

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council**  
**held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,**  
**on Monday 5 December 2016 at 6.30pm**

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Michael Earthey Stuart Hughes Dawn Manley
Sidmouth South	Kelvin Dent John Dyson Paul Wright
Sidmouth East	Marc Kilsbie Frances Newth
Sidmouth West	Louise Cole John Rayson
Primley	Simon Pollentine Jeff Turner (Chairman)
Sidford	Jack Brokenshire Ian McKenzie-Edwards (Vice-Chairman)
Sidbury	John Hollick
Salcombe Regis	David Barratt
Apologies:	Ian Barlow, Matt Booth, Gareth Jones

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 9.05pm.

**PART 'A'**

**97 Prayers**

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Handel Bennett.

**98 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on Monday 7 November 2016 were signed as a true and accurate record.

**99 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest received at this meeting.

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Frances Newth	101 Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (NEW Devon CCG) Consultation	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting.	Sidmouth Hospital Comforts Fund Trustee and Vice-President

**100 Public Open Question Time**

- Cllr Rayson asked the Chairman to enquire what was happening to the YMCA building in Mill Street.
- Cllr Brokenshire asked County Councillor Hughes about the clearing of drains and gullies in Sidmouth. County Councillor Hughes supplied Cllr Brokenshire with the website details where further concerns could be reported.

**101 Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (NEW Devon CCG) Consultation**

NEW Devon CCG had issued a consultation document entitled 'Your Future Care'. Dr Forrer GP and Janet Fitzgerald, Chief Officer of the NEW Devon CCG gave a presentation to Members. Graham Vincent and Dr Slot also attended the meeting to inform Members during discussion of the document.

**RESOLVED:** that Sidmouth Town Council was unanimously opposed to the in-patient bed closure at Sidmouth Hospital. An alternative option should be considered by the NEW Devon CCG with 24 beds at Tiverton and 16 beds at Seaton, Exmouth and Sidmouth.

The following additional points would be included within the Council's consultation response:

- It should be recognised that Sidmouth Hospital was fully integrated within its community with a hardworking Comforts Fund Committee which had raised the vast majority of funds for rebuilding, refurbishment and equipment at the hospital.
- The proposal was based on a lack of evidence; there has been no work carried out to assess how many patients in the RD&E and Community Hospitals could be cared for at home. This work would inform how many Community Hospital beds were actually required and where across the district. A more targeted approach, allocating community beds in the district would provide local care where most needed whilst alleviating the pressure on acute wards in the RD & E.
- The NEW Devon CCG business case showed that Sidmouth Hospital had a much lower cost per head than the RD&E and other Community Hospitals.
- The transport facilities and services were superior at Sidmouth compared to Seaton; with many bus services dropping passengers only a short distance from the hospital connecting Sidmouth to many other towns and villages around the East Devon area.
- There was a high proportion of elderly and dementia sufferers in Sidmouth with elderly partners and carers who would find it difficult to travel elsewhere to visit their relatives.
- Concerns were raised regarding the feasibility of the scheme due to potential difficulties with the recruitment of suitable staff for caring in the community.

**102 Police Report**

Sgt Andy Squires presented the police report for November 2016 which showed a reduction from 23 crimes in 2015 to 21 crimes in 2016.

**103 Committee/Working Group Reports**

103.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Earthey, Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 2 and 16 November 2016.

**RESOLVED:** That the Planning Committee reports be noted.

103.2 Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Deirdre Hounsom gave a report of the work being carried out by the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee.

**RESOLVED:** That the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group report be noted.

**104 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities**

104.1 Finance Report

Councillor Wright presented the October 2016 Finance Report.

**RESOLVED:** That the October 2016 Finance Report be noted and agreed.

104.2 Sidmouth Hopper Bus

Councillor Dyson and Councillor Dent presented the Sidmouth Hopper Bus report.

**RESOLVED:** That the Sidmouth Hopper Bus report be noted. Councillors Dyson and Dent were thanked by the Chairman thanked for their work with the enhanced service..

**105 East Devon District Council Street Collection Policy**

East Devon District Council asked for comments on their draft Street Collections Policy and Street Collections Regulations.

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Council supports the draft Street Collections policy in general but that the District Council be asked to clarify the regulations regarding buskers collecting for charity; this was not mentioned in the policy documents and was an area of concern for some residents who felt that collecting for charities whilst busking should be regulated.

**106 Meeting Dates**

Members were asked to note the provisional list of meetings for 2017/2018.

**RESOLVED:** That the list of meetings for 2017/2018 be agreed.

**107 Sidmouth Parish Church Patronage Fund**

The Patronage Secretary of Sidmouth Parish Church had written to invite the Town Council to continue its support by renewing its donation of £100 to commemorate the Town Council's chosen date of 11 November.

**RESOLVED:** That Sidmouth Town Council would support the Sidmouth Parish Church Patronage Fund in the sum of £100.

**108 Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**RESOLVED:** That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of its contents.

**PART 'B'**

**109 Sidmouth Youth Centre Lease**

Members were asked to consider a request from Devon County Council regarding the lease of the Sidmouth Youth Centre.

**RESOLVED:** That Sidmouth Town Council would accept the transfer of freehold of Manstone Youth Centre building from Devon County Council and that the Council's Solicitors be asked to commence transfer proceedings.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL