

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 3 November 2014 at 6.30pm

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Stuart Hughes Dawn Manley Peter Sullivan
Sidmouth South	Kelvin Dent John Dyson
Sidmouth East	Frances Newth Simon Pollentine
Sidmouth West	Ann Liverton Graham Liverton Chris Wale
Primley	David Addis Jeff Turner (Vice-Chairman)
Sidford	Jack Brokenshire Ian McKenzie-Edwards
Sidbury	Christine Drew John Hollick (Chairman)
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow
Apologies	David Barratt, Mary Jolly

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 9.10pm.

PART 'A'

99 Prayers

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Handel Bennett.

100 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on Monday 6 and 20 October 2014 were signed as a true and accurate record.

101 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Frances Newth	107 Northern, Eastern & Western CCG Proposed Commissioning Intentions Document	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	Sidmouth Hospital Comforts Fund Trustee
Cllr Stuart Hughes	108 Highways, Capital Development & Waste Management - Consultation	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	Devon County Council Cabinet Member/ Portfolio Holder for Transport
Cllr Christine Drew	109 Recycling & Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	East Devon District Council Member

Cllr Stuart Hughes	109 Recycling & Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	East Devon District Council Member
Cllr Frances Newth	109 Recycling & Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	East Devon District Council Member
Cllr Peter Sullivan	109 Recycling & Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	East Devon District Council Member
Cllr Chris Wale	109 Recycling & Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire	Personal	Remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting	East Devon District Council Member

102 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chairman

- The Chairman asked Members to assist with bulb planting at Woolcombe House.
- The Chairman reminded Members that the Christmas lights switch-on would be held on Saturday 15 November at 5pm.
- Councillor Barlow proposed a motion that a Working Group be set up to consider and assist the development of solutions to continue Youth Services in Sidmouth.

RESOLVED: That a Youth Provision Working Group be set up with membership as follows; Councillors Barlow, Mrs Drew, Hughes, Mrs Liverton, Ms Manley, Sullivan and Turner. The first meeting would be held on Monday 10 November at 10.30am at Woolcombe House.

103 Public Open Question Time

- Alfie Weaver asked how members of the public could become involved in discussions to ensure the speedy reopening of the Youth Centre; he along with many other wished to be part of this process.
Councillor Hughes responded that the County Council would likely be holding a meeting to inform interested parties of their progress. The Town Clerk asked that individuals contact him if they were interested in assisting the Town Council in its considerations. Sgt Andy Squires commented that he would also like to be involved in this process.
- Councillor Dawn Manley asked for an update regarding the pedestrian crossing at Stowford.
Councillor Hughes replied that he had requested an update report from the DCC Officers and would forward this to Members in due course.

104 Police Report

Sgt Andy Squires presented the police report for October 2014 which showed a total of 30 incidents compared to 26 incidents recorded in October 2013; representing a 15% increase.

105 Committee/Working Group Reports

105.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Dyson, Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 8 and 22 October 2014.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee reports be noted.

106 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

106.1 Finance Report

Councillor Dyson presented the September 2014 Finance Report.

RESOLVED: That the September 2014 Finance Report be noted and agreed.

106.2 Sidmouth Science Festival

Councillor Dent gave a report of the recent Sidmouth Science Festival.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dent's report be noted.

106.3 Walking Festival

Councillor Dyson reported that there would be a Walking Festival from 12 to 16 September 2015. Also that the Walkers are Welcome organisation would be holding their annual meeting in Sidmouth over the weekend of 24 and 25 October 2015.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dyson's report be noted.

106.4 Sidmouth Health Centre Meeting

Councillor Mrs Liverton gave a report of a recent meeting regarding the new Sidmouth Health Centre.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs Liverton's report be noted.

107 Northern, Eastern and Western Clinical Commissioning Group – Proposed Commissioning Intentions Document

Dr David Jenner, Chairman of the Eastern Locality Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had sent a copy of the commissioning proposals for community services in the Eastern Locality.

The CCG had commenced a 12 week period of involving and consulting which would end 12 December 2014 and the Council's views were sought. A series of public events and drop in session would run through the 12 week period and the dates of these meetings could be found on: <http://www.newdevonccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/whats-on/transforming-community-services--eastern-events/101191>

RESOLVED: That Sidmouth Town Council raise concerns regarding the content of the Proposed Commissioning Intentions Document including:

- The intended move from inpatient care to care at home could create problems for people living alone without the necessary support from relatives.
- There should be no reduction to inpatient care in Sidmouth until the community care services are adequate to ensure suitable care at home.
- The Minor Injuries Unit should not be closed in Sidmouth as it is an essential service given the number of elderly residents in Sidmouth and the large increase to population during the summer months.
- The closure of the Minor Injuries Unit could cause an increased number of calls to emergency services creating additional strain on the already busy Ambulance Service and a higher number of people would attend Accident & Emergency Department at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
- The closure of the Minor Injuries Unit would be likely to require an increase to the need for urgent care transport to convey patients from Sidmouth to Honiton or Exmouth.

- Any solution should be designed taking into account the demographic of the town; 'One size' does not fit all – Sidmouth needs a 'Sidmouth sized' solution.
- It was noted that a CCG meeting would be held at Stowford Community Centre on 13 November 2014 and Members were encouraged to attend.
- The Town Clerk would liaise with Graham Vincent of the Sidmouth Hospital Comforts Fund regarding the Town Council's response.

108 Highways, Capital Development & Waste Management - Consultation

David Whitton, Head of DCC Highways, Capital Development & Waste Management had written to ask for the Council's comments as part of a consultation (which finishes on 5 December 2014) on the impacts of the proposed cuts for 2015/16 on highways service; available on the Tough Choices website; www.toughchoices.co.uk

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's response to the Highways, Capital Development & Waste Management Consultation be as follows:

- Proposals 1, 2 & 3 – b) Consider alternative cost saving – last year's adverse weather proved that the impact to the local infrastructure is too great to warrant considering saving such small amounts of money and these savings should be found elsewhere.
- Proposal 4 – a) The land should be offered to the appropriate local parish council's so that the picnic areas can be retained as a vital support to tourism and road safety.
- Proposal 5 – b) The County Council should work closely with the District Councils and Town/Parish Councils to negotiate joint grass cutting contracts as there are some areas where more than one Council is responsible for parts of the same region.
- Proposal 6 – a) Concerns were raised regarding volunteers carrying out weed treatment; appropriate training must be carried out and suitable chemicals to be supplied.
- Proposal 7 – b) Sidmouth Town Council had a Parish Lengthsman pilot project (funded through the Parishes Together Fund). The Town Council may be interested in extending this project from 2016 onwards; however, more financial information would be required from the County Council regarding the costs for the Sidmouth area.
- Proposal 8 – a) No further comment.

109 New Recycling and Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire

East Devon District Council was nearing the time when the existing contract with SITA draws to a close; the Council needed to look at options to replace the current contract; which ends in March 2016. EDDC asked for help in designing a new contract to service all households.

A questionnaire had been provided to allow the Council to comment on this important decision; the questionnaires needed to be returned before Friday 21 November 2014.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's response to the New Recycling and Waste Collection Contract 2016 - Commissioning Phase Questionnaire be as follows:

- 1) Length of contract – seven to ten years.

- 2) Materials to be collected – keep current system, including food waste and add cardboard.
- 3) Collection systems – keep current system for recyclable ‘dry’ materials and keep weekly food waste collections.
- 4) Frequency – keep the service as it is.
- 5) Five day a week service – keep the current system.
- 6) Evaluation of bids – 60/40.
- 7) Other issues – (i) Large strong bags should be considered if additional containers are required for recyclable materials, however, the system should be flexible for residents living in flats or apartments with limited space for storage of containers.
(ii) The District Council should encourage and support businesses to recycle more materials by offering an affordable service.
(iii) The District Council should introduce a new system so that large items are collected for redistribution to community groups or charities for re-use.
(iv) The Town Council considered that it was better not to add extra collections if this increased the costs prohibitively and thereby the District Council could not achieve their savings target.
(v) The District Council should hold a meeting of the Town and Parish Council’s Recycling Champions to enable them to be involved in the consultation process.

110 Use of Alma Lane Field

A letter had been received from a resident of Laskeys Lane requesting to use Alma Lane Field in July 2015 in preparation for a wedding. The details were as follows:

- Access to the field for the marquee company to enable delivery into the resident’s garden so that poles and equipment are not taken through the house to the back garden.
- Access to the field for the caterer to enable delivery to the garden and straight into the marquee.
- Parking for wedding guests on Saturday 11 July 2015; this would save adding to the congestion on Hillside Road on that day.

RESOLVED: That:

1. The Town Council would give permission for access to Alma Lane field for the marquee company and the caterer’s delivery vehicles for temporary access only. This would be at a nominal charge, however, the resident must take financial responsibility for any damage/rutting caused to the grass if there is bad weather.
2. The Town Council would not give permission for parking for wedding guests on Saturday 11 July 2015.

111 Provisional List of Dates of Meetings January 2015 to May 2016

A copy of provisional dates of meetings for January 2015 to May 2016 was attached to the agenda for Members information.

RESOLVED: That the list of provisional dates of meetings be noted and agreed with a change to the August 2015 Council meeting from Monday 3 to Monday 10 August 2015 for the convenience of avoiding Sidmouth Folk Week.

112 Diamond Jubilee Tree Lights

The Town Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Blachere in response to the Town Council's request for reimbursement of the cost to repair the tree lights. Blachere had offered 4 sets of lights as recompense for the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That Sidmouth Town Council accept the offer of 4 sets of lights as a nominal recompense for the cost of repairing/upgrading the existing tree lights.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL