

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council's
Tourism and Economy Committee
held at the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House, Sidmouth,
on Monday 13 June 2016 at 6.30 pm

Councillors present: - Simon Pollentine (Chairman)
 Frances Newth (Vice-Chairman)
 Ian Barlow
 David Barratt
 Louise Cole
 Stuart Hughes
 Marc Kilsbie
 Dawn Manley
 Paul Wright

Apologies: Matt Booth, John Dyson, John Rayson

The meeting started at 6:30pm and finished at 7.45pm

PART 'A'

1 Appointment of the Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes and seconded by Councillor Barlow that Councillor Simon Pollentine be appointed Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Simon Pollentine was duly elected Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

2 Appointment of the Vice-Chairman of the Tourism & Economy Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Pollentine that Councillor Frances Newth be appointed Vice-Chairman of Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

There being no other nominations, Councillor Frances Newth was duly elected Vice-Chairman of Tourism & Economy Committee for the forthcoming year.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the Tourism & Economy Committee meeting held on Monday 14 March 2016 were signed as a true and accurate record.

4 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Marc Kilsbie	16 Advertising Rates	Personal	Remained in Chamber	Directory Advertiser
Cllr Louise Cole	16 Advertising Rates	Personal	Remained in Chamber	Director of Sidmouth Drill Hall Hub, organiser of 'Sidmouth Seafest' advertised in Holiday guide.

5 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED: That the classification given to the documents to be submitted to the Committee, be confirmed, and that the reports relating to exempt information, be dealt with under Part B. The two representatives from the Chamber of Commerce were invited to remain in the Chamber for the first Part B item.

6 Information Centre Manager's Report

Jeff Bailey, Sidmouth Information Centre Manager presented his report to Members on the work of the Information Centre in the second quarter of the year. Members heard that after a slow start to the holiday season due to colder temperatures, business had increased significantly around the town. Sales of Sidmouth Folk Week tickets from the information Centre had increased in 2016 to date on previous years.

RESOLVED: that the Information Manager's report be noted.

7 Sidmouth Information Centre Finance Report

Councillor Pollentine presented the Finance Report for the Financial Year to 31 March 2016 in respect of the Sidmouth Information Centre.

RESOLVED: That the Sidmouth Information Centre's Finance Report be noted and agreed.

8 Town Guide Distribution Figures

The Chairman reported the latest Guide distribution figures which showed that nearly 15,000 2016 guides had been sent out to date.

RESOLVED:

1) That the Town Guide Income and Expenditure Report for the financial year end to 31 March 2016 be noted and agreed.

2) That the Guide distribution figures be noted.

9 Tour of Britain

Councillor Stuart Hughes gave an update with regard to the Tour of Britain Stage 6 which was starting from Sidmouth Esplanade on Friday 9 September. It was noted that a week of events was being planned in the town including cycle rides, music entertainment, school participation and a Criterion race being organised by Sidmouth Cycle Club. Full details would be available on the Council's Visit Sidmouth Webpage.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Hughes' report be noted.

10 Red Arrows

The Town Clerk gave an update with regard to the forthcoming visit from the Red Arrows on Friday 26 August which would start Sidmouth Regatta 2016. It was noted that many collectors would be required to ensure that funds were collected for return visits in future years by the aerobatic team. Anyone interested should contact the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk's report be noted.

11 Street Trading in Sidmouth

Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce were asked their views on the ongoing consultation which was being carried out by East Devon District Council on proposals to designate the whole of the district as a consent street.

Members heard that Chamber of Commerce had strong objections to the proposals. They felt that the opening up of the town for potential trading and anywhere, with decisions not being made locally would result in a detrimental effect on the character and vitality of the town. They also felt that such a regime would be almost impossible to enforce and prove costly in administration.

RESOLVED: That The views of the Chamber of Commerce be passed to the meeting of the full Council which would debate the matter at its July Meeting.

12 Matters Raised By Invited Representatives

Mr Richard Eley reported the Chamber of Commerce's position on a number of issues including the following:

- The Chamber of Commerce highlighted the huge success of their Queen's 90th Birthday Street Party held on 12 June. It had been attended by Over 1,000 seated and many more watching the event. The Chamber thanked those helping to organise and the Town Band for providing the entertainment. Proceeds of the event would go toward the Band's fund raising for a new Band Room.
- The Chamber of Commerce welcomed the increasing number of annual events now being held in Sidmouth; this can only be good for the vibrancy and viability of the town.
- The idea of a National Park covering East Devon and Dorset which could possibly be called the Jurassic Park was discussed Members heard how there were many good reasons for becoming National Park including increased economic activity and a simpler planning system. However, it was also discussed that such a move could cause problems with development and that strict constraints were placed on areas within such parks. The Chairman and Cllr Hughes agreed to look into the matter further at their next Jurassic Communities forum meeting.

PART 'B'

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

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.

13 Advertising Rates

Members were asked to consider the basic advertising rates for the 2016 Guide and Directory; Members had agreed at the Tourism & Economy Committee meeting held on 16 June 2014 that advertising rates should be increased by CPI; it was therefore recommended to freeze current prices for 2016.

RESOLVED: That the basic advertising rates be again frozen for the 2016 Guide and Directory.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE TOURISM & ECONOMY COMMITTEE