

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council**  
**held at Sidmouth Methodist Church Hall**  
**on Monday 6 September 2021 at 6.30pm**

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Charissa Evans Jenny Ware
Sidmouth South	Kelvin Dent Chris Lockyear (Vice Chair) Hilary Nelson
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:	Denise Bickley, Jack Brokenshire, Stuart Hughes, Steven Kendall-Torry, Dawn Manley, Rachel Perram

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.55pm.

**PART 'A'**

**52 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 9 August 2021 were signed as a true and accurate record.

**53 Declarations of Interest**

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr John Loudoun	56 Public Conveniences	Personal	Remained in the meeting during discussion and voting	EDDC Councillor and Portfolio Holder

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

- The Chair reported that he would bring forward item 10 on the agenda so that the EDDC representative could leave the meeting early.
- The Chair reported that the very successful Sidmouth Air Show event had a higher attendance than previous years and had received donations of over £13,000 with additional donations anticipated from car parks.

**55 Public Open Question Time**

- Cllr Rixson asked whether Council meetings would continue to be held in person during the winter months with the need for ventilation. The Town Clerk replied that legislation did not allow for Councils to hold meetings remotely and the LGA, DALC, SLCC, SLCC and EDDC's Monitoring officer had advised the Town Clerk that remote full Council meetings could not legally be held under current law.

**56 Public Conveniences**

Tom Wood, East Devon District Council Streetscene officer, attended the meeting to give background information on the ongoing Public Conveniences consultation.

Members raised many concerns and were advised to include all into the Town Council's response to the consultation document.

The Chair reminded Members that they had all been invited to attend the next meeting of the Council Resources Working Group to be held via zoom on Wednesday 8 September at 12 noon.

**RESOLVED:** That Tom Wood be thanked for attending and the consultation information be noted.

**57 Police Report**

The Town Clerk reported that PC Rob Clatworthy had left the police service which left only one PC and one PCSO to cover Sidmouth. Sgt Hutter intended to supply a police report for future meetings when able, the monthly newsletter would continue to be issued to all Members and he would meet with the Police Council Advocates on a quarterly basis. The Town Clerk was asked to write to the Police Crime Commissioner to raise the Town Council's concerns with regard to lack of personnel covering Sidmouth and request that the promised meeting be held between her and the Town Council.

**58 Committee/Working Group Reports**

58.1 Planning Working Group Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Working Group, presented the reports of the Planning Working Group meetings held on Wednesdays 11 and 25 August 2021.

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

58.2 Tourism & Economy Working Group Report

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Tourism & Economy Working Group, reported that there would be an official launch of the refurbished TIC by local MP Simon Jupp on 30 September. New Visit Sidmouth products were now available in the TIC and had been sold at events such as the Air Show and Classic Car Show.

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

58.3 Environment Working Group Report

Councillor Lockyear, Vice-Chair of the Environment Working Group, reported that a consultant would be visiting Sidmouth and, with the Environment Working Group would be looking for suitable locations to plant urban trees and would create a strategy for trees in the Sidmouth area.

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

58.4 Council Resources Review Working Group

Councillor Barlow reported that a meeting of the Council Resources Working Group would be held via zoom on Wednesday 8 September at 12 noon.

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

58.5 Youth Provision Working Group

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Youth Provision Working Group, reported that the group was working on the feasibility study for the new build project of a replacement Youth Centre.

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

58.6 Beach Management Plan

Councillor Lockyear reported on the work which had been carried out recently by the Beach Management Plan Working Group; the government had changed its funding model which meant that there should be additional funding available for the Beach Management Plan. The engineering committee had considered and modelled many options and were preparing an outline business case to be presented to the Environment Agency.

**RESOLVED:** That the Beach Management Plan report be noted.

58.7 Parish Paths Partnership

Councillor Turner described the work carried out by the P3 volunteers who had been working hard throughout the summer months on all the rural footpaths in the Sid Valley. Unfortunately, there had been complaints regarding the urban footpaths which had become overgrown with weeds and narrowed the available walkway. This had primarily been caused by the replacement of hedges with boundary fences around resident's gardens. Councillor Turner asked Members if they received complaints or were aware of this problem in their wards to contact the boundary owners and request that they maintain both sides of their garden fences.

**RESOLVED:** That the P3 report be noted.

**59 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities**

59.1 Finance Report

a) Councillor Lockyear presented the Finance Report for July 2021.

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

b) Members were asked to note the receipt of completion of review of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) from the Town Council's auditor; PKF Littlejohn. The statutory Conclusion of Audit Notice for 2020/21 had be advertised on the Town Council's website.

**RESOLVED:** That the Conclusion of Audit Notice be noted and agreed.

**60 October Council Meeting Date Change**

Members were asked to note that the October Council meeting date would be changed from 11 October to 4 October. The Environment Working Group meeting previously scheduled for 4 October would be rearranged and confirmed in due course.

**RESOLVED:** That the change of date for the October Council meeting be noted.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL