EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Town Maintenance Overview Working Party

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Ian Kirvan	IK	Exmouth Town Council (Chair)
Councillor Maddy Chapman	MC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Dianne Conduit	DC	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Olly Davey	OD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Graham Deasy (ex officio)	GD	Exmouth Town Council
Councillor Steve Gazzard	SG	Exmouth Town Council
Chetna Jones	CJ	Exmouth Town Council
Sam Dorman (note taker)	SD	Exmouth Town Council

Apologies

Councillor David Poor	DP	Exmouth Town Council

1. **Welcome and apologies**

IK welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

2. **To approve the notes of the meeting held on 13th November 2025 and any matters arising therein**

The notes of the previous meeting held on 13th November 2025 were proposed for approval by OD, seconded by DC, and agreed by all.

Matters arising:

Item 2 ACTION – IK to email all Town Councillors to gauge interest in participating in clean – up activities. IK apologised again for the delay and confirmed he would send an email in the new year.

Members discussed drainage issues in Exmouth town centre, with IK noting that many drainage grids in the footpaths are blocked and have not been cleaned for several years, particularly in areas such as Rolle Street, Imperial Road, and the Parade. Members agreed to contact Councillor Jeff Trail regarding specific problem areas, and IK offered to email him with details of the worst affected locations. Members also highlighted the need for a structured maintenance programme to address ongoing issues, with DC suggesting that the town centre should be prioritised due to high footfall.

OD raised concerns about flooding on the Strand near the War Memorial. Members discussed the matter, and MC reported that in the past the EDDC Streetscene team had pressure-hosed the area to clear blockages. IK will email EDDC to report the issue.

Bus Shelter list – IK reported that two additional bus stops—one on Jubilee Drive just up from Priddis Close, and one on Parkside Drive—are not included on the current bus shelter list. He believed these shelters belonged to DCC. CJ noted that although DCC installed the shelter on Parkside Drive, it is maintained by ETC. SD confirmed she would investigate both shelters and update the list accordingly.

Update on the proposal from Exmouth Rotary for seating in the Magnolia Centre in recognition of their 100th anniversary – CJ reported that there were no further updates at this time, but she had made some enquiries regarding options for the central feature and would report back once more information was available.

3. **To receive an update on the graffiti within Exmouth**

There were no reports of new graffiti.

4. **To receive an update on grass cutting.**

CJ confirmed she had emailed Idverde to request one final cut in October, weather permitting. However, the ground has not been dry enough for them to carry this out. It was noted that two cuts remain, with one scheduled for March 2026.

CJ noted that she had been asked by a parish council to provide a reference for Idverde. She explained that although there had been some initial communication challenges, these had improved once additional administrative support was put in place by Idverde.

5. **To receive an update on general Town Maintenance work**

IK praised the Town Maintenance team's work on Dinan Way and Bradham Lane, including their attention to the footpaths, noting that these areas look much improved. CJ added that the team had also completed work on St Johns Road and that Streetscene assisted with its road sweeper to collect all the rubbish. With these additional roads finished, the road sweeper will now begin work in zone one.

The team has also completed some ground maintenance tasks, including work on the raised bed on Salterton Road near Hamilton Lane.

CJ explained that an email from Streetscene area officer, asking for Town Maintenance team's assistance on clearing weeds along Long Causeway. CJ used this opportunity to highlight some communication and collaboration issues between ETC and Streetscene. She confirmed that she had received a positive response.

SG noted the good work carried out on Long Causeway and on Douglas Avenue near the Deaf Academy area.

CJ reported ongoing problems with water accumulation in the Phear Park yard due to a blocked drain, causing vehicles to sit in standing water. Members agreed the need to park vans elsewhere.

Members also discussed the need to store the road sweeper indoors, noting that the current yard is unsuitable due to the lack of covered storage. CJ felt it was time to begin exploring alternative premises. Members put forward several suggestions, but none were deemed suitable. CJ will speak with the Town Maintenance team to identify their requirements and report back to members.

6. **To discuss the need for trees to be cut back on DCC land maintained by ETC**

Members discussed a tree encroaching onto a resident's property near Hamilton Lane, following a request for ETC to cut it back. While the Town Maintenance team maintain the grass area, they do not undertake tree work due to the height involved. CJ noted a similar issue near Exmouth Football Club, where bushes and trees are overhanging the roadside.

CJ asked members whether ETC should push the responsibility back to DCC or consider appointing a tree surgeon to carry out the work. Members agreed that the responsibility should rest with DCC. OD suggested checking for any Tree Preservation Orders, and SD offered to look into this. IK suggested that the Town Maintenance team take photographs of the areas so they can be attached to the meeting notes and raised at the next Full Council meeting when County Councillors are present.

SG reported that, unfortunately, the old Turkey Oak tree in Manor Gardens is scheduled to be removed during the week commencing 8 December 2025.

ACTION(s): CJ to ask the Town Maintenance team to take photographs of the areas. SD to enquire about TPO's on the trees.

7. **Any other business**

No other business.

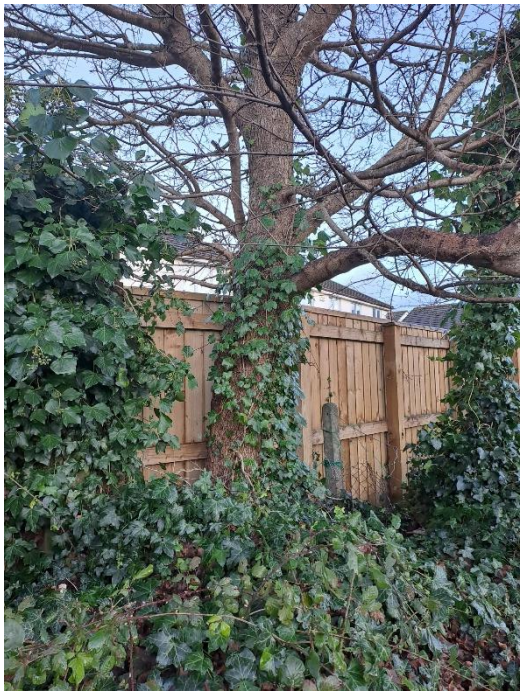
8. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 8th January at 10:00am via Zoom.

Trees at Hamilton Lane



















Tree near the Football club







