

EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Exmouth Town Hall, St. Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 24 July, 2023 at 6.30pm.

Present:

Councillors

O Davey	(Chairman)	C Nicholas
A Bailey		P Stott
B Bailey		A Toye
F Caygill		L Venables
M Chapman		J Whibley
G Deasy		J Whipps
T Dumper		M Williamson
S Gazzard		D Wilson
M Hall		A Woodward
I Kirvan		

Officers:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk

Apologies:

Apologies were noted from Councillors Angela Boatwright, Andrew Colman, Nick Hookway, Mike Rosser and Alex Sadiq.

The Chairman then welcomed all to the meeting and invited Councillor Tim Dumper, in his capacity as Chairman of Exmouth Transport Partnership, to say a few words in memory of John Colby, who had died on the 5th July 2023 at The Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Members learned that John had been born in Lowestoft and had a long and distinguished career in town planning, working for Councils as varied as Lewisham, Harrow, Blackpool and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. He was Chief Planning Officer at the last two. After moving to Exmouth in 2011, John continued to contribute to consultations on planning matters, notably the Exmouth Civic Society. Always keen on trains, as well as cricket, he became a keen member of the Avocet Line Rail Users Group (ALRUG) and was on the Committee until his death, representing ALRUG at the Exmouth Transport Partnership meetings. Councillor Mark Williamson also remembered John with fondness.

John's wife, Judith Anthony was present at the meeting and spoke briefly to say how much John enjoyed and valued working for the people of Exmouth and representing the Avocet Line Rail Users Group on Exmouth Transport Partnership.

The Chairman reiterated the Council's condolences.

Public Forum: No members of the public had registered to speak.

C23/153. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Pauline Stott proposed, Councillor Joe Whibley seconded, and it was agreed by all that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record.

C23/154. Matters arising from previous minutes.

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

C23/155. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations

Item	Councillor	Declaration Type		Reason
		Pecuniary	Personal	
	Pauline Stott		X	Son is member of RNLI
	Tim Dumper		X	Resident of the colony's

C23/156. Exclusion of the Press and public

There were no items on the agenda which necessitated the exclusion of the press or public and would be considered in Part ii of the meeting.

C23/157. 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 Joy Whipps seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 24th April, 5th June, 19th June and 3rd July 2023 be accepted as a true record.

Councillor Fred Caygill proposed, Councillor Olly Davey seconded, and it was agreed that the amended minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 8th June 2023 be accepted as a true record.

The following were also noted:

Town Clerks report

Deputy Town Clerks report

The following meeting notes were also accepted as a true record and noted:

Notes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party held on 6th June 2023.

Notes of the Community Organisation Liaison Panel Working Party held on 19th June 2023

The notes of the Exmouth Transport Partnership Working Party held on 20th June 2023 were received as a true record and in respect of the associated recommendations, Councillor Tim Dumper proposed, Councillor Joe Whibley seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to approve the recommendations from the working party that the Town Council passes a motion in support of a county-wide 20's Plenty campaign and writes to DCC to request they change their default speed limit policy.

RESOLVED that Town Council supports the county-wide 20's Plenty campaign and writes to DCC to request they change their default speed limit policy.

Notes of the Festival and Events Working Party held on 15th June 2023 and verbal update from meeting held on 13th July 2023.

Notes of the Town Maintenance Overview Working Party held on 6th July 2023.

Notes of the Waterfront Working Party held on 27th June 2023.

Reports from members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies

- **WEB Health and Well Being Board:** the notes of the meeting held on 5th July 2023 were noted along with a request that the Health and Wellbeing Board be asked to consider the appointment of *two* Town Council representatives rather than one.
- **Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group:** The notes of the meeting held on 30th May 2023 were presented by Councillors Graham Deasy. It was noted that the agenda for the meeting on 25th July 2023 has been published and that further stakeholder workshops are planned.
- **Exmouth Twinning Association and Fairtrade Exmouth:** Councillor Tim Dumper confirmed that a twinning delegation will be visiting Langerwehe in Germany from 16th to 21st August, 2023.
- **DALC Larger Councils:** The minutes from the meeting held on 22nd June 2023 were noted.
- **Bus Users Forum:** Councillor Tim Dumper provided a verbal update and confirmed that recent bus service issues had been raised at the forum. The notes from the meeting held on 5th July 2023 were noted.

District Councillors' Reports: Councillor Fred Caygill confirmed that the Campervan TAFF had met at the request of the District Council to look again at arrangements for overnight parking of motorhomes in Exmouth on District Council owned land. The outcome of that meeting was that the District Council had again been asked to

undertake a scoping exercise to explore the possibility of introducing a European style aire facility in Exmouth.

County Councillors' Reports: County Councillor Richard Scott was present and answered questions about the residents parking scheme, Dinan Way and 20's Plenty.

C23/158. To receive an update from Graham Forshaw, Harbour Master for Exeter Port Authority, and consider a request for a financial contribution towards the cost of additional swim line buoys.

The Chairman welcomed Graham Forshaw who then provided an update on the port authority activities within the context of the port limits, which stretch from the City of Exeter to the safe-water mark, one mile off the coast. The harbour master's team is responsible for maintaining 40 navigational aids and the shipping canal. There is a team of four patrollers which services the navigational aids, assisted by volunteers.

A harbour revision order is pending and this will bring the City Council into compliance with the port marine safety code. Adoption of the order will allow Exeter City Council to levy a fee for the use of the water (if supported by Exeter City Council members).

Mr Forshaw reiterated that public awareness of water safety and risks associated with personal watercraft needs improving but expressed gratitude to the Town Council and the District Council for the no-powered-craft buoys off Exmouth seafront, which had been a success story.

The approaches to the Exe estuary are surveyed every year but additional surveys inside the river had recently been completed. The harbour master is trying to build a picture of sedimentation trends to enable buoyage to be moved accordingly.

Members sought clarification on mooring fees and Mr Forshaw confirmed that mooring fees are paid to mooring associations such as the Lower Exe Mooring Authority. The Harbour Authority operates a commercial arm which services mooring on behalf of mooring associations but receives no income from mooring fees itself.

Concerns were raised about a recent space of anti-social and dangerous tombstoning behaviour in the marina and immediately offshore and Mr Forshaw stated that he is working with the marina to address the matter.

In respect of personal watercraft licences, it was confirmed that the RYA offers a personal watercraft proficiency course through the Personal Watercraft Partnership and once the harbour revision order has been adopted, there is scope for the Harbour Authority to request a permit and insist a craft carries an identification number along with proof of insurance.

An update was also provided on the aspiration to provide a zoned area for swimming although it was noted that there is currently a conflict with the landing ground for the lifeboat.

C23/159. To note the internal audit closure letter from Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants.

The internal audit closure letter from Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants was noted.

C23/160. To amend the Terms of Reference for the HR Group so that membership shall consist of seven Councillors: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, the Chair of Finance and four other Councillors as appointed by the Full Council.

Councillor Mark Williamson proposed, Councillor Graham Deasy seconded and it was agreed by all that HR Group membership will comprise of Councillors Olly Davey, Joe Whibley, Alex Sadiq, Steve Gazzard, Joy Whipps, Maddy Chapman and Tim Dumper.

Councillor Joy Whipps left the meeting at 8.30pm and the meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

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