

# EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

## Community Organisation Liaison Panel (COLP)

Notes of the meeting held at 10am on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in the Town Hall Chamber

### Present

|                          |     |   |
|--------------------------|-----|---|
| Councillor David Poor    | DP  | Exmouth Town Council (Chair)              |
| Councillor Pauline Stott | PS  | Exmouth Town Council                      |
| Councillor Tim Dumper    | TD  | Exmouth Town Council                      |
| Councillor Brian Bailey  | BB  | Exmouth Town Council                      |
| Lisa Bowman              | LB  | Exmouth Town Council (Officer)            |
| Adrian Toole             | AT  | Transition Exmouth                        |
| Dave Radford             | DR  | Exmouth Civic Society                     |
| Ian Cann                 | IC  | Exmouth Civic Society                     |
| Graham Deasy             | GD  | Exmouth Community Association             |
| Tony Siddall             | TS  | Churches Together                         |
| Andrew Gordon-Raby       | AGR | East Devon District Council (Streetscene) |
| Lisa Greenway            | LG  | Exmouth Town Council (Note-taker)         |

### Apologies

|                          |     |   |
|--------------------------|-----|---|
| Councillor Frank Cullis  | FCu | Exmouth Town Council                      |
| Councillor Aurora Bailey | AB  | Exmouth Town Council                      |
| Geoff Skinner            | GS  | Exmouth Community Association             |
| Tom Wood                 | TW  | East Devon District Council (Streetscene) |
| Nicky Nicholls           | NN  | Transition Exmouth                        |
| Keith Bungay             | KB  | Exmouth Community Association             |

### 1. Welcome and apologies

DP welcomed members to the meeting and thanked PS for chairing the previous meeting in his absence, apologies were noted.

### 2. To agree the notes of the previous meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

BB proposed and PS seconded the accuracy of the previous notes dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2022.

### 3. Matters arising from the previous meeting

Members agreed that no matters arose from the previous meeting.

### 4. Update on the Developing Local Plan

LB explained to members that the Local Plan will be split down into different sections to be reviewed either by meetings of the Full Council or by appropriate working parties and committees. For example, there is a particular chapter of the local plan which looks at housing allocations specific to Exmouth, this is controversial and will be looked at by meeting of the full council. Transport matters however will be looked at by the Exmouth Transport Partnership.

LB confirmed that this is an EDDC consultation and Exmouth Town Council are a consultee. DP recommended that individual community organisations make their own consultations directly to EDDC. However, ETC will welcome any feedback, DP also suggested that the various community organisations where possible provide a co-ordinated response for Exmouth and keep the town council informed of their own views.

Once all the WP's and Planning Committee have looked at the specific policies and Terms of Reference relating to them work will be collated together for a final representation from the Town Council that will be agreed and signed off in the January meeting which will be open to the public.

The Neighbourhood Plan has support from EDDC to make sure there is no clash with the Local Plan once it is adopted, however the neighbourhood plan may need to be refreshed which will mean that it may have to go out to referendum again.

TD confirmed that he took part in an EDDC zoom meeting regarding the consultation process but was disappointed as most of the time was consumed discussing different areas in East Devon rather than other policy matters. TD was also concerned that most of the consultation was on-line which may reduce the number of people that participate.

LB updated members that Paul Arnott has sent a letter to the Prime Minister regarding housing growth to stimulate growth as he is concerned that our protected areas and tourism may be affected if more houses are built. LB will share the letter with members once confirmed that this is permitted. There were also rumours at the time that government may be thinking about being more flexible with housing numbers, however at the time of this meeting this had not been confirmed.

Members discussed concerns over the SWW infrastructure being inadequate for the additional proposed housing development within the Exmouth area. LB advised members that as ETC are only a consultee concerns can be directed to the relevant WP but as we have no authority or jurisdiction to change things, we can only put reservations to SWW although ETC have written a letter to Natural England and the Environment Agency about SWW concerns.

Members raised concerns about overdevelopment within Exmouth and planning permissions being granted by EDDC. LB advised members that we have to demonstrate to central government that we have a 5 year housing land supply within the Local Plan.

## **5. Street Scene Update**

AGR provided members with the following updates:

- The sand clearance on the seafront is going well even though they ran into some problems with the tractor.
- The jetting of the tidal defence drains is currently taking place.

AGR updated members that the Emergency Tree Fund is a proposal to plant 2000 trees on EDDC land and will go to public consultation shortly. If approved planting will start in February 2023 through to February 2024.

LB confirmed that they are proposing to plant the following trees subject to consultation:

- 230 - Phear Park
- 140 - Imperial Rec
- 78 - Carter Avenue
- 240 - Brixington Lane Playing Fields
- 84 - The Crescent

IC queried who would be responsible for the maintenance of these proposed trees as various EDDC trees around Exmouth have been neglected and have died as a result, AGR will investigate and get back to IC.

PS was keen to know what happens to the sand that has been cleared from the seafront, AGR confirmed that clean sand is returned to the beach where required and the remaining sand is re-cycled.

AGR updated members that most of the winter plants at Beach Gardens have been planted and work will start tomorrow to plant over 2000 bulbs in Beach and Manor Gardens.

AGR confirmed that a window has been installed on the Phear Park shelter and an additional window will be installed either by the end of 2022 or early 2023.

## **6. Update from Town Council working parties and outside body representatives**

### **Hospital League of Friends**

TS updated members that the 1 ¼ million development to enhance the hospital was funded via 1 million from the NHS and ¼ million contributed by the Hospital League of Friends, the enhancement also included the gardens at the back of the hospital which have been updated for residents. Patients are currently at Honiton but will be returning to Exmouth hospital between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of December.

- **Exmouth hospital and Admiral nurse service**

TS informed members that admiral nurses look after people with dementia including their families and nearly 3 years ago a legacy was left to enable 2 part time nurses to be put in place. Unfortunately, this was not enough so the Hospital League of Friends put in 10K per year to keep the nurses in place, but as the need for these nurses increases more funding is needed. DP queried if ETC could provide any additional funding for Admiral nursing, LB advised that any funding request would need to meet the criteria and a grant application would need to be submitted. LB explained that the difficulty with national organisations is that they would need to prove that funding would be used locally, LB will speak with TS in more detail about the application process.

- **Exmouth Voluntary Services**

TS confirmed that more volunteers are needed, and a seminar was held in the Ocean suite a couple of weeks ago looking at rural isolation, young people's mental health and unpaid carers.

### **Royal British Legion**

TS hoped everyone was pleased with the attendance for Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday which had the biggest turn out on record. Both events went well, and a wash up will take place to see how improvements can be made. PS thanked RBL for the events this year and confirmed that the Deaf Academy attended the events, LB advised that ETC provided the sound, risk assessments and road closure notices and will investigate having a hearing loop and signer for next year's event.

### **Churches Together**

TS updated members that Holy Trinity Church hope to have solar panels installed on part of the roof and possibly a wind turbine at Littleham Church.

IC confirmed that Churches Together were putting together a comprehensive list of warm spaces in Exmouth which have now been given to CJ to approve in order to circulate via email and publish a leaflet that will be distributed to community organisations.

### **S106**

PS stated that the last S106 meeting was cancelled due to the lack of EDDC officers in attendance.

### **Waterfront**

PS stated that the previous Waterfront meeting was cancelled as it was not quorate.

### **Climate & Ecological Emergency**

TD updated members that the Climate Officer Zoey Cooper has started working 3 days per week and is settling in well. TD is looking forward to doing some external research with ZC tomorrow on eco hubs.

### **Community Resilience**

TD confirmed that the Community Resilience Emergency Plan has been updated and approved and would like a roadshow to take place to ensure the public are aware of amendments that have been made to the plan, mainly to broaden the focus from flooding to other threats such as heatwaves, fire etc.

A draft document was distributed by the town council showing organisations in Exmouth which were providing warm spaces and support during the cost of living crisis. The report had been put together by the ECA with support from the town council. Members of COLP were unanimous of their support of this initiative and thanked those concerned.

### **Exmouth Transport Partnership**

TD stated that no ETP meetings have taken place since the last meeting, so no updates are available. TD was disappointed with the poor service currently being given by Stagecoach and members discussed this further.

BB queried if an update was available on the illegal parking of buses at LED, TD confirmed that no update has been received.

AT queried if anyone knew the legalities of using shared taxis as a mode of transport as used in other countries, LB advised AT to speak to EDDC licencing.

### **Fairtrade**

TD confirmed that an application will be submitted next year to extend our fairtrade town status in Exmouth.

### **Twinning Association**

TD updated members that they have started to plan the 2023 trip to Germany and the Dinan people coming to Exmouth.

### **Beach Wheelchair Storage Unit**

PS confirmed that the beach wheelchair unit has closed for the winter and will re-open again in the spring. The facility proved very popular but will need more volunteers for next year.

## **7. Any other business**

LB confirmed that the Exmouth Winter Festival will be held on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December and gave members a brief description of the itinerary for the day.

IC requested an update on Wild Exmouth, LB confirmed that it was a 3 year funded project through Heritage Lottery Funding which ETC also contributed 12K towards but this project has now finished. The project has been rolled into Wild East Devon which is not Exmouth specific, but you can sign up to their newsletters, LB will share the link with members.

## **8. 2023 meetings**

16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The meeting concluded at 11:55 am