

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Town Maintenance Overview Working Party

Notes of the meeting held at 10am on Thursday 16th February 2023 via Zoom

Present

Councillor Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Frank Cullis	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Maddy Chapman	MC	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Sam Dorman	SD	Exmouth Town Council (notetaker)

Apologies

Councillor Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Tony Woodward	TW	Exmouth Town Council

1. Welcome and apologies

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

2. To approve the notes of the meeting held on 8th December 2022

The notes of the previous meeting held on 19th January 2023 were proposed for approval by MC, seconded by FC, and agreed by all.

3. To receive an update on the graffiti within Exmouth

CJ updated members that there is a lot of graffiti in the town and Withycombe area on telephone boxes, lampposts and in between traffic islands. It seems as soon as the graffiti has been cleared that it gets graffitied again. The town maintenance team will go out to do a clean-up on Friday.

IK said that he has noticed some graffiti in a couple of other places and will email CJ after the meeting.

ACTION: IK to email CJ about graffiti.

4. To receive information sent by EDDC on the proposed Phear Park art project and to agree ETC be involved in the process (previously item 7 on the agenda)

CJ met with Pete Croft, EDDC Area Leader for outer Exmouth inc Phear Park to discuss the proposed project and how the Town Council can be involved. It was discussed that rather than the shelter being knocked down, it could be turned into an area of artwork. This would be like the Abode on the seafront where it is looked after regularly by Seadog, a local artist with the help of young people from the community. Pete Croft added that the Town Council would be helping combat graffiti and would be working in partnership with Seadog, East Devon District Council, and the local community. Peter Croft asked if the Town Council would like to consider contributing 50% to fund the project. The project total would be £1600 and EDDC would contribute the other 50%.

CJ asked members if this were a project they would like to take to Full Council and if it was successful it could continue into future years and would need funding from ETC for maintaining it. Members thought this was a fantastic project and happy to recommend to Full Council.

It was proposed by MC, seconded by FC and all in favour to recommend **that Exmouth Town Council works in partnership with East Devon District Council and Seadogs to deliver the Phear Park shelter art proposal and will contribute 50% of the cost (up to £1,600); That any publicity will be equally shared; And that the proposal and success will be reviewed before future on-going annual contributions are agreed.**

5. To receive an update on EDDC winter work as part of the grass cutting contract (previously item 4 on the agenda)

CJ gave an update on the work that has been completed by EDDC in Exmouth. She said that as much as its great having an update, going forward it was agreed via the SLA that some evidence is also received, for example, a schedule detailing the date and road completed and some photographs. Members agreed it would be good to remind EDDC of this. CJ said that she would ask for a schedule and photographs to be sent with future update.

ACTIONS: CJ to email TWood to ask that when sending monthly updates to include a schedule and photographs.

6. To receive an update on general Town Maintenance work (previously item 5 on the agenda)

The maintenance team have been working their way around the Brixington area and have also completed some grass cutting and weeding. They have been working in partnership with Exmouth in Bloom on Manchester Road to help with the new planters.

The Highways department from DCC were quick to action a rusted pole in the Magnolia Centre, that is used to hang hanging baskets when it was about to fall after Jeff Trail called them to report it.

CJ reported that the lampposts in the Magnolia Centre can no longer be used for hanging baskets as they cannot hold the weight.

CJ updated members that the team are getting on fine with the new vans and are looking at putting extra safety measures on the vehicles.

Gravel that was left over from the footpath 9 work has been used to redo the surface as you drive into the compound as this was a little uneven.

CJ updated that she had ordered the summer plants, it's the same theme as the year before last, bright colours.

Walkways were discussed near Brixington Lane, and CJ said that the team do keep an eye on the ones the town council are responsible for to ensure they are not overgrown.

7. To receive information on the theme for summer planting and plans for entry in Southwest and Nation in Bloom competitions (previously item 6 on the agenda)

Exmouth has been entered in two categories as follows:

- Coastal category in the Nationals
- Southwest in Bloom

The theme for summer planting will be very bright colours.

Members discussed the area where the old clock once stood in the Magnolia Centre and how we could make this more attractive. It was suggested that to compensate for the loss of the hanging baskets we could erect a pole in this space to hang hanging baskets.

IK proposed, seconded by MC and all in favour to recommend **that Exmouth Town Council purchases and erects a 4-armed pole for hanging baskets on the plinth in the Magnolia Centre, in place of the former magnolia clock, in view that the DCC lampposts can no longer be used to hang baskets.**

ACTION: CJ will have a discussion with Exmouth in Bloom about having more eye-catching plants to compensate for not having hanging baskets.

ACTION: CJ will arrange for the recommendations to be added to the next Town Council meeting.

8. Any other business

IK queried the dates on the SLA and why it only went up to February and didn't include March. CJ explained that she had spoken to TWood and he said this was because they need time to turn things around and when the cost was quoted this was considered and one month was not charged.

9. To note the date of the next meeting

9th March 2023

The meeting ended at 11:11