EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Campervan Task and Finish Forum

Notes of the meeting of the Campervan TAFF held at 10:00am on Monday 31st March 2025, via Zoom.

Present

Richard Easthope	RE	East Devon District Council
Councillor Geoff Jung	GJ	East Devon District Council
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Jeff Trail BEM	JT	Devon County Council
Councillor Mark Williamson	MW	Exmouth Town Council
Lisa Bowman	LB	Exmouth Town Council
Mollie Carey	MC	Exmouth Town Council

Apologies

Councillor Richard Scott	RS	Devon County Council
Councillor Fred Caygill	FC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Christine Channon	CC	Devon County Council
Councillor Daniel Wilson	DW	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Joe Whibley	JW	Exmouth Town Council
Christopher Rook	CR	Devon County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies

MW welcomed members to the meeting in FC's absence and apologies for absence were noted.

2. To approve the notes of the meeting held on Friday 27th September 2025 at 10am.

The meeting notes were approved as an accurate record, with all members in agreement.

3. To receive and discuss the consultation data analysis from the Exmouth motorhome parking consultation.

RE provided an update on the consultation on overnight motorhome parking, which ran from January 4th to February 13th and saw a higher-than-expected response. The consultation followed a request from East Devon District Council (EDDC) Cabinet to gather public opinion on proposed motorhome parking changes in Exmouth.

Data is still being analysed but based on an initial analysis of 676 respondents, 507 supported overnight motorhome parking, while 117 opposed it, and 42 were neutral. A majority (426) identified as motorhome owners. When asked about staying overnight in council car parks, responses mirrored the overall sentiment. Supporters

highlighted economic benefits and convenience, while opponents raised concerns about overcrowding, antisocial behaviour, and safety.

Key facility requests included waste disposal, chemical disposal points, and fresh water supply. Other suggestions involved CCTV, better signage, picnic benches, and designated dog areas. Most respondents supported the current three-night stay limit, though some suggested shorter or longer durations.

The current £11 overnight fee was generally deemed appropriate, though many suggested it was too low. Some proposed an increase to fund better facilities, with £12 to £15 as potential new rates. Comparisons were made to private campsites, and it was suggested that any price hike should coincide with facility improvements.

Concerns were raised about enforcement challenges. Respondents supported stricter patrols, CCTV, and number plate recognition to prevent misuse. RE noted that local authorities cannot use ANPR data for enforcement unless physical barriers are present, posing operational difficulties.

Councillors discussed the potential for increased funding and enforcement resources, emphasising the need for personnel with de-escalation skills. There was optimism about securing funding and a recommendation to take the consultation results to Exmouth Town Council before presenting them to the EDDC Cabinet for reconsideration.

LB and GJ stressed the importance of proper facilities to prevent displacement onto residential streets. The discussion concluded with an agreement that the consultation demonstrated strong public support for improved motorhome parking provisions, warranting further action from the Council.

SG proposed and MW seconded a recommendation to Full Council that the Campervan TAFF endorses the results of the recent public consultation and supports the recommended improvements to the current overnight parking arrangements based on the feedback received.

MW thanked all attendees for their participation, noting that a further, potentially final, meeting might be necessary and the meeting was adjourned.

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting will be scheduled when RE can report back from EDDC.

The meeting finished at 11:50am