

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held at Sidmouth Methodist Church Hall
on Monday 1 November 2021 at 6.30pm

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Charissa Evans
	Stuart Hughes
	Dawn Manley
Sidmouth South	Denise Bickley
	Kelvin Dent
	Chris Lockyear (Vice Chair)
	Hilary Nelson
	Rachel Perram
Sidmouth East	Steven Kendall-Torry
Sidmouth West	Louise Cole
Primley	Jeff Turner
Sidford	Marianne Rixson
Sidbury	John Loudoun
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow (Chair)
	Richard Thurlow

Apologies: Jack Brokenshire, Deirdre Hounsom, Jenny Ware

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.25pm.

PART 'A'

78 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on Mondays 4 and 18 October 2021 were signed as a true and accurate record.

79 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Stuart Hughes	87 Sidford to Sidbury cycle/footpath link	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	DCC Cabinet Member for Highway Management

80 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.

81 Fair Trade Sidmouth

Sharon Howe and Pauline Tiffen, Sidmouth Fair Trade Committee members, gave a presentation on their work in Sidmouth, East Devon and the South West region.

RESOLVED: That Sharon Howe and Pauline Tiffen be thanked for their presentation; the Fair Trade Sidmouth group would work closely with the Town Council's Tourism & Economy and Environment Working Groups to explore common issues that could be worked on together.

82 Police Report

Councillor Dent presented his Police Advocate report and asked Members to approve his recommendations.

RESOLVED: That:

1. the Police Advocate report be noted and agreed.
2. the speed gun camera which was purchased by the Town Council should be used primarily in the Sid Valley.
3. Cllr Hughes would investigate the possibility of introducing a speed watch camera in Burscombe Lane.
4. Members would advise Cllr Dent of their recommendations for any future priorities for the Neighbourhood Policing Team in Sidmouth.

83 Working Group Reports

83.1 Planning Working Group Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Working Group, presented the reports of the Planning Working Group meetings held on Wednesdays 6 and 20 October 2021.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Working Group reports be noted.

83.2 Tourism & Economy Working Group Report

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Tourism & Economy Working Group, reported that the TAG had registered an Expression of Interest with East Devon District Council for funding from the Innovation and Resilience Fund.

RESOLVED: that the Tourism & Economy Working Group report be noted.

83.3 Council Resources Review Working Group

Councillor Barlow, Chair of the Council Resources Review Working Group, reported that an Expression of Interest document had been issued for the Ham Utility building.

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

84 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

84.1 Finance Report

Councillor Lockyear presented the Finance Report for September 2021.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for September 2021 be noted and agreed.

84.2 East Devon Beach Management Advisory Group

Councillor Lockyear reported that some of the newspaper media reports had been inaccurate. The East Devon District Council Sidmouth and East Beach Management Plan Advisory Group had approved the concept of a large groyne on East Beach, islands off the main beach, better launch facilities for the Inshore Lifeboat, along with a sea splash wall to be raised by approx. 10cms with new foundations which would enable height increase in the future. It had been recommended that the District Council create an outline business case to the Environment Agency which could then lead to detailed design work and funding applications.

RESOLVED: That the Sidmouth and East Beach Management Plan Advisory Group report be noted.

85 Bus Back Better

Bus Back Better was the National Bus Strategy announced by Government in March 2021 which set out that local transport authorities were expected to work towards forming an “Enhanced Partnership” with local bus companies from April 2022. Devon County Council had until the end of October to recommend a Bus Service Improvement Plan, and officers were working on a plan with the bus companies. As part of that initiative and to help strengthen the DCC bid, County Councillor Stuart Hughes had asked that his recommendation be supported by the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That as part of the forthcoming public consultation on the main recommendations within the County Councils Bus Improvement Plan, this Council supports the recommendation for earlier and later journeys to Honiton Station from Sidmouth and return. Sidmouth Town Council calls on Devon County Council to include and re-instate bus links via Sidford to the Royal Devon and Exeter (RD&E) and Heavitree hospitals as part of its Bus Service Improvement Plan.

86 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’

87 Sidford to Sidbury cycle/footpath link

Hannah Clark, Transport Planning Team Leader from Devon County Council attended this meeting along with Cllr Hughes, Cabinet Member for Highway Management, to brief Members on the Sidford to Sidbury cycle/footpath link.

RESOLVED:

- 1) that Sidmouth Town Council endorses the overall proposal put forward by Devon County Council for a link between Sidbury and the rest of the Sid Valley cycle/footpath network.
- 2) that the County Council is requested to give particular consideration to the final route and location and safety, of road crossings on the route.
- 3) that the County Council be asked to work more closely with the Town Council and Ward member when progressing the design of the Sidford to Sidbury cycle/footpath link and future such projects.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL