

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Exmouth Transport Partnership

Notes of the Zoom meeting held at 10am on Tuesday 20th June 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 Fred Caygill	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Tony Jackson	TJ	ALRUG (Avocet Line Rail Users Group)
Jan Gannaway	JG	Active Travel Exmouth, & Sustrans
John Petty	JP	Active Travel Exmouth, & Exmouth Community Association
Richard Easthope	RE	EDDC Parking Services Manager
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Greenway	LG	Exmouth Town Council (Notetaker)

Apologies

Cllr Andrew Colman	AC	Exmouth Town Council
Cllr Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council
Dave Ovenden	DO	DCC Public Transport
Mike Reddaway	MR	ALRUG (Avocet Line Rail Users Group)
Stuart Coles	SC	DCC Highways
Phillip Morgan	PM	DCC Highways
Sam Jeffcoat	SJ	DCC PROW Warden for Exmouth

1. To elect a chairperson

LB welcomed members and asked for nominations for chair of this working party. DP nominated TD and OD seconded that TD be re-elected as chair. PS nominated FC and FC seconded that FC be elected as chair. No further nominations were made.

Members were asked to vote, and TD was duly recommended as chair.

2. Welcome, introductions and apologies

TD welcomed members to the meeting and noted apologies.

3. To approve the previous meeting notes from the 21st of February 2023

DP proposed and PS seconded the accuracy of the notes from the meeting on the 21st of February 2023. The meeting notes were approved.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

LB confirmed that a brief update was provided by Gerry Mills on the Dinan Way extension and gateway proposals during the Queens Drive Exmouth Placemaking meeting a couple of weeks ago, LB will circulate the meeting minutes.

5. To receive an update on the bus shelters

LB updated members that Fernbank have replaced 2-3 bus shelters on Salterton Road and 2 along Exeter Road, a total of 8 new shelters will be put up this year with sedum roofs. LB has noticed that only 1 shelter on Salterton Road has a sedum roof so has queried this with Fernbank as is aware that Torbay had issues with people stealing the sedum from the top of the bus shelter roofs. Exmouth in Bloom has publicised the sedum roofs on social media but were asked to remove the posts just in case this led to vandalism or theft. LB confirmed that the main Exmouth road will be replaced first as the advertising potential is higher and the revenue covers the capital cost. LB will keep members updated.

FC requested an update on the repositioning of the bus shelter outside Tesco as it is facing into the pavement which is causing accessibility issues when people are trying to use the ramp, LB did not know the schedule for replacement but has spoken to Fernbank who have agreed to reposition the shelter. LB advised that Fernbank have some concern as they need to investigate where the electricity supply runs under the road to get to the repositioned lighted unit which may mean that excavation must be carried out. LB will seek a timeline from Fernbank.

PS was disappointed with the lack of weatherproofing provided with the 2 new shelters on Exeter Road as both open at the front and the one near Halsdown Nursing home has very small seats. LB will speak to Fernbank about the issues raised and confirmed that when all the 33 shelters were assessed by Fernbank we were given a list of types of shelters that they were proposing to supply. JG requested if there was any update on the missing shelter in Pound Lane, LB has spoken to DCC but is still none the wiser where it has gone although it is on the list for replacing and possibly repositioned away from the roundabout.

6. To receive an update on relevant “20’s plenty” matters

LB hoped that members had read the report from DCC prior to the meeting. LB updated members that the first round of the scheme had very strict criteria and round 2 resulted in 160 applications for which the process is complex. LB confirmed that the attachment sent prior to the meeting was from the Totnes sustainability officer who was trying to get some traction round a countywide 20’s plenty campaign. LB advised members that the sustainability officer has provided a link to 2 webinars which will take place on the 28th of June and the 6th of July for anyone that would like to register to attend. TD advised that discussions within DALC have taken place about the 20mph countywide limit and agrees that joining Totnes would be a good idea. JG was keen to join the webinars and took part in a 20’s plenty campaign group webinar as they wanted to set up a countywide campaign, JG agreed that pressure needs to be put on DCC and provided members with some stats from 20mph reduction areas.

LB advised members that Totnes want us to pass a motion to support the scheme through recommendation at Full Council and write to DCC. FC queried the objective as to where in Exmouth the 20mph limits would be imposed, TD advised that we look at areas across Exmouth and separate town centre from residential areas. LB confirmed that a discussion about locations can be discussed at a later date, but we need to support the scheme and contact DCC.

FC was keen to support 20mph in targeted areas such as along the seafront, specific roads in the town and shared pathways where cyclists are exceeding 20mph. JG advised members that the philosophy of 20’s plenty is to reduce speed in whole areas as targeted areas cause speeding in non 20mph areas. OD informed members that cyclists doing more than 20mph is a rarity and recorded collisions between cyclists and pedestrians is a lot less than motor traffic and pedestrians.

TD confirmed that the cycle trail between Exmouth and Exeter is not part of highway network which forms speed limits, JP suggested that any concerns over speed limits on cycle paths could be raised through the PROW working party. LB advised that the cycle path between Exmouth and Exeter is a multi-use path and does not technically come under the public right of way as it is a multiuser path which is more attuned to this WP, TD will put this on the agenda to be discussed at the next meeting.

TD asked members if they were in favour of supporting Totnes, LB advised that a recommendation needs to be made to Full Council to pass a motion in support of the 20's Plenty campaign then write to DCC to request that they change their default policy. LB confirmed that once this has been done through the working party, we can register our support with Totnes for a countywide speed limit.

TD proposed and PS seconded that a recommendation is made to Full Council to pass a motion in support of the 20's Plenty campaign and write to DCC, members voted, and it was carried that the recommendation should go to Full Council.

7. To note that Active Travel England has rated every local transport authority in England for its active travel capabilities, to establish a benchmark for improvement

TD noted that DCC came out in the middle.

8. Stakeholder Reports

a) Stagecoach

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

FC reported that an elderly lady was injured when exiting the bus as the driver did not lower the platform. TD queried if the incident had been reported to Stagecoach as they would need specifics, FC advised that unfortunately the resident forgot the bus number so was unable to report. FC reported that a family complained about long waiting times and buses not stopping when the bell was pressed, the family raised this issue with the driver who was abusive in reply, FC stated that this is unacceptable behaviour.

FC raised concerns that the open top buses that use Cranford Avenue are driving at excessive speeds, TD will report the issue and ask Stagecoach to comment. OD confirmed that there is a constant issue with time keeping, missing buses and stops. Members discussed bus routes and service times in more detail.

b) DCC Public Transport

There was no DCC Public Transport representative at the meeting and no report was received.

LB reminded members that an email was received in April from the Principal Transport Officer at DCC who provided a list of changes to Stagecoach buses from 2nd April 2023, this was circulated to members at the time.

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

RE hopes that the Imperial Road Weneva EV Chargers will go live soon as a measurement issue caused a delay in one of the bays resulting in the old CCTV column having to be removed, the ScottishPower bays are operational. RE will email members when a go live date is received.

RE updated members that DCC have put in a bid for 7 million pounds for the next phase of LEVI funding, this should result in approximately 2000 new chargers allocated across Devon. RE confirmed that the project would be led by DCC, but EDDC will also be involved. RE stated that DCC have expressed an interest to install gully chargers in Exmouth residential streets which was agreed by planning so if successful in the trial EDDC will put forward additional sites although this would be a couple of years away, funding should be available by the end of the year if successful.

FC queried if there was enough power available in the Western Power green box at the Imperial Road car park, RE confirmed that the chargers can limit the power supply speeds to regulate usage but will investigate further.

PS advised that the van lifers have been given notice to leave the coach and lorry park by the end of the month but wanted to know how the car park would be used once they are gone. RE understands that it would go back to a coach and lorry car park as this is on the parking order although there is some interest in paid motorhomes parking with facilities.

PS requested an update on the 2 disabled spaces by the beach wheelchair hut that EDDC promised some time ago, RE was aware that problems arose with lining contractors so is seeking new contractors to complete outstanding work.

TD requested a brief update on the van lifers, RE updated members that it was agreed at the EDDC Cabinet meeting on the 1st of March 2023 that the van lifers would leave by Saturday the 1st of July 2023. RE confirmed that they were eager to stay as a community, EDDC did give them the option to use the paid car park, but this was not accepted, and no further options were found. FC queried if this should be discussed in the Campervan TAFF, LB confirmed that when EDDC are ready to engage in discussions about overnight campervan parking the Campervan TAFF will be reinstated.

d) Active Travel

JG updated members that Active Travel Day is on Sunday the 16th of July at Sideshore where cargo bikes will be lent out, Ride On bike maintenance will be available and Bike Works will be selling bikes and accessories. JG confirmed that Active Travel will have a stall with lots of useful information to hand out. TD queried if GWR and Stagecoach would be attending, JG confirmed that they had not been invited. JG was pleased that the Getting Around Exmouth website has really taken off.

e) Taxis

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

f) GWR

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

g) ALRUG

TJ was disappointed that GWR were not present as wanted to discuss why the cars on the trains had decreased this week, TJ will circulate a list of the rolling stock.

5) DCC Highways

There was no DCC Highways representative at the meeting and no report was received.

TD advised that DCC have been issuing the timetable for instituting the residents parking around Exmouth so was surprised that a report had not been received in their absence. PS was concerned that cyclists are cycling the wrong way down the one-way street between

the town hall and the Strand and was hoping to ask DCC to put up additional signage, OD is aware that some cyclists are inconsiderate in this area but as there is already a no entry sign it would be unlikely that additional signage would be installed.

FC wanted to take to task EDDC or DCC about cyclists in the Magnolia Centre and the Strand as this is a pedestrian area only and enforcement should be in place. JG understands that permission was given for people to cycle on the brown area in the Strand, which is highway, LB confirmed that this was correct. Members discussed problem areas and inadequate signage, TD urged members to take up any issues with the correct authorities.

9. Any other business

No other business.

10. Dates of 2023 meetings:

19th September

12th December

The meeting closed at 11:49