

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Exmouth Transport Partnership

Notes of the Zoom meeting held at 10am on Tuesday 21st February 2023

Present

Cllr Tim Dumper	TD	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Cllr Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Eileen Beech	EB	Exmouth Town Council
Dave Ovenden	DO	DCC Public Transport
Jan Gannaway	JG	Active Travel Exmouth, & Sustrans
John Petty	JP	Active Travel Exmouth, & Exmouth Community Association
Stuart Coles	SC	DCC Highways
Richard Easthope	RE	EDDC Parking Services Manager
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Zoey Cooper	ZC	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Greenway	LG	Exmouth Town Council (Notetaker)

Apologies

Tony Jackson	TJ	ALRUG (Avocet Line Rail Users Group)
John Colby	JC	ALRUG
David Whiteway	DW	GWR
Sam Jeffcoat	SJ	DCC PROW Warden for Exmouth
Lewis Ward	LW	GWR

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

TD welcomed members to the meeting and noted apologies.

2. To approve the notes of the meeting on the 27th September 2022

DP proposed and PS seconded the accuracy of the notes from the meeting on the 27th of September 2022. The meeting notes were approved.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting

LB spoke to Hannah Clark from DCC last week to request a status update on the successful Levelling Up bid as ETC pledged 400K match funding from CIL receipts. HC advised that a draft funding agreement is being drawn up which will confirm ETC's match funding contribution.

HC had confirmed that she had an inception meeting with the department of transport and the next step will be the land acquisition, detailed designs are being prioritised for the Dinan Way extension so they can go out to tender. DCC will be building on the design for the gateway element through a public consultation process as no planning is in place which gives scope for stakeholders to contribute to the process, although this will not pick up until later in the year. The Dinan Way element is being prioritised as it has a March 2025 completion date which is ambitious but achievable.

TD questioned if ETP would have a seat on the discussions about the gateway, LB got the impression that HC thought this would be a good way forward but there will be broader public consultation. TD queried if any update was available about active travel and junction access on the Dinan Way extension, LB advised TD to look at the submission document on the DCC website as it contains a lot of information about active travel.

JG has investigated plants that can be used on the bus shelter living roofs to attract bee's which would have a sedum base, JG has a list of up to 16 varieties of suitable low growing wildflowers such as poppies and selfheal.

4. To receive an update on bus shelters

LB explained to members that bus shelter ownership in Exmouth is complex as a couple of shelters are owned by DCC but ETC are responsible for cleaning them, ETC own 33 and EDDC own about a dozen. LB confirmed that ETC has piggybacked the arrangement that DCC has with Fernbank which will see all 33 ETC shelters replaced by Fernbank over a rolling period. All the replaced shelters will have sedum roofs and where possible they will be advertising shelters to cover the capital cost of the shelters by advertising revenue. The rollout was delayed as one of the major bus shelter manufacturing companies went into liquidation but Fernbank now produce their own shelters inhouse. 8 shelters are nearing completion and should be ready at the end of March for installation on Exeter and Salterton Road. LB confirmed that the next rollout will happen late summer and that she has a spreadsheet of prioritised shelters.

JG queried if there was any update on the disappearance of the Pound Lane bus shelter, LB did not know where the shelter had gone but confirmed that as it belongs to ETC it will be on the list for replacement. LB will circulate the list to members of the 8 replacement shelter locations.

EB was pleased that the bus shelter at Tesco's will be replaced with a more weatherproof design, LB confirmed that it will be moved slightly so that there is more space which will provide additional shelter.

5. Report from Councillor Tim Dumper re Bus Forum meeting attended on the 9th of February 2023

TD hoped that members had looked through the PowerPoint for the Bus User Forum that was circulated with the agenda prior to the meeting. TD provided members with information on how and why the Bus User Forum was formed. TD informed members that the local transport authorities were invited to bid for financial help to improve the infrastructure and DCC bid 110 million and successfully got 14 million.

TD confirmed that the new MD of Stagecoach Peter Knight was present at the meeting and is currently working through the backlog of work. TD put forward issues in Exmouth such as the reduced 57 bus service and the intermittent working of the bus app, PK advised that it is a priority to restore the 57 service to a quarter hourly service and is aware of the app issues but was unable to provide a timeline for any resolution.

TD was pleased with PK's views on the transport interchange under the Levelling Up bid as PK stated that Stagecoach will work together to get a good result for the interchange. TD will attend future BUS Forum meetings that are held 3 times a year.

DO updated members that the £2 fare cut that was due to stop at the end of March has been extended until the end of June. DO confirmed that as the details of the interchange have not been mapped out no further updates were available.

PS queried why Exmouth could not be seen on the forum map for funding, TD advised that the biggest slab of funding is dedicated to bus lanes and passing spots, as Exmouth does not have any dedicated bus lanes and we do not have room for road widening we did not appear on the map. TD put to the transport portfolio holder who chaired the meeting if the bid money received by DCC could be shared with the Levelling Up bid to improve the interchange in Exmouth, TD was pleased that she thought it would be advantageous.

Members discussed various bus routes and problems with reduced services and delays. JG and OD were keen for Exeter Road to be a dedicated bus lane and access route for Colony residents in the future. TD advised that last year's highway code update gave pedestrians and cyclists priority over motor vehicles. ZC queried the process for making Exeter Road pedestrianised, LB will provide ZC with the information personally after the meeting.

6. Report from Councillor Olly Davey following attendance at 20's Plenty conference in October & Cornwall Council initiative re county wide 20mph limit

OD played the 20's Plenty video of Cornwall Councillor Philip Desmonde who explained how the 20mph limit was rolled out in Cornwall, OD thought that it was inspirational if you have the vision to put this into action. TD queried if the 20mph limit replaces the 30mph limit, OD advised it could be anywhere as these would be 20mph zones rather than enforceable speed limits.

Members discussed 20mph zones and different areas within Exmouth that would benefit from a 20mph limit, JP informed members that the 2020 campaign is addressed to residential roads as these are multiuse roads.

7. To note the decisions & minutes of the East Devon Highways & Traffic Orders Committee 9th December 2022 (Exmouth Residents Parking Review)

TD updated members that residents parking is being implemented in September 2023 with an inbuilt review to revisit in December 2023, LB confirmed that once the scheme has been rolled out for 3 months there is an opportunity to request a review to look at any unforeseen consequences and revisit.

8. Stakeholder Reports

a) Stagecoach

There was no Stagecoach representative at the meeting and no report was received.

b) DCC Public Transport

DO confirmed that positive 57 bus service changes will be implemented, some small tweaks will be made to the 58 service to improve reliability.

TD queried why the 56 service was cut off from Exmouth to the airport, DO confirmed that this was a commercial decision from Stagecoach for which Exeter benefitted and Exmouth lost out.

OD queried if any data was available on how successful the £2 fare reduction was, DO advised that data up until a month ago showed that usage increased by 6%.

c) EDDC Car/Cycle, Coach & Lorry Parks & Electric Vehicle Charging

RE informed members that there will be a van lifers update report to EDDC cabinet on the 1st of March, the van lifers have been notified of this and have been invited to attend. RE

has contacted private campsites to see if they could accommodate them and this is included in the report.

RE took over last August so inherited the £2 increase on parking charges which will be reviewed later in the year. OD asked if there was an update as he noticed that the electric charging points have gone into the Imperial Road carpark, and one was dedicated to co-cars, RE hopes that the chargers will go live soon as they are waiting for green bay markings and will get an update to OD re co-cars. RE stated they are looking to extend the chargers into other carparks in Exmouth in the future if there is a demand but is also aware that chargers may be required kerbside in residential areas where residents do not have the means to charge their vehicles.

PS queried if any update was available in respect of the 2 disabled parking bays designated for the beach wheelchair hut that were due to be marked out last year, RE was not aware of this, LB will discuss this with RE after the meeting.

TD queried which EDDC carparks will be looked at for future EV charging, RE advised that Maer Road will be put forward as a new phase of funding is coming through the government to provide on and off-street EV charging.

d) Active Travel

No updates were available.

e) GWR

There was no GWR representative at the meeting and no report was received.

f) ALRUG

There was no ALRUG representative at this meeting and no report was received.

g) DCC Highways

SC confirmed that the Dinan Way extension bid was successful and thanked ETC for their additional funding and help. SC updated members that they are approaching the end of their financial year, so they are trying to get ongoing work finished including the large number of potholes. SC urged members to report any problems using the DCC online system.

9. Any Other Business

JG has a supply of 20's Plenty bumper stickers if anyone wants to support the scheme. DO has received a response from Stagecoach to confirm the 57 service will be enhanced in April and more details will follow shortly. ZC requested to attend the next ETP meeting.

10. Dates of 2023 meetings:

20th June

19th September

12th December

The meeting closed at 11:42