

**SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Pre-Budget Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council**  
**held at Sidmouth Methodist Church Hall**  
**on Monday 18 October 2021 at 6.30pm**

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.35pm.

## **PART 'A'**

### **73 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest received at the meeting.

### **74 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.

### **75 Annual Reports**

Members were asked to note the reports from supported organisations:

- a) Sidmouth Folk Festival
- b) Sidmouth in Bloom
- c) Sidmouth Town Band

**RESOLVED:** That:

1. The three organisations be thanked for their reports and all the work they carry out to enhance the environment and promotion of Sidmouth as a destination town.
2. Sidmouth in Bloom had won Gold in the Champion of Champions South West in Bloom 2021 competition, which had been announced after their report had been received. The Council congratulated Sidmouth in Bloom on their fantastic achievement.
3. As the recipient of the largest organisation funding sum, Sidmouth Folk Festival be asked to produce a full funding proposal prior to any future funding commitments from the Town Council. This must include a detailed breakdown of how the Town Council's funding is intended to be spent and a cost/benefit analysis of this aspect of the Folk Festival. How Sidmouth Folk Festival will market the festival using the Visit Sidmouth branding for future

festivals should be included in the proposals; the committee may need to liaise with the Tourism Advisory Group to ensure that the Visit Sidmouth branding is used appropriately.

**76 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'**

**77 Budgets/Estimates**

Members were asked to consider the recommendations of Councillor Lockyear, Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, prior to the Budget/Estimate meeting in January 2022.

Councillor Lockyear reported that the final budget in January may need to be increased to reflect a possible agreement with the District Council to increase funding for the Public Conveniences and inflation increases to fuel charges; information was not available for these at the Pre-Budget stage.

A confidential draft schedule had been issued to Members for their consideration.

**RESOLVED:** That the draft budget be approved with the following alterations:

- The Sidmouth in Bloom grant budget be increased to reflect and mitigate the impact of covid on the Sidmouth in Bloom income streams.
- The Knowle Parkland & Amphitheatre budget be decreased to ensure no increase to the overall budget figure at the Pre-Budget stage.
- Further consideration would be made to how some of the Rayson Bequest could be used to celebrate the forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. Members were asked to put forward their suggestions to the Town Clerk.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL