

# **EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**

## **Town Maintenance Overview Working Party**

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 10am via Zoom

### **Present**

Councillor Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Maddy Chapman	MC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Joy Whipps (left 11.49)	JW	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Sam Dorman (notetaker)	SD	Exmouth Town Council

### **Apologies**

Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor David Poor	DP	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 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and any matters arising therein**

The notes of the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were proposed for approval by MC, seconded by JW, and agreed by all.

Matters arising from previous meeting notes.

Item 2 - CJ contacted the Devon County Council councillors regarding the work ETC are being asked to complete. Jeff Trail said he would organise the requests of work to cut the hedge alongside the bus stop by Lidl with Phil Morgan.

Richard Scott agreed that it was not appropriate for DCC to ask residents to contact ETC directly and he would contact the Highways officer, however he is in favour of Town and Parish councils picking up the work and he would like to be promoting this more. Members discussed this and said the areas that are DCC's responsibility should be maintained by them.

Item 4 – OD informed members that he had emailed Streetscene about staff supervision but has not yet received a reply. He will follow this up again.

**ACTION: OD to follow up on his email to Streetscene regarding staff supervision.**

### **3. To receive an update on the graffiti within Exmouth**

After a quiet period, there is now a spate of graffiti in the town. CJ said that no sooner have the maintenance team cleaned the graffiti it is back again, particularly on bus shelters.

Members reported graffiti tags such as 'BOM' in toilets, shelters, signs along the estuary path and other areas in the town. IK has some graffiti to report and will email CJ.

The setup of the LAG group was discussed, and members thought it would be a good idea for ETC to steer this.

**ACTION: IK to email CJ with locations of graffiti.**

### **4. To receive an update on grass cutting**

CJ gave her apologies for only sending out the tick sheet today as she has only just received it. She explained that she had asked for comments on some of the information but was told it is self-explanatory.

Members discussed the tick sheet and voiced their concerns about areas that have been ticked off as cut but are certain these areas have not been cut the number of times stated.

IK suggested members visit the locations in the contract to review them.

CJ will email Pete Croft to highlight members concerns after reviewing the tick sheet.

**ACTION: CJ to email Pete Croft regarding members concerns.**

### **5. To receive an update regarding the recommendation to the Town Council about the grass cutting contract with EDDC**

CJ explained that the working party have learnt a lot from having the grass cutting contract with EDDC and going forward ETC would like to be informed within 7 days of work completed so we have an opportunity to check it.

Since the recommendation went to Town Council to seek further quotes and alternative contractors, CJ has been working on documentation to send to potential contractors which was shared with members prior to the meeting.

CJ went through some of the key points in the documentation and members clarified some words to be amended.

Members discussed roads that are currently on the contract and decided on the ones to remove, ones to stay and roads to visit to decide if they need to be removed or to stay on the new contract. Ashleigh Road, Lamplough Road, Marpool Hill, Turner Avenue were noted as areas to visit.

SD to print maps in A3 for IK to collect.

IK has concerns with Bystock Road and Pines Road junction with Jubilee Drive looking a mess which is DCC owned. IK and MC will visit to note verges that need to be added to the new contract.

**ACTION: IK to email members regarding the site visit. SD to print maps for IK.**

#### **6. To receive an update regarding the recommendation to the Town Council about the long-term solution for weed clearing**

The long-term solution for weed clearing was supported at the Town Council meeting.

The town maintenance budget was discussed, and CJ said she would like to add some capital money to the budget for additional equipment.

CJ asked OD to add an item to the agenda for some capital provisions to the Town Maintenance budget for additional equipment.

The seasonal worker we pay EDDC for was discussed as members queried the work they will do in the two days a week through the Winter period. CJ said she will liaise with the Town Area Leader Andy Gordon Raby to see if the seasonal worker is still working, and she will come back to members.

#### **7. To receive an update on general Town Maintenance work**

Tony, Neil and Stephen are on annual leave this week.

The team have been focussing on weed clearing work and grounds maintenance work. Some footpath work commenced the week of 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and several roads have been completed working their way up to Brixington.

IK said he would like to do a trial of the weed killer that Matt Hall presented to members at the last meeting, in an area that he can monitor to see how effective this is. IK to email CJ the name of the weedkiller and CJ will put this into place.

**ACTION: IK to email CJ the name of the weed killer.**

#### **8. Any other business**

**Colony clean up** – OD reminded CJ about setting a date for this to happen so that ETC can get all the necessary provisions in place with EDDC and DCC.

**Exmouth in Bloom** – CJ informed members that EIB received Gold in the Southwest in Bloom and also received Champion of Champions. Gerry and Marion, from Exmouth In Bloom sent their thanks to the Town Maintenance team for all their involvement.

**Traffic Islands** – IK asked to have traffic islands on our radar as they are looking a mess.

**9. To note the date of the next meeting**

16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Meeting finished at 12:24