

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council**  
**held at Sidmouth Methodist Church Hall**  
**on Monday 4 October 2021 at 6.30pm**

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.45pm.

**PART 'A'**

**61 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 6 September 2021 were signed as a true and accurate record.

**62 Declarations of Interest**

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr John Loudoun	70 Public Conveniences	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	EDDC Councillor and Portfolio Holder
Cllr Denise Bickley	70 Public Conveniences	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	EDDC Councillor

**63 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair**

- The Chair reported that Item 13 on the agenda would be deferred until the November Council meeting.
- The Chair reported that Cllr Ware had decided to stand down as the Town Council's deputy representative on both Sidmouth in Bloom and Norman Lockyer Observatory committees. Cllr Hilary Nelson had already joined the Sidmouth in Bloom committee and Members noted and approved that Cllr Emma Murdoch would become the deputy representative for the Norman Lockyer Observatory committee.

**64 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.

**65 Public Open Question Time**

- A resident from Water Lane, Sidmouth described the ongoing issues with regard to parking problems in Water Lane and worried that this would be made worse by the DCC proposal to install double yellow lines in the turning circle. County Councillor Hughes replied that the double yellow lines were being installed as a safety precaution for those using the cycle track whilst enabling vehicles to safely turn in the lane. DCC Highways would be considering the introduction of a residents parking zone in the area, but it was noted that depending on the area of the zone Water Lane residents may still not be guaranteed parking in the lane.

**66 Sid Valley Admiral Nurse Campaign**

Adrian Ford, Admiral Nurse Committee Chair and Tracey Hansford, the Sid Valley Admiral Nurse, gave a presentation to explain how the Town Council's vital grant funding had been used and how any future budget allocation could help support the service.

**RESOLVED:** That Mr Ford and Ms Hansford be thanked for attending the meeting and their presentation would be considered during discussion at the forthcoming budget meetings.

**67 Police Report**

Sgt Roy Hutter and PCSO Steve Blanchford Cox attended the meeting and reported that crime numbers had decreased by 12.5% compared to the previous 12-month period. Sidmouth currently had 1 PC and 2 PCSOs with Response Officers who were based in Honiton. The worst crime problems for Sidmouth residents at the time of the meeting were online scams and frauds.

**68 Working Group Reports**

68.1 Planning Working Group Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Working Group, presented the reports of the Planning Working Group meetings held on Wednesdays 8 and 22 September 2021.

**RESOLVED:** That the Planning Working Group reports be noted.

68.2 Tourism & Economy Working Group Report

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Tourism & Economy Working Group, presented the report of the Tourism & Economy Working Group meeting held on Monday 13 September 2021. The TIC opening event, with MP Simon Jupp, had been very successful.

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

68.3 Environment Working Group Report

Councillor Bickley, Chair of the Environment Working Group, reported that the 'Life on the Verge' season was coming to a close and verges were currently being cut. Two major events were coming up for the Environment Working Group: Sidmouth Science Festival and COP26. The next Working Group meeting would be held on Monday 25 October.

**RESOLVED:** That the Environment Working Group report be noted.

68.4 Youth Provision Working Group

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Youth Provision Working Group, reported that it was currently working on the feasibility study for the new Youth Centre building and renegotiation of a new contract with Young Devon.

**RESOLVED:** That the Youth Provision Working Group report be noted.

**69 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities**

69.1 Finance Report

Councillor Lockyear presented the Finance Report for August 2021.

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

**70 Public Conveniences**

Following the previous meeting of the Council and recent meeting of the Council Resources Working Group, Members agreed the following resolutions in response to the East Devon District Council consultation.

**RESOLVED:**

that Sidmouth Town Council strongly opposes the proposed closure of any toilet facilities in Sidmouth, Sidford and Sidbury and disagrees with the reasoning, information and resultant categorisation of facilities. The Sid Valley has a vibrant and busy local community, the economy and employment of which relies on a fast-growing tourism sector and providing the current facilities as a clean, accessible and serviceable public toilet provision, is vital to its continued success and as a result, this benefits the wider area of East Devon significantly. In addition, the town also has a higher proportion of retired people who are more likely to need toilet facilities close by.

**ALSO RESOLVED:**

that Sidmouth Town Council acknowledges the difficult choices that East Devon District Council has to make in the provision of its services and facilities and is willing to enter into discussions to explore possible ways for the two Councils to mutually assist one another regarding this issue.

**71 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'**

**72 Former Councillor John Rayson**

The Town Clerk reported that the former Councillor, the late John Rayson, had left many legacies to a large number of organisations in Sidmouth, including the Town Council. The final figure would be reported when it was known but Members were asked to consider this legacy when considering future projects/events.

**RESOLVED:** That the reported John Rayson legacy be noted.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL