

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Exmouth Town Hall, St. Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 12th December, 2022.

Present:

Councillors	S Gazzard (Chairman)
	B Bailey
	F Caygill
	M Chapman
	A Colman
	P Stott
	A Toye
	B Toye
	T Dumper
	C Nicholas
	M Rosser
	J Whibley
	A Whipps
	P Stott
	B De Saram

Devon County Councillor Richard Scott.

Officers:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk

Apologies:

Apologies were noted from Councillors Angela Boatwright, Frank Cullis, Olly Davey, Lynne Elson, Alex Sadiq, Tony Woodward, Aurora Bailey. Jeff Trail, David Poor, Ian Kirvan

The Chairman then welcomed all to the meeting.

Public Forum: There were no members of the public present.

C22/083. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Pauline Stott proposed, Councillor Maddy Chapman seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record.

C22/084. Matters arising from previous minutes

It was reported that there had been no response from Ian Vosper of South West Water (SWW). LB to follow up.

C22/085. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations

There were no declarations of pecuniary or personal interest.

C22/086. Exclusion of the Press and public

There were no items on the agenda which necessitated the exclusion of the press or public.

C22/087. Reports and minutes from Committees, Working Parties, other local bodies, the Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk, District and County Councillors as appropriate (Standing Order 6.2)

Councillor Joe Whibley proposed, Councillor Fred Caygill seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 7th November and 21st November 2022 be accepted as a true record.

Councillor Joy Whipps proposed, Councillor Brian Toye seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee meeting held on 24th November 2022 be accepted as a true record.

The following were also noted: Town Clerk's Report, Deputy Clerk's Report, notes of the Festival and Events Working Party held on 10th November 2022, notes of the Town Maintenance Overview Working Party held on 19th November 2022.

In respect of the Festival and Events Working Party, a query was raised regarding the removal of East Devon District Council's premises licence for The Strand, which had necessitated a separate TENS application by the Town Council for the Winter Festival. Councillor Joe Whibley agreed to investigate in his capacity as Chair of East Devon District Council's Licensing Committee. Members also asked for it to be noted that Charlie Tapp's contribution to the Council's Festival and events organisation was very much appreciated.

In respect of the Flooding and Land Drainage Working Party, Councillor Bruce De Sarem provided a verbal update that Dave Seavers from SWW had attended, and it had been confirmed that Ian Vosper will be dealing with the outstanding questions that Exmouth Town Council had put to SWW at its meeting in October. It was also reported that the Phear Park pump has had a full upgrade and Kate Pearson, from the Environment Agency had thanked Councillors for attending the formal event to mark the end of the Tidal Defence project and mentioned that the Memo of understanding with EDDC was still to be completed.

A further query was raised about the status of the festoon light reinstatement following completion of the flood defence works, as one section beside the Grove pub has yet to be reinstated. LB reported that it has not been possible to install one section due to the removal of a lamp column by Devon County Council Highways and the associated fixing point for the lights. This is being investigated.

It was noted that the trees which had been planted as part of the flood defence works had died. This was being assessed and it had been confirmed that they would be replaced.

It was also agreed that a site visit to SWW's Maer Road processing plant would be beneficial for all Councillors. LB will follow this up.

Outside Bodies

The notes of the meeting of the WEB Health and Wellbeing Board held on 17th November 2022 were noted along with the notes of the DALC Larger Councils Committee meeting held on 17th November 2022, attended by Councillor Tim Dumper as SG substitute. Councillor Dumper also reported verbally on his attendance at the DALC County Committee meeting and explained that the new arrangements for the Committee were being considered.

District Councillors' Reports

Councillor Joe Whibley had provided a written report for circulation prior to the meeting which is appended to these minutes.

Councillor Maddy Chapman provided a verbal update on the recent work of East Devon District Council's Environmental health team and there was a brief discussion about the recent agreement to increase taxi fares and the resulting high demand for metre changes to be programmed.

County Councillors' Reports

Councillor Richard Scott was in attendance and responded to questions about the disparity in parking charges between Seaton and Exmouth and the scope to introduce more pedestrianised areas in Exmouth.

It was also noted that the Deputy Clerk, Chetna Jones, had attended the Devon County Council annual briefing by John Hart when it had been reported that deep cuts to Devon's vital local services are inevitable due to budget constraints.

C22/088. Agreement of the 2023 meeting dates

The meeting dates were noted and agreed. However, it was highlighted that the S106/CIL working party hasn't been able to meet recently due to lack of officer support from East Devon District Council. It was agreed that LB will email Mark Williams AT EAST Devon District Council for a status update.

C22/089. Confirmation of an offer of employment for the post of Arts Manager

Councillor Joe Whibley proposed, Councillor Tim Dumper seconded, and it was agreed to confirm an offer of employment for the post of Arts Manager.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday 9th January 2023 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall Council Chamber.

The meeting concluded at 7.40pm.

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

Appendix

Report from Councillor Joe Whibley

Devon Rail Forum

I attended the useful, if frustrating, Devon Rail Forum earlier this month and circulated notes afterwards. The headline news for passengers travelling from Exmouth is that a shelter that actually shelters at Exton is on the cards and will hopefully be announced early next year.

Licensing and Enforcement Committee – EDDC.

We met twice in the last month to consider a request from taxi drivers to increase their fares (they don't have to charge the higher fare though some will) in order to combat the effects of rising fuel and repair costs. They gave assurances they would maintain an affordable service to those in the greatest need.

Full Council - EDDC

At last week's Full Council, I seconded a motion to complain about the introduction of voter ID via the LGA. Councils aren't equipped for implementation by next May and there is statistically no need for it. Our elections are safe!

Residents' Parking

I attended and spoke at last Friday's HATOC meeting. Residents' parking got the thumbs up and will begin to be implemented in 2023.