

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 2 September 2019 at 6.30pm

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| Ward | Councillors Present: |
| Sidmouth North | Charissa Evans Stuart Hughes Dawn Manley Jenny Ware |
| Sidmouth South | Denise Bickley Kelvin Dent Chris Lockyear John Rayson |
| Sidmouth East | Louise Thompson |
| Sidmouth West | Louise Cole |
| Primley | Deirdre Hounsom Emma Murdoch Jeff Turner |
| Sidford | Jack Brokenshire |
| Salcombe Regis | Ian Barlow (Chair) |
| Apologies: | David Barratt, John Loudoun, Marianne Rixson, Paul Wright |

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.20pm.

PART 'A'

55 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 5 August 2019 were signed as a true and accurate record.

56 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received for items on this agenda.

57 Public Open Question Time

- Councillor Bickley asked Councillor Hughes about the County Council's policy to not replace bus shelters when they have come to the end of their lifespan. County Councillor Hughes confirmed that the County Council's policy was to repair if possible but then remove and not replace. Some bus shelters had been replaced across the County using Members Locality budgets, but this left the problem of ongoing maintenance. Others had been supplied by Fernbank Advertising where it was financially viable for them to do so. The Chair suggested that Councillor Bickley may wish to make a report and proposal to the October Pre-Budget meeting if she believed that the Town Council should become involved in this service.
- Councillor Bickley asked Councillor Hughes about the progress of the Sidmouth to Feniton cycle path. County Councillor Hughes reported that he had been successful in getting both the Sidford to Sidbury and Sidmouth to Feniton cycle paths included in Devon County Council's Cycling Strategy. The

priority was the Sidford to Sidbury cycle path which was under way and could commence as soon as the relevant land transfers had been negotiated. Funding was an issue with the Sidmouth to Feniton cycle path with the major issue being the safe crossing of the A3052 at The Bowd. It was estimated that the scheme would cost in the region of £10 million if a pedestrian/cycle bridge was put in place or £15 million for a redesigned junction with traffic lights. To put this scheme into timeline context the Exe Trail had taken 15 years to get through design, planning and construction.

58 Police Report

Sgt Andy Squires presented the August police report which showed 65 crimes in August 2018 and only 42 in August 2019; a reduction of 35.4%. He reported that this year's Folk Week had been the quietest he had known, with no disorder or damage caused. His officers had been very complimentary on the way JR Events had organised the Air Display especially with regard to traffic flow both in and out of the town.

59 Committee/Working Group Reports

59.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14 August 2019.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee report be noted.

59.2 Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Councillor Hounsom gave a report of the work being carried out by the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee; she reminded Members that the referendum date was Thursday 19 September 2019 and asked that they speak to their ward residents and encourage them to vote at the referendum.

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

60 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

60.1 Finance Report

a) In accordance with section 2.2 of the Town Council's Financial Regulations Members were asked to note that the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance had verified the bank reconciliations, for all accounts, as at the end of June 2019.

b) In the absence of Councillor Wright, the Town Clerk presented the Finance Report for July 2019.

RESOLVED: 1) that in accordance with section 2.2 of the Town Council's Financial Regulations, Members had noted that the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance had verified the bank reconciliations, for all accounts, as at the end of June 2019.

2) that the Finance Report for July be noted and agreed.

60.2 Sidmouth Hopper Bus

Councillor Dent reported that this year's Hopper Bus season had finished on Sunday 1 September. There had been a small increase in passenger numbers which Councillor Dent believed was due to running the service during Folk Week rather than because of the longer route. He reported that, as in previous years, he would give a full report to Council at the October Council meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Sidmouth Hopper Bus report be noted.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL