

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 4 June 2013 at 6.30 pm

Councillors present: - Simon Pollentine (Chairman)
Chris Wale (Vice-Chairman)
Ian Barlow
David Barratt
Jack Brokenshire
Christine Drew
John Hollick
Stuart Hughes
Mary Jolly
Ann Liverton
Graham Liverton
Peter Sullivan

Apologies: Frances Newth

Also Present: Dawn Manley
Jeff Bailey – Sidmouth Information Centre Manager
James Sharp – Sidmouth & District Hospitality Assoc.
Steven Kendall-Torry – Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce
Sheila Kerridge – EDDC Member Champion for Tourism

The meeting started at 6:30pm and finished at 8.40pm

PART 'A'

1 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM & ECONOMY COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Councillor Stuart Hughes and seconded by Councillor Peter Sullivan that Councillor Simon Pollentine be appointed Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Simon Pollentine was duly elected Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM & ECONOMY COMMITTEE

It was proposed by Councillor Christine Drew and seconded by Councillor Jack Brokenshire that Councillor Chris Wale be appointed Vice-Chairman of Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Chris Wale was duly elected Vice-Chairman of Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

3 INVITED REPRESENTATIVES

It was confirmed that, with immediate effect, Sidmouth & District Hospitality Association and Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce would be invited to send one non-voting representative to attend meetings of the Tourism and Economy Committee. Invited attendees or their substitute would not be able to vote on matters or to remain for any discussion conducted during Part B, after the exclusion of the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Tourism & Publicity Committee meeting held on Monday 11 March 2013 were signed as a true and accurate record.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Stuart Hughes	8 Cyclists Welcome	Personal	Remained in Chamber	Devon County Council Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transportation
Simon Pollentine	15 Town Guide Advertising Rates	Personal	Remained in Chamber	Town Directory Advertiser
Ian Barlow	15 Town Guide Advertising Rates	Personal	Remained in Chamber	Town Guide Advertiser

6 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.

7 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 and quotes be obtained for a replacement footfall counter.

8 CYCLISTS WELCOME

The Information Centre Manager, Jeff Bailey, presented his report on the Cyclists Welcome Scheme.

RESOLVED: That:

1. EDDC be contacted to provide additional bike racks for Sidmouth.
2. County Councillor Stuart Hughes to ask DCC whether funds were available to purchase bike cages for Sidmouth.
3. Consult with Cyclists are Welcome and investigate costs for separate lockers to store luggage and bike helmets.

9 TOWN GUIDE DISTRIBUTION FIGURES

The Chairman reported the latest Guide distribution figures which showed that just under 15,000 guides had been sent out so far and there had been nearly 33,000 hits on the new website since its launch at the beginning of April.

RESOLVED: That the Guide distribution figures be noted.

Councillor Ann Liverton left the meeting prior to the following item.

10 TOUR OF BRITAIN

County Councillor Stuart Hughes, Portfolio holder for Transportation, gave an update regarding the preparations being made for the Tour of Britain start in Sidmouth on Friday 20 September. He reported that there would be an official local launch at the end of June when a variety of events including the Sprint Races and King of the Mountains would be announced.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Hughes Tour of Britain report be noted.

11 TOURISM CHAMPION

The Chairman asked Members to welcome and note the appointment of East Devon District Councillor for Sidmouth Town, Sheila Kerridge as Member Champion for EDDC.

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Sheila Kerridge as Member Champion for EDDC be welcomed and noted.

12 EAST DEVON EVENT HUB

The Chairman asked Members to consider the Town Council entering data on the new free listings website East Devon Event Hub which carries information for any and all events and attractions found at www.eastdevonhub.co.uk

RESOLVED: That:

1. Copies of the What's On be emailed to the Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce and Sidmouth Hospitality Association for their Members information.
2. The Town Clerk investigate how best to use/enter the What's On information received by the Town Council for the East Devon Event Hub website.

13 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.

13.1 Steven Kendall-Torry – Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce reported that he had attended a street market held in Ottery St Mary which was very successful. He thought that these should be encouraged in Sidmouth.

13.2 Steven Kendall-Torry – Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce reported that the Chamber of Commerce were very grateful for the pilot scheme of 4 hours parking for the price of 3 hours.

13.3 James Sharp – Sidmouth & District Hospitality Assoc. asked Members to consider the production of an A5 leaflet to be distributed to hotels, guest houses, shops and coach companies to discourage holiday makers from feeding the seagulls in Sidmouth. This could be created in partnership with the Town Council, District Council, Chamber of Commerce and Hospitality Assoc.

RESOLVED: That:

1. The Town Clerk to discuss with EDDC Print Room the design and print costs of an A5 Seagull information leaflet for Sidmouth.
2. The Town Clerk, in conjunction with Sidmouth & District Hospitality Assoc, to investigate the bulk purchase of netting and spikes to act as a deterrent for seagulls settling and building nests on the seafront properties.

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.

14 TOWN GUIDE AND INFORMATION CENTRE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The Chairman presented details of income and expenditure up to the end of the financial year at 31 March 2012 in respect of the Guide and Information Centre.

RESOLVED: That the Income and Expenditure reports be noted.

15 TOWN GUIDE ADVERTISING RATES

Members were asked to consider setting the advertising rates for the Town Guide and Directory for 2014.

RESOLVED: That the proposed advertising rates be noted and agreed.

16 TOWN GUIDE BUDGET

Members were asked to consider setting a budget for the Town Guide 2013/ 2014. The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk and staff for their work on the guide accounts/budget.

RESOLVED: That:

1. The proposed guide budget be noted and agreed.
2. The Council Consider making a pdf of the guide available on the tourism website.

17 SIDMOUTH INFORMATION CENTRE

At the Tourism meeting held on 19 November 2012 it was resolved that:

‘The Town Clerk and Sidmouth Information Centre Manager to draft a report suggesting how it may be possible to administer the Sidmouth Information Centre along a more commercial and competitive business footing rather than exclusively as a service.’

Members were asked to consider the confidential report as attached to the agenda.

RESOLVED: That:

1. That the Town Council notes that the Information Centre successfully achieves its present role – the provision of free assistance and advice to residents and visitors to the Sid Valley.
2. That the SIC Manager continues to investigate ways of increasing income and reviewing the service given at the centre but that Members note that any significant change to the present income position is unlikely.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE