

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council**  
**held on Monday 7 September 2020 at 6.30pm**

(Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the Town Council met virtually  
as authorised by the Regulations set out in Clause 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020.)

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Charissa Evans Stuart Hughes Dawn Manley
Sidmouth South	Denise Bickley Kelvin Dent Chris Lockyear Paul Wright (Vice-Chair)
Sidmouth West	Louise Cole
Primley	Deirdre Hounsom Jeff Turner
Sidford	Marianne Rixson
Sidbury	John Loudoun
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow (Chair)

Apologies: Emma Murdoch, Jenny Ware  
The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8pm.

## **PART 'A'**

### **149 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 10 August 2020 were signed as a true and accurate record.

### **150 Declarations of Interest**

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Louise Cole	161 Queen's Honours List Nomination	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Working with the proposed recipient
Cllr Deirdre Hounsom	161 Queen's Honours List Nomination	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	Trustee of organisation of proposed recipient

### **151 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair**

- The Chair reported that following last month's report on Ash Die Back, the quote for the necessary tree felling work had been accepted in the sum of £3,800 and the work at Long Park would commence shortly.
- The Chair asked Members to confirm that an additional item be discussed in Part B at the end of this meeting.
- The Chair reported that Paul Wright had resigned as Town Councillor for South Ward with immediate effect, however, he would continue Chair the Live Sidmouth website project. A new Vice Chair of Council would be appointed at the October Council meeting.

**152 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.

**153 Public Open Question Time**

- Cllr Hounsom reported that she was concerned that the Planning Committee had been receiving numerous planning applications for land in the Woolbrook area, many of which were in contravention of the Neighbourhood and Local Plans.
- Cllr Rixson asked when the, apparently completed, new Alma Bridge would be officially opened. County Cllr Hughes replied that the bridge was not in fact completed and there was various snagging work to be carried out followed by the electrical contractor who would be installing lighting. It was hoped that this would be completed by the end of September/early October.
- Jo Earlam presented a draft of a new children's environmental book 'Think Footprint' featuring a rauisuchian footprint fossil that had been discovered on Sidmouth beach. The book would be released at the October Science Festival.

*Councillor Loudoun left the meeting prior to the next agenda item.*

**154 Police Report**

In the absence of Sgt Roy Hutter, the Town Clerk presented the police report for August 2020 which showed 39 crimes in 2020 compared to 40 for the same period last year.

**155 Committee/Working Group Reports**

155.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Committee, presented the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12 August 2020 subject to the address on Minute number 344 Declarations of Interest – Application number 20/1639/TCA being changed from Bickwell Gardens to Bickwell House.

**RESOLVED:** That the Planning Committee report be noted and agreed subject to the required alteration.

155.2 Tourism & Economy TaFF Report

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Tourism & Economy TaFF reported that the 'soft' launch of the website had been well received and there would be a public launch later this week. Councillor Hounsom had commenced the TIC review and would report progress at the next Tourism & Economy Committee meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Tourism & Economy TaFF report be noted.

155.3 Council Resources Review Working Group Report

Councillor Barlow, Chair of the Council Resources Working Group reported that the working group had commenced gathering information and would be able to report more fully at the October Council meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council Resources Working Group report be noted.

155.4 Live Sidmouth Website Working Group

Councillor Evans reported that the Live Sidmouth website project team had a meeting with website developers Zonkey and were now discussing content and how

the old website would be migrated to the new. There would be full staff training and 'on call' support prior to the website launch.

**RESOLVED:** That the Live Sidmouth Website Working Group report be noted

**156 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities**

156.1 Finance Report

Councillor Lockyear presented the Finance Report for the first July 2020

**RESOLVED:** That the Finance Report for July 2020 be noted and agreed.

**157 East Devon District Council Sidmouth Beach Management Steering Group**

The Chair gave an update on the project prior to the forthcoming meeting of the EDDC Sidmouth Beach Management Steering Group and asked Members for a steer as to how they would like him to reply at the meeting. He raised concerns regarding the proposed installation of a 1.2 metre splash wall along The Esplanade which from the roadside would be the same height as the concrete wall at Seaton.

**RESOLVED:** That the Chair would report the outcome of the Sidmouth Beach Management Steering Group meeting to Members at the October Council meeting.

**158 Sidmouth Consolidated Charities**

Sidmouth Consolidated Charities (SCC) had contacted the Council to request that a replacement representative be nominated for their meetings to represent the Council as per their constitution following the loss of former Councillor John Rayson.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Jenny Ware act as the Town Council's representative on the Sidmouth Consolidated Charities committee.

**159 Sidmouth Regatta 2020 cancellation**

The Chair reported the cancellation of the 2020 Regatta and the resignation of the full Regatta committee. He suggested that this event be discussed further at the forthcoming Tourism & Economy committee meeting when ideas for assisting with future events could be proposed.

**RESOLVED:** That Sidmouth Regatta be discussed at the September Tourism & Economy committee meeting.

**160 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'**

**161 Queen's Honours List Nomination**

A local organisation had written asking for the Town Council's support in a nomination for a Queen's Honour for one of their representatives.

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council fully supported the proposed nomination for a Queen's Honour.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL