

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House,
Woolcombe Lane, Sidmouth
on Monday 6 February 2023 at 6.30pm

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.50pm.

PART 'A'

117 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the Town Council held on Mondays 9 and 23 January 2023 were signed as a true and accurate record, with the addition of a declaration of interest from Cllr Dent regarding the planting of Coronation Trees at the Knowle Parkland.

118 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received for items on this agenda.

119 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

- The Chair congratulated Cllrs Bickley and Cole for their work on the successful completion of the replacement and refurbishment of both playparks at Long Park and The Ham.
- The Chair read out a letter received from David Hodge, Chair of Memory Café and the Sid Valley Admiral Nurse campaign, which explained that during discussions with Dementia UK they had offered to pay for an Admiral Nurse for the Sid Valley. He thanked the Town Council for its financial support over past years which had help enable the service and advised that they would no longer need to apply for future funding.

120 Public Open Question Time

- Two Members of the public spoke to raise their concerns and objections to the proposed East Devon Street Trading policy for Sidmouth and hoped that the Town Council would reject the proposal.
- Cllr Perram thanked and complimented Devon County Council on the road surfacing work being carried out on the A0352.
- Cllr Cole asked District Council Members for an update on the timescale for the Drill Hall and plans for the existing toilet block at The Ham.

121 Police Advocate Report

Councillor Dent, Devon and Cornwall Police Advocate, reported that the Police precept would be increasing by approx. 6% this year. He had been informed that there had recently been a spate of bicycle burglaries from garden sheds in the area.

RESOLVED: That the Police Advocate report be noted.

122 Working Group Reports

122.1 Planning Working Group Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Working Group, presented the reports of the Planning Working Group meetings held on Wednesdays 4 and 18 January 2023.

RESOLVED: that the Planning Working Group reports be noted.

122.2 Tourism & Economy Working Group Report

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Tourism & Economy Working Group, reported that the IRF Country Meets Coast steering group were continuing their partnership working with the District Council and the Tourism Advisory Group was currently working with our promotion contractors on two new marketing campaigns.

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

122.3 Environment Working Group

The next meeting of the Environment Working Group was due to be held at Woolcombe House, at 6.30pm on Monday 13 February 2023.

122.4 Council Resources Review Working Group

The next meeting of the Council Resources Review Working Group was due to be held on Wednesday 8 February 2023.

122.5 Youth Provision Working Group

Councillor Cole, Chair of the Youth Provision Working Group, reported that Design West had held their first stakeholder meeting which had been well attended and raised a lot of discussion and feedback. Cllrs Cole, Nelson and the Town Clerk were in the process of creating a youth survey questionnaire with Design West.

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

123 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

123.1 Finance Report

a) In accordance with section 2.2 of the Town Council's Financial Regulations Members were asked to note that the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance has verified the bank reconciliations, for all accounts, as at the end of December 2022.

RESOLVED: That in accordance with section 2.2 of the Town Council's Financial Regulations, Members noted that the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance had verified the bank reconciliations, for all accounts, as at the end of December 2022.

b) Councillor Turner presented the Finance Report for December 2022 and reported the breakdown of expenditure incurred on the Manstone Youth Centre.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for December 2022 be noted.

124 East Devon District Council's Street Trading Policy Consultation

East Devon District Council's Licensing Department had notified the Town Council of the proposed changes to East Devon District Council's Street Trading Policy and ongoing consultation process. The Town Council was invited to reply to the consultation, though any individual member could also reply via the website.

RESOLVED: That the response to the consultation is that:

1. The Market Square, New Street, Old Fore Street, Church Street and The Esplanade (road only, including the turning circle at The Ham) should become Consent Streets throughout the year.
2. The Promenade along the seafront should retain existing restrictions: Trading permitted during the Folk Festival only.
3. Only Town Council supported events should be considered by the Licensing Authority and no licence should be issued without the express agreement from the Town Council after being consulted on all details of the event, including a full list of prospective traders.
4. All other roads/streets should be removed from the list proposed by the District Council as they were not considered to be suitable for street trading and applications would therefore not receive agreement from the Town Council.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL