EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Exmouth Town Hall, St. Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 9th December, 2024 at 6.30pm.

Present: **Councillors**

J Whibley (chair)
F Caygill
M Chapman
D Conduit
O Davey
G Deasy
T Dumper
M Hall
N Hookway
I Kirvan
C Nicholas
A Sadiq
A Toye
J Whipps
M Williamson
D Wilson
A Woodward

Officers:
Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk

Apologies: Apologies were noted from Councillors Aurora Bailey, Brian Bailey, Andrew Colman, Steve Gazzard, David Poor, Mike Rosser, Pauline Stott and Louise Venables.

Public Forum:

No members of the public had registered to speak.

C24/090. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Maddy Chapman proposed, Councillor Tim Dumper seconded, and it was agreed by all that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record.

C24/091. Matters arising from previous minutes.

C24/092. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations. There were no declarations of pecuniary interests.

C24/093. Exclusion of the Press and public. There were no items which necessitated the exclusion of the press and public.

C24/094. 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 Tim Dumper seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 4th November and 18th November 2024 be accepted as a true record.

Councillor Matt Hall proposed, Councillor Olly Davey seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 14th November 2024 be accepted as a true record.

The following were also noted:

Notes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency working party held on 12th September and 20th November 2024. It was also noted that the TOWN Council has been shortlisted for NALC Star Council Awards 2024 in the Climate Response of the Year category.

Notes of the Community Organisation Liaison Panel held on 25th November 2024.

Verbal update of the Exmouth Transport Partnership working party held on 3rd December 2024. Councillor Tim Dumper, in his capacity as Chair, highlighted concerns with bus diversions affecting Moorfield Estate and broader Stagecoach service issues which concern the Transport Partnership.

Notes of the Festival and Events Working Party held on 21st November 2024.

Notes of the Town Maintenance Overview working party held on 14th November 2024. In respect of a recommendation from the working party that the Council should consider acquiring a road sweeper by contract hire at a cost of £45,000 per annum, Councillor Joe Whibley proposed acceptance of the recommendation, subject to the necessary due diligence and demonstrations. Councillor Joy Whipps seconded the proposal, and it was agreed by all.

RESOLVED: that subject to carrying out due diligence and demonstrations to verify the increase in productivity of the town maintenance team to improve the overall appearance and cleanliness of the town, the Town Council acquires by contract hire a road sweeper and associated attachments at a cost of £45,000 per year (including Repair & Maintenance).

Reports from members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies

- **Exmouth and District Community Transport:** Councillor Tim Dumper provided a verbal update.
- **Exmouth District Allotment Association:** Councillor Olly Davey provided a verbal update. It was noted the Management Agreement with the Allotment Association will be reviewed imminently.
- **Fairtrade Steering Group:** Councillor Tim Dumper provided a verbal update and confirmed that Fairtrade Fortnight will be held in September 2025.
- **Twinning Association:** Councillor Tim Dumper provided a verbal update.

- **Otter to Exe Clerks and Chairman Meeting:** Lisa Bowman provided a verbal update from the recent meeting at which there had been a heavy focus on Community Resilience and the Emerging Local Plan.
- **Citizens Advice East Devon:** Councillor Andrew Toye provided a verbal update.

District Councillors' Reports: Councillor Joe Whibley had circulated a written report highlighting work of the District Council's Licensing Committee in relation to taxi tariffs under the Guilford Method. This takes into account changes in the cost of living and balances that against the need to maintain an affordable service. It would reduce the amount of uncertainty around timelines for fare changes and provide a more robust and predictable system under which licensing officers can work. Councillor Maddy Chapman commended the recent Licencing and Scrutiny Training offered by the District Council. Councillor Nick Hookway confirmed the appointment of a Senior Leisure Officer for East Devon District Council.

County Councillors' Reports: County Councillor Richard Scott was in attendance and answered questions relating to the timetabling of work for the construction of the Dinan Way extension and repairs to the bridge in Moorfield Road. Members also sought clarification on the proposal to widen a footpath from Courtlands Cross, the stopping up of Summer Lane, residents parking and the policy pertaining to traffic permits for school staff. Councillor Scott also highlighted budget impacts which had been discussed at a recent meeting of Devon County Council and encouraged all Members to attend the forthcoming "Meet the Leader Event" scheduled for Wednesday 18 December at The Beehive, Honiton as this represented an exclusive opportunity to meet the Leader of Devon County Council and hear directly about the County Council's current priorities, key challenges and plans for the upcoming year, including discussions on the budget and future strategies.

C24/095. To agree a response to the DEFRA consultation on bathing water reforms to consider water sports and water quality. Councillor Graham Deasy presented the recommended response, which was subsequently proposed for acceptance by Councillor Joe Whibley, seconded by Councillor Maddy Chapman and agreed by all when put to a vote.

C24/096. To agree the 2025 meeting calendar dates. Councillor Joe Whibley proposed, Councillor Olly Davey seconded, and it was agreed by all to accept the proposed meeting dates for 2025.

C24/097. To note that the meeting scheduled for 10th March 2025 is the Annual Town Meeting. The proposed date for the Annual Town Meeting was noted.

The meeting concluded at 7.43pm

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