

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 14 August 2017 at 6.30pm

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.30pm.

PART 'A'

46 Prayers

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Susie Williams.

47 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 3 July 2017 were signed as a true and accurate record.

48 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest raised at this meeting.

49 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chairman

- The Town Clerk updated Members regarding the recent arrival and departure of six caravans and families of travellers at Long Park, Sidmouth. He requested that Members give delegated authority to himself and the Chairman to secure the site with the appropriate number of lockable bollards. These would still enable access for EDDC vehicles and grass cutting equipment.

RESOLVED: That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk and the Chairman to secure Long Park to ensure that no other unauthorised vehicles may access the site in the future.

- The Chairman reported that male Councillors will no longer be required to wear ties at Council meetings.

50 Public Open Question Time

- District Councillor Cathy Gardner wished to ask the Police representative about the enforcement of Public Space Protection Orders especially regarding drinking on the Esplanade and anti-social behaviour. In the absence of a Police representative the Town Clerk reported that he would pass this enquiry onto the Police and forward their response.

51 Police Report

In the absence of Sgt Andy Squires, the Town Clerk presented the police report for July 2017 which showed a total of 47 crimes recorded compared to 44 recorded in July 2016; a increase of 6%.

52 Committee/Working Group Reports

52.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Barlow, Chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 28 June, 12 and 26 July 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee reports be noted.

52.2 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.

53 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

53.1 Finance Report

Councillor Wright presented the June 2017 Finance Report.

RESOLVED: That the June 2017 Finance Report be noted and agreed.

53.2 Sidmouth Hopper Bus

Councillor Dyson reported that this year's Hopper Bus had been very successful so far with more cash collections and Sidmouth businesses continued to support it with donations.

RESOLVED: That the Hopper Bus report be noted.

54 Proposed Footway Scheme Fore Street, Sidmouth

Paul Downes, DCC Neighbourhood Highway Engineer had written to advise that following numerous complaints regarding trip hazards on the footway in Fore Street, Sidmouth (western side from the junction with Old Fore Street to New Street). The County Council proposed to remove the existing modular paved surface and replace with a bitmac flexible material (black tarmac). The slabbed area was trafficked on a regular basis by large vehicles which cause dislodging of slabs with the risk of introducing a trip hazard. This area had been subject to remedial paving works in recent years which had proved unsuccessful, protective measures such as the placing of bollards were not possible due the restrictive width of the footway. The placing of a flexible surface would eliminate the potential for trip hazards.

RESOLVED: That the following observations be forwarded to Devon County Council:

- 1) As this footpath is in a conservation area the use of plain black bitmac was unsuitable and a more aesthetically pleasing solution should be sought.

- 2) A more open feel to the Town Centre should be considered replicating Old Fore Street and Market Place.
- 3) The unique nature of Sidmouth Town Centre must be protected
- 4) The Town Clerk would contact Chris Rooke DCC Highways Officer to request that a review and Traffic Management Plan for Sidmouth be commenced as soon as possible.

55 Woolbrook Post Office – Branch Temporary Closure

Matt Walls, Post Office Network Operations Manager had written to advise that following the resignation of the Postmaster and the withdrawal of the premises for Post Office use the Woolbrook Post Office branch would be closing temporarily on Wednesday 8 November 2017.

RESOLVED: That the temporary closure of the Woolbrook Post Office be noted; alternative premises that could be considered were the Woolbrook newsagents or petrol station.

56 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'

57 Manstone Youth Centre

Cllr Turner, Chairman of the Youth Provision Working Group, presented the report as attached to the agenda.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) This topic be deferred until a later date for full consideration and a report outlining how other towns make such decisions including the criteria used.
- 2) A town plaque be prepared for future presentation.

58 Manstone Skate Park

Members were asked to consider the potential cost of renewal of Manstone Skate Park.

RESOLVED: That:

- 1) the Council commit to the renewal of the Manstone Skatepark with the Youth Provision Working Group taking the lead for the project.
- 2) provision for a range of financial options to budget for the capital expenditure be included in the 2018/19 pre-budget for consideration.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL