the report until the July cabinet, when further direction will be given. I am keen that all parties, the police, all councils, and any other interest groups are fully involved so as not to repeat any mistakes of the past, but we must, at this point, wait and see. We also discussed the petition system at EDDC and are going to look at more streamlined but legally watertight ways of ensuring these are both accessible to the public but also fair and representative of the population of East Devon.

There have been a couple of Licensing subcommittee meetings, one of which was called after the application for street trading at Pride was deemed to require more scrutiny following some negative comments by a district council colleague. I was not involved with the hearing, as I am both a member of the LGBTQ community and a performer on the day (12pm on the dot... 🥰 ... Be there or be ..er.. somewhere else...), but I was disappointed that such unsubstantiated comments were made in the first place.

I have also undergone Code of Conduct training where we were reminded of our duties with regards to social media, and the new declarations system was outlined.

Aside from that, I have undertaken some casework within the ward, and continue to field questions from Exmouth residents in general, trying to direct them to their ward members. Perhaps a nudge to some of the less visible and accessible district colleagues around the town would be in order - I feel like a secretary sometimes. That also goes for county colleagues with regards to residents parking too.

Joe