EXMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Exmouth Town Hall, St. Andrews Road, Exmouth on Monday 19 October, 2026 at 6.30pm.

Present: **Councillors**

G Deasy (Chair)	N Hookway
A Bailey	S Isaacs
B Bailey	I Kirvan
M Chapman	C Nicholas
A Colman	D Poor
O Davey	P Stott
T Dumper	J Whibley
S Gazzard	M Williamson
M Hall	A Woodward

Officers:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk
Mark Devin, Deputy Town Clerk.

Apologies: Apologies were noted from Councillors, Dianne Conduit, David Poor, Nicky Nicholls, Mike Rosser, Alex Sadiq, Louise Venables and Dan Wilson

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

C26/085. Council meeting minutes

Councillor Andrew Woodward proposed, Councillor Joe Whibley seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 September 2026 be approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment recording Councillor Fred Caygill as giving apologies.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10 August 2026 be approved as a true record, subject to the agreed amendments.

C26/086. Matters arising from previous minutes.

There were no other matters arising.

C26/087. Declarations of pecuniary interests and dispensations.

No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were made.

C26/088. Exclusion of the Press and public.

There were no items which necessitated the exclusion of the press and public.

C26/089. 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 Tim Dumper proposed, Councillor Brian Bailey seconded, and it was agreed that the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 14 September, and 28 September 2026 be accepted as a true record. An amendment was noted regarding attendance.

The following were received and noted:

- Notes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Party meeting held on 6 October 2026.
- Notes of the Exmouth Transport Partnership Working Party meeting held on 15 September 2026.
- Notes of the Festival and Events Working Party meeting held on 17 September 2026.
- Notes of the Flooding and Water Quality Working Party meeting held on 24 September 2026.
- Notes of the Public Rights of Way Working Party meeting held on 24 September 2026.
- Notes of the Tree Forum Working Party meeting held on 30 September 2026.
- Notes of the Waterfront Working Party inspection held on 22 September 2026.

Particular reference was also made to:

- concerns regarding local bus services, including the temporary diversion of the 57 service and the future of the 99E service;
- the Environment Agency consultation response regarding the proposed Sandy Bay outfall;
- ongoing investigations concerning the Littleham Brook pollution incident;
- street lighting and maintenance issues in the Strand and Café Quarter;
- tree safety concerns following the prolonged dry weather; and
- parking and enforcement matters on the estuary front.

In relation to the Community Resilience Working Party recommendations, Councillor Tim Dumper proposed, Councillor Steve Gazzard seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to approve the recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the Council:

1) Adopt the amendments set out in Appendices A-H for the revised Community Emergency Plan;
2) Adopt the revised Emergency Box arrangements set out in the accompanying appendices and approve the associated expenditure required within approved budgets and, where necessary, from General Reserves; and
3) Amend the Community Resilience Working Party Terms of Reference to provide for four meetings per municipal year, held on a quarterly basis.

Thanks were made to the Deputy Town Clerk for the significant work undertaken in relation to the work undertaken and the speed and efficiency with which it had been completed.

In relation to the Town Maintenance Overview Working Party recommendations, Councillor Ian Kirvan outlined preliminary work reviewing future vehicle requirements and options for replacement, leasing, or purchasing vehicles.

Following discussion, Councillor Ian Kirvan proposed, Councillor Steve Gazzard seconded, and it was agreed to support the continued investigation of vehicle replacement options and to bring detailed proposals forward through the budget process.
Councillor Ian Kirvan proposed, Councillor Steve Gazzard seconded, and it was agreed to approve the recommendations of the Town Maintenance Overview Working Party.

RESOLVED: That the Council approve the purchase of a replacement Berlingo vehicle, to explore the purchase of a replacement Ford Transit vehicle (subject to due diligence), to undertake further research into options for replacing the Ford Ranger and include a full review of vehicle requirements across the organisation as part of the Council's future budget considerations.

Reports from members who represent the Council on Outside Bodies

Verbal updates were received, where available, from Council representatives on Outside Bodies. Particular reference was made to:

- Forthcoming meetings of the Exmouth Water Users Group.
- Progress regarding future police front desk provision in Exmouth.
- A forthcoming Water Quality Summit at the University of Exeter.
- The cancellation and rearrangement of the Exmouth Sea Cadets AGM and Awards evening.
- The WEB Community Health and Wellbeing Board was being held on 20th October 2026. Concern was expressed regarding the potential loss of the Treetops surgery and the need to maintain adequate GP services in Exmouth. Councillor Conduit would be asked to raise Member concerns at the meeting, but a formal Council response would need to be considered through the normal committee process.
- Reference was made to a recent Fairtrade chocolate and wine tasting event held at the Town Hall, which had been well received.

District Councillors' Reports: Councillor Brian Bailey provided an update on regarding the Asset Transfer Policy arrangements at East Devon District Council, following approval of a motion requesting a review of current arrangements.

Councillor Joe Whibley had previously circulated information to Members in advance of the meeting.

County Councillors' Reports: County Councillor Nick Hookway provided an update on a range of Devon County Council matters. Particular reference was made to:

- Devon's current drought status and ongoing discussions with South West Water regarding water resources, leakage reduction, and future resilience measures;
- additional highways maintenance funding approved by Devon County Council and the prioritisation of road repairs across the county;
- recent improvements in Adult Social Care performance and inspection outcomes;
- progress on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and the anticipated timetable for proposals affecting local authorities in Devon;
- ongoing concerns relating to utility company street works and highway reinstatements; and
- developments relating to the Dinan Way extension project.

Members raised a number of highways and transport concerns, including roadworks, highway improvements, pedestrian safety, traffic management, and delays to the Dinan Way extension. County Councillor Hookway responded to questions, agreed to pursue relevant matters with officers and external agencies, and advised that some issues would need to be progressed through Devon County Council's established highways processes.

C26/090. To note the conclusion of the Limited Assurance Review (Audit) for year ending 31st March 2026.

The Town Clerk advised members that the Council had received a satisfactory conclusion to the Limited Assurance Review for the year ended 31 March 2026. Councillor Steve Gazzard proposed, Councillor Ollie Davey seconded, and it was agreed to note the report.

RESOLVED: That the conclusion of the Limited Assurance Review (Audit) for the year ended 31 March 2026 be noted.

End Time: 20.03pm

Signed ……. (Chair)

Date ……..