

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council's**  
**Tourism and Economy Committee**  
**held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,**  
**on Monday 9 December 2013 at 6.30 pm**

Councillors present: - Simon Pollentine (Chairman)  
Chris Wale (Vice-Chairman)  
Jack Brokenshire  
John Dyson  
John Hollick  
Mary Jolly  
Ann Liverton  
Graham Liverton  
Peter Sullivan

Apologies: Ian Barlow, David Barratt, Stuart Hughes, Ian McKenzie-Edwards

Also Present: Jeff Bailey – Sidmouth Information Centre Manager  
James Sharp – Sidmouth & District Hospitality Assoc.  
Steven Kendall-Torry – Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce

The meeting started at 6:30pm and finished at 7.45pm

## **PART 'A'**

### **18 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Tourism & Economy Committee meeting held on Monday 4 June 2013 were signed as a true and accurate record.

### **19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

### **20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That the classification given to the documents to be submitted to the Council, be confirmed, and that the reports relating to exempt information, be dealt with under Part B.

### **21 INFORMATION CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Information Centre Manager, Jeff Bailey, presented the Information Centre report.

**RESOLVED:** That the Information Manager's report be noted.

### **22 TOWN GUIDE DISTRIBUTION FIGURES**

The Chairman reported the latest Guide distribution figures which showed that nearly 20,000 guides had been sent out so far and there had been over 95,000 hits on the new website since its launch at the beginning of April.

**RESOLVED:** That the Guide distribution figures be noted.

### **23 SEAGULL SUMMIT**

Councillor Peter Sullivan gave a verbal report on the Seagull Summit meeting held at the District Council chambers. The summit meeting had been followed up by a presentation from a falconer given to Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Hospitality Association, Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee, representatives from the District Council and the Town Clerk. At the meeting it was suggested that specially bred hawks could be used as dispersal/deterrent during the gulls breeding season. In addition to this, the District Council would produce posters, leaflets, signs and window stickers to ask people not to feed the gulls. Food outlets would also be encouraged to print their packaging with the same message.

**RESOLVED:** That:

- 1) The Town Clerk continue to approach other seaside towns (preferably 3 others) to encourage three other towns to work with Sidmouth to bring the overall costs per town down to a reasonable sum.
- 2) Town Council Members be asked to release funds from the Special Projects budget in this year's accounts 2013/14 and include an amount in the 2014/15 budget for a Seagull Management Scheme.

**24 GATEWAY TO THE JURASSIC COAST**

A copy of the new Gateway to the Jurassic Coast leaflet had been distributed to Members for their information; this had been funded entirely by the Parishes Together funding. The Town Clerk reported that this along with an accompanying website would be formally launched in the New Year.

**RESOLVED:** That the Gateway to the Jurassic Coast leaflet be noted.

**25 MATTERS RAISED BY INVITED REPRESENTATIVES**

Representatives of the Sidmouth Hospitality Association and the Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce were invited to raise any other items or matters for discussion.

25.1 Steven Kendall-Torry – Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce

Mr Kendall-Torry gave a summary of the various events that had been held in conjunction with or attended by Members of the Town Council and stated that the Chamber of Commerce felt they had a good working relationship with the Town Council.

Mr Kendall-Torry made the following suggestions:

- That next year's Christmas Light Switch On and the Late Night Shopping evenings should both be held on Saturdays instead of Fridays to encourage more people to attend.
- That consideration be given to holding an all day Christmas market in the town on the day of the Late Night Shopping event.
- That the Town Council would be encouraged to become involved in the 'Independent Christmas Competition' which had been introduced for the first time this year.

25.2 James Sharp – Sidmouth & District Hospitality Assoc.

Mr Sharp reported that three matches of the Rugby Work Cup would be held at the Sandy Park ground in Exeter during September 2015. This would bring many visitors to the Exeter and East Devon area and Mr Sharp encouraged the Town Council to promote Sidmouth as a town to visit and/or stay during this competition.

**PART 'B'**

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

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.

**26 TOWN GUIDE AND INFORMATION CENTRE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

The Chairman presented details of income and expenditure for October 2013 in respect of the Guide and Information Centre.

**RESOLVED:** That the Income and Expenditure reports for October 2013 be noted.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE