

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 3 February 2020 at 6.30pm

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.20pm.

PART 'A'

111 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6 and 20 January 2020 were signed as a true and accurate record.

112 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Louise Cole	113 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair – Unique Boutique events in Connaught Gardens	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion but did not vote	Member of Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub CIC
Cllr Stuart Hughes	120 Stowford Community Centre – Electric Car Charging Points	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	DCC Representative on the Stowford Community Centre CIC

113 Matter of Urgency or Report from the Chair

- The Town Clerk reported that the District Council had consulted with the Town Council regarding a request from Eleanor Carr, Unique Boutiques, to use Connaught Gardens for Sidmouth Eats Boutique events on the third Fridays of May, June, July and August 2020.

RESOLVED: That Sidmouth Town Council considered that Connaught Gardens should be retained for arts and music events and that Blackmore Gardens would be a more appropriate venue for a commercial food event.

114 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.

115 Public Open Question Time

- Councillor Rayson asked where the Annual Town Assembly would be held. The Town Clerk reported that it was hoped that it could be held in Sidbury.

116 Police Report

Sgt Andy Squires presented the January police report which showed an increase of 16.7% from 36 crimes in January 2019 to 42 in January 2020.

117 Committee/Working Group Reports

117.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Committee, reported that the meeting to be held on Wednesday 5 February would commence at 5.45pm and that two EDDC Planning Officers would be attending the following meeting on Wednesday 19 February, to give feedback on planning observations and the District Council's use of the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Dent then presented the report of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 8 and 22 January 2020.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee reports be noted.

117.2 Environment Committee Report

Councillor Bickley, Chair of the Environment Committee, presented the report of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 13 January 2020.

RESOLVED: That the Environment Committee report be noted.

118 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

118.1 Finance Report

In the absence of both Member and Deputy Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, the Town Clerk presented the Finance Report for December 2020.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for December be noted and agreed.

119 Presentation of Fairtrade Renewal certificate

Wendy Spratling, Chair of the Sidmouth Fairtrade Committee formally presented the latest Sidmouth Fairtrade certificate and reported on the initiative to create a Sidmouth Fairtrade Town Directory.

RESOLVED: That Wendy Spratling be thanked for her presentation.

120 Stowford Community Centre – Electric Car Charging Points

Bob Weeks, Stowford Community Centre CIC, had written to report that he would be installing two electric car charging points at the centre and had asked the Town Council to consider paying for one of the points. The cost would be approximately £2,500 each and the Town Council's Earmarked Reserve was £10,000 held as a Stowford Community Centre building reserve.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council remained supportive of efforts to install car charging points but that the Environment Committee's Implementation Working Group would work towards a more coordinated approach to siting and types and whether the Town Council should offer to subsidise installations.

121 EDDC Careful Choices

Due to the detailed and individual approach of the questionnaire, Members were recommended to fill out the East Devon District Council 'Careful Choices' survey at: <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/community-engagement/careful-choices/if-you-didnt-receive-a-careful-choices-questionnaire-in-the-post/>.

RESOLVED: That the option to complete the questionnaire be noted.

122 Section 106 Open Spaces Funding

Following further consultation with Manstone Youth Centre by East Devon District Council, Members were asked by East Devon District Council to confirm their recommendation of August 2019 that "That the allocation for open space funding of £20,148.75 be used towards the new Skate Park at Manstone Recreation Ground".

RESOLVED: That the recommendation of August 2019 that "That the allocation for open space funding of £20,148.75 be used towards the new Skate Park at Manstone Recreation Ground" be confirmed.

123 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'

124 Sidmouth Hopper Bus

Councillor Dent, Member with Special Responsibility for Sidmouth Hopper Bus, presented the Hopper Bus report and asked Members to consider his recommendations.

RESOLVED: That:

1. Sidmouth Town Council commissions the Hopper Bus Service for Summer 2020.
2. The Service be reviewed at the end of the season.
3. That the Tourism and Economy Committee work with Councillor Dent to determine a possible new funding and operational model.
4. That a press release indicating that the Hopper would run in 2020.

125 Chair's Trust Fund/Expenses

Councillor Barlow asked Members to note his proposal for use of the Chair's Trust Fund and Expenses.

RESOLVED: That the Chair's proposal to utilise the remaining amount in the Chair's Trust Fund with an additional amount from his Chair's Expenses be noted.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL