

# EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

## Community Organisation Liaison Panel (COLP)

Notes of the meeting held at 10am on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in the Town Hall Chamber

### Present

Councillor David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Graham Deasy	GD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Brian Bailey	BB	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Aurora Bailey	AB	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Mark Williamson	MW	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Louise Venables	LV	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council (Officer)
Ian Cann	IC	Exmouth Civic Society
Dave Radford	DR	Exmouth Civic Society
Tony Siddall	TS	Churches Together

### Apologies

Councillor Pauline Stott	PS	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Andrew Woodward	AW	Exmouth Town Council
Andrew Gordon-Raby	AGR	East Devon District Council (Streetscene)
Peter Crofts	PC	East Devon District Council (Streetscene)
Peter Blyth	PB	East Devon District Council (Streetscene)
Geoff Skinner	GS	Exmouth Community Association
Adrian Toole	AT	Transition Exmouth
Carol Jay	CJ	Transition Exmouth

### 1. Welcome and apologies

DP welcomed members to the meeting and apologies were noted.

### 2. To agree the notes of the previous meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

MW proposed and GD seconded the accuracy of the notes dated the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 and members agreed.

### 3. Matters arising from the previous meeting

DP updated members that Councillor Boatright has stood down from the WEB Board and the position has been taken over by TD.

### 4. To receive an update on the Developing Local Plan. The latest reports from EDDC's Strategic Planning Committee can be found here:

[Browse meetings - Strategic Planning Committee - East Devon](#)

LB previously reported that in the last Strategic Planning Committee meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September there was a forward plan set out and some detail explaining the supplementary report work that needed to be completed within a certain time limit. LB confirmed that there have been two Strategic Planning meetings since the last COLP meeting, notes of which are available to view through the link provided on the agenda. LB provided members with a brief update on the minutes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October meeting

which included proposals for green wedges, LB urged members to read the comprehensive report in the minutes.

From the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October LB advised members that there is a consultation out from government on local plans and that a draft response had been discussed at the meeting and an updated timetable produced for the local plan.

IC commented that he had previously argued very strongly during the Neighbourhood Plan process for green wedge status between Exmouth and Lypstone but was told that there was enough protection in place, so he is pleased that it is being reviewed. LB confirmed that the criteria for green wedge status is very strict and that the land in question between Lypstone and Exmouth might not meet the criteria, but it was positive that the issue was being pursued.

It was also reported that LB and OD had attended a meeting with Woodbury and Lypstone Parish Council's to discuss the green wedge strategy. EDDC Councillor Geoff Jung had sought support from the parish councils to take forward the promotion of green wedges. LB also confirmed that ETC responded in the first round of consultation for the emerging Local Plan that protection of the area of land between Lypstone and Exmouth was imperative.

**5. To receive an update on the Levelling Up Fund project progress and to note that the consultation for Exmouth Gateway aspect is now open:**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/exmouth-active-travel-improvements/>

GD reported that the Town Council had recently attended a meeting with the DCC Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Environment and Transport (Andrea Davis) and the officer that instigated the Levelling Up Fund (Hannah Clark) to discuss councillors' concerns about the proposed Gateway scheme. GD advised members that there was some objection to the closure of the subway and concerns over money being spent on the project. GD was personally concerned about the relationship between the gateway proposal and the placemaking and how there is a need for the two projects to work better together. GD advised that one outcome from the recent Placemaking meeting is that there is a suggestion that EDDC needs to work with DCC *and* ETC to get the best outcomes for the Town.

GD updated members that the public consultation for the Gateway proposals has now officially opened and members were urged to attend the presentation on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December at the LED or a couple of days later in Brixington.

**6. To receive an update on the progress of a review of Exmouth Neighbourhood Plan**

LB reported in the previous meeting that locality support has been received from AECOM for a housing needs assessment for Exmouth and a policy review of the Neighbourhood Plan. Work has now commenced on both.

LB updated members that depending on the outcomes of the housing needs assessment and the policy review, ETC will need to seek input from EDDC on the necessary

processes to update the Neighbourhood Plan. LB confirmed that the EDDC Planning Policy team is also reaching out to all councils who have adopted Neighbourhood Plans to seek clarification on what work is ongoing with Neighbourhood Plans so they can factor this into the Local Plans.

MW queried if any Neighbourhood Plan officers were in place at EDDC, LB confirmed that Angela King has been in post at EDDC for a couple of years and is liaising with all the town and parish councils to assist with updating Neighbourhood Plans.

## **7. To discuss issues relating to the newly implemented resident parking schemes**

IC has spoken to residents in the Colonies who are pleased with the scheme however he has spoken to residents in nearby roads that are not in the permit zones who are now experiencing high volumes of cars parking in their roads. IC queried why the residents parking was pulled in Carter Avenue as residents voted in favour and the unintended consequence of this has resulted in people parking in that road that previously parked in the Colonies.

The Town Hall fire alarm started so members evacuated the building.

Members returned however MW and TS left the meeting.

LB confirmed that DCC has stated that it will review the scheme in December and that residents will have the opportunity to feed in to the review; however it is unclear whether there would be a second vote for the residents parking scheme and what form the review would take. LB will query this with DCC on behalf of COLP.

In AT's absence, LV advised that AT was pleased with the residents parking scheme in the Colonies. LB advised members that the EDDC Parking Services Manager, RE reported in the August Exmouth Transport Partnership meeting that when the resident's parking scheme was implemented in August an additional 140 new car park permits were purchased for the estuary side car park.

### **StreetScene update**

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

## **8. Update from Town Council Working parties and outside body representatives**

### **Festival and Events Working Party – Exmouth Winter Festival**

LB confirmed that the Winter Festival will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2023 and has a fire and ice theme to include the children's lantern parade starting at the Holy Trinity church followed by the Christmas tree light switch on in the Strand.

LG will circulate soft copies of posters/flyers to members for promotion and display.

LB updated members that lots of community groups are taking part, walkabout entertainers and that the Christmas lights will be put up around town week beginning the 20<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **Visit Exmouth**

LB advised that RB is working on a new Visit Exmouth website to include paid membership from local businesses which will be reinvested back into the Visit Exmouth website. LB stated that ETC commissioned a video and lots of still photos of Exmouth in the summer which will be hosted on the new website and when live LB will share the link.

### **Churches Together**

IC confirmed that all the churches will host an event in the Strand called Christmas Encounters on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December between 9am and 4pm. IC will supply ETC with a poster for promotion in the Magnolia Kiosk.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

Following an item requested by Tony Siddall, DP updated members that there will be a wash up meeting for the Remembrance Sunday service and would include a pre plan for next year.

LB confirmed that the National Association of Local Councils has co-authored a letter with the Royal British Legion Head Office and contacted all the local town and parish councils to say that local RBL branches should not be getting involved in the event organisation of the Remembrance Sunday as they do not have the budget or resources to organise the event and provide the insurance cover or Chapter 8 qualified staff to oversee the road closures. Going forward, it is therefore likely that the event will be ETC led. LB will discuss this with local RBL in the wash up meeting to establish the division of responsibilities, but ETC will, as in 2022 and 2023, be the event organiser and urged members to provide any feedback from their organisations to feed into the washup meeting.

DR confirmed that 29 Sea Scouts took part and people were impressed with the well organised service. DP watched the service through web cam and thought it was excellent.

### **Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group**

GD provided members with a brief update that two stakeholder workshops had taken place in the summer and the findings were used to produce an updated strategic document for EDDC cabinet. GD confirmed that the document does not contain anything specific at this stage just ideas and suggestions which GD found disappointing. GD provided members with several suggestions and ideas that were included in the document and advised that if it goes to the next cabinet meeting, the next stage should be more specific. BB aired his disappointment with the pace of the project and lack of funding.

## **9. Any other business**

AB requested that all mobile phones are switched off during meetings.

## **10. Next meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Since LB was unable to attend the next scheduled meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, members discussed rescheduling the meeting and it was decided that the meeting should be cancelled.

The meeting concluded at 11:50