

# **EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**

## **Town Maintenance Overview Working Party**

Notes of the meeting held at 10am on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October via Zoom.

### **Present**

Councillor Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Tony Woodward	TW	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Frank Cullis	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council (Acting Chair)
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council

### **Apologies**

Councillor Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

In IK's absence TW proposed, seconded by FC, and was agreed that OD stand in as acting Chair.

OD welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

### **2. To approve the notes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

The notes of the previous meeting were proposed for approval by FC, seconded by TW, and agreed by all.

IK joined the meeting and OD handed over chair to IK.

### **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. To receive an update on the graffiti within Exmouth**

A discussion was had about the graffiti and tags at various locations around Exmouth. CJ updated members that the recently repaired and repainted beach huts were also graffitied. IK reported that the toilets at the railway station has the same red graffiti on, he has reported this to EDDC and received an acknowledgement.

### **5. To consider winter work proposal for one seasonal worker, two days a week as part of the EDDC grass cutting contract**

CJ updated members that she had received correspondence from EDDC Streetscene Operations Manager, Tom Wood, asking what we would like them to do

for our Winter work. This was discussed and the following work was identified as needing to be completed.

- Weeding and cleaning of traffic islands in Exmouth
- Road sweeper and weed removal on main roads such as Jubilee Drive, Bradham Lane and Withycombe Lane.
- Another grass cut as no grass cut since August
- Colony area to be considered again as a joint venture with DCC's help as it was important road were closed whilst weed and drain clearing took place.

CJ also updated members that Debbie Carder's replacement is Peter Crofts. Tom Wood informed CJ that the team is now fully resourced.

**ACTION: CJ to liaise with TW for EDDC winter work and ask DCC if a joint venture to clean Colony area could be considered again.**

## **6. To discuss annual grass cutting work**

Grass cutting has been taking place and the bank on Marine way is now completed. CJ said that last year's work has paid off as this time around was much easier than last year due to raking grass. The maintenance team will be moving onto Pound Lane and footpaths such as Spiders Lane, Bapton Lane and will clear part of Marley Road by Bankside but the bigger issues on Marley Road will need to be addressed by DCC. Grass cutting of the bank along Dinan Way will also be completed in line with the management plan. Volunteers are being deployed again to help with raking and taking away the grass cutting.

OD updated members that he had attended Devon Wildlife Trust talk and met Heath Nicholls there who was complimentary about how the town council has been interacting with him and other conservationists.

## **7. To consider request from EDDC for ideas on longer term plans for Mona Island, Exmouth**

CJ received correspondence from Tom Buxton-Smith – principal engineer for EDDC about issues that were flagged up on Mona Island. He explained that he was thinking about putting in a capital bid and asked if the town council had any suggestions of what could improve the area. Members discussed this and it was queried what is under the island and it was thought that there were toilets there. Suggestions on how the area could be improved were –

- Flowerbeds or community garden to brighten the area up
- Remove paving slabs and add a parapet
- A small pop-up café might look quite attractive
- Glenorchy Church might have some ideas and be willing to help
- Make it more open at the back by removing the railing and adding a bike rack

## **8. To receive an update on the Phear Park Compound**

CJ updated members on the work that has been taking place at the compound in Phear park. The containers are now in place, the gates have been installed and there are now electrics and a tap in there. There will be at some point a security movement sensor light installed. CJ said that the works are progressing well. CJ asked if members would like to visit the compound to see what had been done instead of a meeting and all members agreed this would be a good idea.

IK asked if there was any progress on the welfare unit. CJ provided an update that there are two small containers, one is dedicated to storing equipment and the other one is a welfare unit. In the welfare unit CJ is hoping to get a small fridge, kettle, and coat rack so there is somewhere for the team to dry their wet coats.

A discussion was had about purchasing a vacuum cleaner and pressure washer so the team could clean vans etc and it was agreed by members that these be purchased. CJ updated members that one of the containers at Pound Lane had been emptied so this is saving money and all that remains at Pound Lane are items for the festival.

A further discussion was had on purchasing a second weed ripper to use as a replacement due to wear and tear on the original one. This was agreed to be looked into further as there might be other alternatives such as a hot foam weed killer.

## **9. To receive an update on general Town Maintenance work**

CJ provided an update to say that the Winter planting work will be starting in the last week of October with preparing the beds. Fresh compost made from previous green waste will be used. The use of this was discussed and it was thought that it may enable more weeds to appear. An idea was that our compost is topped up with bought compost, just a few inches on top.

This year the team will be preparing the flower towers as Boyce's have asked if ETC can assist for the winter period only. They are willing to give a demonstration on how they should be planted up. Members discussed several locations where flower towers are and if they should be moved or removed. TW said that we should keep as many flower towers as possible as they enhance the whole of Exmouth. FC suggested we ask The York Inn if they would like to take responsibility for the tower next to them. The tower outside Café Nero was discussed and it was suggested we ask them if they would like to take over the watering of this tower. It was agreed by all that the flower towers remain where they are.

## **10. Any other business**

FC provided an update about the E-Cargo bikes and that they are to be used by Streetscene and the GP surgery over the Winter period.

## **11. To note the dates of the next meetings**

10th November 2022  
8th December 2022

The meeting ended at 12:14.