

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 9 January 2017 at 6.30pm

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Michael Earthy
Sidmouth South	Kelvin Dent
	John Dyson
	Paul Wright
Sidmouth East	Marc Kilsbie
	Frances Newth
Sidmouth West	Louise Cole
	John Rayson
Primley	Simon Pollentine
	Jeff Turner (Chairman)
Sidford	Jack Brokenshire
	Ian McKenzie-Edwards (Vice-Chairman)
Sidbury	Gareth Jones
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow
	David Barratt
Apologies:	Matt Booth, John Hollick, Stuart Hughes Dawn Manley

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.30pm.

PART 'A'

110 Prayers

Prayers were taken by the Vice-Chairman.

111 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on Monday 5 December 2016 were signed as a true and accurate record.

112 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received at this meeting.

113 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chairman

- The Chairman reported that the 2017 Sidmouth Guide would be delivered to the office on Tuesday 17 January and it would be appreciated if Members would again assist with enveloping the guides ready for distribution.

114 Public Open Question Time

- Richard Thurlow, representing the Sid Vale Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, raised many issues regarding the District Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan Review and asked that Members consider including them in their response to the consultation document.
- Jeremy Woodward asked if the Town Council would as Trustee, consider giving in principle permission to the Sid Vale Association to erect solar panels on Hope Cottage. The Chairman responded that this would be dealt with as a Trustee matter and that following discussion with the Town Clerk regarding

details required, Mr Woodward should make an official written request to the Council.

- Peter Murphy commented that the mention of the Sidmouth to Feniton cycle route did not contain enough detail in the District Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan review document and asked that the Town Council request more detail should be added.
- Cllr Earthy reported that the rubbish bins in Temple Street had been removed and asked District Council Members to find out whether and when they are to be replaced.

115 Police Report

Sgt Andy Squires presented the police report for December 2016 which showed a small increase from 28 crimes in December 2015 to 31 crimes recorded in December 2016. Sgt Squires also reported that the 'Have your say' surgeries would be restarting shortly.

116 Committee/Working Group Reports

116.1 Planning Committee Reports

Councillor Barlow, Chairman of the Planning Committee presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 30 November and 14 December 2016.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee reports be noted.

116.2 Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Deirdre Hounsom gave a report of the work being carried out by the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee.

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

117 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

117.1 Finance Report

Councillor Wright presented the November 2016 Finance Report.

RESOLVED: That the November 2016 Finance Report be noted and agreed.

118 East Devon District Council - Infrastructure Delivery Plan Review

EDDC Planning Policy contacted the Council on 16 December 2016 and asked that the Town Council respond to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan Review consultation by Friday 20th January 2017.

RESOLVED: That the following response be sent to the District Council:

Sidmouth Town Council considered that the following points were missing from consultation document:

- Alma Bridge, which is a vital link for the east of the town, should be included in the plan. The future of the link and associated pathways and access infrastructure should be recognised formally within the document.
- The Beach Management Plan and an associated boat jetty/pier should be included in the plan. The BMP and resulting protection scheme will be the largest single piece of infrastructure in the Sidmouth area and should be at the very least noted within the plan. The Council's wish to see a boat jetty/pier for the enhancement of day trips and the associated benefits to tourism should be mentioned.

- The need for updated/renewed Youth Facilities should be included. The existing Youth Centre is outdated and in need of renewal.
- Suggested ways to finance or routes to obtain funding the infrastructure items should be included.

Sidmouth Town Council considered that the following issues should be strengthened and more details given within the consultation document:

- The Sidmouth to Feniton (Sidmouth Junction) cycle track is fully supported by the Town Council and should be a higher priority. It will encourage more cycling tourism and healthy activity for residents and visitors. More detail on how the proposed route will be reopened together with an expected delivery timetable should be included.
- Redevelopment at Port Royal should be made a higher priority and recognise the existing work of both Councils to achieve this important improvement to this area of the town.
- Although a Park and Change facility is mentioned it included no detail. Parking and Traffic Management in general should be given high priority as a vital part of the infrastructure for a tourism based economy.
- With recent planning permission for facilities in Sidmouth including at the former Green Close site and others planned, it is questioned whether 50 additional care home beds are still required and if so what information the recommendation is based on.
- Provision of extra capacity and the improvement of facilities at Sidmouth College should be clarified. What facilities will be needed and improved? The Council suggests that the improvement of building should be a higher priority than increasing capacity.

The Council was generally supportive of aims of the plan but asked that where known, more site-specific detail should be included. The process and decision making thinking that led to the inclusion of items should be included. The continual review and the processes for such reviews should also be included. Members noted that the document should reflect the aims of the Local Plan. Overall, Members felt that the structure and layout of the document was confusing and should be re-written/re-organised to reflect the layout and content of the East Devon Local Plan which would result in a more meaningful and user friendly document.

119 Fairtrade Town Signs

A request had been received from Wendy Spratling, Co-ordinator of Sidmouth Fairtrade Group that Members consider the installation of Fairtrade Town signs at the entrances to Sidmouth. The official application must be supported by the Town Council and would involve a site visit fee of £250 by County Highways. If the scheme was approved, then signs would be manufactured and erected by Devon County Council at a cost of £200 per sign.

The Town Clerk recommended however, that signs more appropriate and similar to the Twinning/Sidmouth in Bloom single panel signs be considered at a cost of approx. £130.

RESOLVED: That the smaller panel sign as currently used for Twinning/Sidmouth in Bloom be added to for Sidmouth as a Fairtrade Town.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL