EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Exmouth Town Hall, St. Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 20th October , 2025 at 6.30pm.

Present: **Councillors**

G Deasy (Chair)	I Kirvan
B Bailey	N Nicholls
M Chapman	P Stott
A Colman (arrived 6.45)	L Venables
O Davey	J Whibley
M Hall	M Williamson
N Hookway (arrived 6.45)	A Woodward

Officers:
Chetna Jones, Deputy Town Clerk.

Apologies: Apologies were noted from Councillors Aurora Bailey, Fred Caygill, Dianne Conduit, Tim Dumper, Steve Gazzard, Cherry Nicholas, David Poor, Mike Rosser, Alex Sadiq and Dan Wilson.

Public Forum: There were no questions from members of the public.

Councillor Graham Deasy requested, and it was agreed that that Councillor Jeff Trail be allowed to provide an update as he needed to leave after to attend another meeting.

Councillor Jeff Trail informed members that the current issues at Devon County Council were:

- Libraries Mutual, who provided a much-needed library service, was in danger of closing. A consultation is to be released shortly, and Councillor Trail urged the town council to promote the consultation and support this much needed service.
- Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)
- Street parking meter charges were being reviewed. There is likely to be a price increase and different rates introduced depending on whether the user was a resident or a visitor. However, the matter has been called in by members and is to be reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Jeff Trail went on to inform members of various highway matters including upgrade work as part of the Gateway proposal which now included various crossing points on Dinan Way, Exeter Road and bus laybys and drainage improvements on Hulham Road. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions on the proposed work.

Councillor Helen Brown added that the County Council will be holding a meeting on 26th November to agree the final proposal on the LGR for Devon before submitting to the Government for review. Devon County Council is in favour of the 1/1/9 proposal of three combined authorities Plymouth, Torbay and the rest of Devon.

Councillors Trail and Brown thanked members for their time and left the meeting.

C25/091. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Maddy Chapman proposed, Councillor Pauline Stott seconded, and it was agreed by all that the minutes of the previous meeting both the public and confidential versions be accepted as a true record.

C25/092. Matters arising from previous minutes.

There were no matter arising.

C25/093. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations.

Cllr Matt Hall declared a personal interest in the item relating to Exmouth in Bloom presentation.

C25/094. Exclusion of the Press and public.

There were no items requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

C25/095. 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 Andrew Woodward proposed, Councillor Joe Whibley seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 1st September, 15th September and 29th September 2025 be accepted as a true record.

The following were also received and noted:

Notes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency working party held on 23rd September 2025.

Notes of the Community Resilience working party held on 23rd September 2025.

Notes of the Exmouth Transport Partnership working party held on 7th October 2025.

Notes of the Festival and Events working party held on 19th September 2025.

Notes of the Public Rights of Way working party held on 24th September 2025.

Notes of the Town Premises and Assets Working Party held on 25th September 2025.

The Inspection form from the Waterfront working party held on 16th September 2025.

Reports from members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies

- **Devon Bus Forum:** No report was provided.
- **Exmouth District Allotments Association:** Councillor Olly Davey informed members that the Allotment Association held their AGM last week in which it was agreed to increase the rental charge of a plot. He added that a large water bill was anticipated due to the long period of dry weather.
- **Exmouth and District Community Transport**: No report was provided.
- **Exmouth in Bloom:** Attended the meeting in person to give a presentation.
- **Exe Estuary Management Partnership:** The notes were previously circulated and noted.
- **Fairtrade Steering Group:** No report was provided.
- **OPCC Councillor Advocate Scheme:** No report was provided.
- **Twinning Association:** No report was provided.
- **WEB Community Health and Wellbeing Board:** No report was provided.
- **Beach Wheelchair project:** Councillor Pauline Stott confirmed that a grant funding of £2,000 from the Community Initiative Fund had been awarded for wheelchair improvements.

Councillor Matt Hall confirmed the sewage spill was not in Chichester Close but in an underground pipe on an adjacent path that leads to Phear Park. The issue seemed to be in a pipe joint and South West Water was awaiting the part to repair the leak. A tree had been removed to gain access and Councillor Hall asked that the town council ensures it is reinstated.

District Councillors' Reports: Councillor Joe Whibley's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Councillors' Reports: Councillor Trail and Brown's report were provided at the start of the meeting. Councillor Nick Hookway informed members that the WEB meeting was very positive with the group looking at preparing for winter and putting together a list of where warm spaces were available in Exmouth. The Deputy Clerk informed Councillor Hookway that the town council, as part of its Emergency Planning had a list which had just recently been updated and would send him a copy. Councillor Nick Hookway also informed members that information was being gathered for Littleham regarding cycle path concerns, Littleham Cross junction improvements and speeding on Queen's Drive. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions.

C25/096. To receive a presentation from Exmouth in Bloom

Anne Hall, Chair of Exmouth in Bloom was invited to give a short presentation. Anne Hall started by informing members of the work carried out by 60 volunteers ranging from maintaining the many sites, beds and towers and the fundraising that takes place throughout the year.

Anne Hall thanked the town council for the SLA grant received which along with the fund-raising efforts helps with the running costs of almost £20,000 per year. This has been reflected in the results this year with Exmouth's submission obtaining gold in the Champion of Champions as well as a special seaside award.

C25/97. To note the conclusion of the Limited Assurance Review (Audit) for year ending 31st March 2025.

Councillor Pauline Stott proposed, Councillor Matt Hall seconded, and it was agreed by all that the notice of conclusion of the limited Assurance Review (Audit) for ending 31st March 2025 be noted.

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm.

Signed ……. (Chair)

Date ……..