

# EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

## Campervan Task and Finish Forum

Notes of the meeting held at 9:30AM on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
held via Zoom

### Present

Richard Easthope	RE	East Devon District Council
Gerry Mills	GM	East Devon District Council
Councillor Fred Caygill	FC	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Jeff Trail BEM	JT	Devon County Council
Councillor Christine Channon	CC	Devon County Council
Councillor Geoff Jung	GJ	East Devon District Council
Councillor Mark Williamson	MW	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Mollie Carey	MC	Exmouth Town Council

### Apologies

None

#### 1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

FC welcomed members to the meeting. No apologies for absence had been received.

#### 2. To receive and discuss the Foxholes feasibility assessment document.

FC then welcomed RE to the meeting and asked him to provide an update from a District Council perspective on the Foxholes feasibility assessment document which had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. RE reported that the report focused on specific elements and possibilities for Exmouth and his own personal recommendations based on what he has learnt from extensive research and information provided by CAMPRA. CAMPRA had supplied a more in-depth insight into the motorhome community, seasonal considerations and the economic advantages of providing facilities.

Figures included in the documentation show that Foxholes is a well-used car park but there is an opportunity to incorporate improvement works at the car park (as well as Mear Road and Queens drive sites) before the planned resurfacing work is carried out by EDDC.

The provision of waste and water amenities would enhance the use by the campervan and motorhome community and have a subsequent benefit to the Town.

RE then invited members to discuss their thoughts for a proposed way forward for Exmouth.

Members commended RE for the work that had been delivered in the scoping exercise and were broadly in support of the need for grey and toilet water waste facilities to be provided *if* we are to allow people to stay overnight in EDDC carparks. Questions were raised by Councillors as to whether there is a need for more extensive facilities, including a laundrette, electric hook ups and shower blocks, for example, and also the need for spacing alignments and safety measures in line with current campsite regulations. It was agreed that the provision of a larger range of facilities needs to be considered in the context of the cost benefit analysis within the report.

The merits of the different carpark sites and the options presented in the feasibility assessment document were discussed at length but members felt that further scoping of the potential to provide a larger range of facilities needed to be done before a recommendation could be made. RE highlighted that there are potential complications associated with the provision of more facilities as they would potentially constitute a change of use in Planning terms but amenities suggested by Members included grey/black waste-water disposal, electricity points, showers, toilets and washing facilities. Both Maer Road and Foxholes sites were noted to be on a direct bus route into the Town Centre and Sandy Bay.

FC subsequently proposed, seconded by CC and agreed by all that EDDC should provide a more detailed cost benefit analysis for specific amenities at the Foxholes and Maer Road carparks, this includes the definitive work involved with developing and delivering each site.

### **Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting be left in abeyance and confirmed when GJ and RE have carried out further feasibility work.

The meeting finished at 11.00am