

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held in the Council Chamber, Woolcombe House,
Woolcombe Lane, Sidmouth
on Monday 7 November 2022 at 6.30pm

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

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.40pm.

PART 'A'

80 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 3 October 2022 were signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 17 October 2022 were agreed subject to the removal of the final line 'Members had an expectation of a final budget increase of between 5% and 10%.'

81 Declarations of Interest

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

82 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

- The Chair reminded Members that there would be a Remembrance Day procession on Sunday 13 November; if Members wished to attend, they should meet at the Co-op store at 10.15am.
- The Chair reported that there would be an urgent item on Youth Provision in Sidmouth and the Sid Valley for discussion under Part B of the meeting.

83 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.

84 Public Open Question Time

- Denise Moleneux, Vice Chair Chamber of Commerce, confirmed that the Chamber of Commerce would be holding a street party on Sunday 7 May 2023 and asked Members to consider purchasing some lengths of strong good quality bunting that would be robust enough to be hung between the streetlights along the Esplanade.

85 Briefing for Members: Mukie Gosrani

Mukie Gosrani, a Sidmouth resident, has been coordinating efforts with East Devon District and Devon County Councils and liaising with families from Ukraine that were being hosted in Sidmouth. A support group has been set up at Twyford House for families and hosts and Mukie has been working with others who have also been providing support such as Woolbrook News.

Mukie briefed Members on the experiences of Ukrainian families in Sidmouth, their needs and the challenges they face and asked Members to consider funding the weekly rental costs of Twyford House for the support group meetings.

RESOLVED: That Mukie Gosrani be thanked for his briefing report to Members and encouraged to apply for a grant from the Town Council.

86 Police Advocate Report

Councillor Dent had nothing to report as the Devon and Cornwall Police Advocate but would raise the issue of speeding problems at Long Park with them.

RESOLVED: That the Police Advocate report be noted.

87 Working Group Reports

87.1 Planning Working Group Reports

Councillor Dent, Chair of the Planning Working Group, presented the reports of the Planning Working Group meetings held on Wednesdays 5 and 19 October 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Working Group reports be noted.

87.2 Council Resources Working Group

Councillor Lockyear, Chair of the Council Resources Working Group reported that the group had been discussing items such as the proposed steps up to the cricket ground at the Arches café, the high level of vandalism at the Arches toilets, how best to use the Project Support budget and the transfer of Knowle from EDDC to the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council Resources Working Group Report be noted.

88 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

88.1 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 September 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 September 2022.

b) Councillor Turner presented the Finance Report for September 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for September 2022.

89 Sidmouth Air Show Evaluation Working Group: Final Report

RESOLVED 1): That Cllrs Nelson, Barlow, Dent and Thurlow be thanked for their hard work in producing such a complete and informative report for Members to base their considerations on.

RESOLVED 2): That in a desire to steward the town towards a more sustainable future and building upon the information presented to this meeting, the Town Council will take the next 18 to 24 months to look at options for a more environmentally friendly major event to be held over the August Bank Holiday period, with a view that an Air Show may not be the future central event. During this transitional period, the Town Council will continue to actively mitigate against the environmental impact of events held in the town.

90 East Devon Public Spaces Protection Orders – Public Consultation

Alice Gill, Environmental Health Officer, East Devon District Council had written to all Town and Parish Councils to advise of a forthcoming review of East Devon Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) and the associated public consultation which would run from 10 October until 20 November 2022. This related to the Control of Dogs PSPO, Seashores and Promenades PSPO, and the Control of Anti-Social Behaviour and Consumption of Intoxicating Substances PSPO.

Full details could be found on the East Devon District Council's website at:

<https://eastdevon.gov.uk/environmental-health-and-wellbeing/environmental-health-information/public-spaces-protection-orders/dog-control-and-seashore-pspo-consultation/>

A list of the main changes and map of Sidmouth seashore were supplied for Members information.

RESOLVED 1): That the Town Council strongly opposed any changes to the current Dog Control PSPO and believe that the suggested changes would lead to confusion, reduced adherence to the rules, increased confrontation between dog owners and other beach users and the additional risk of dog faeces contamination on the beach during the summer months.

2) The ASB PSPO should not be removed from Sidmouth seafront and if any changes were to be made, the control area should be extended further into the town and not reduced as the existing order had been used and supported by Sidmouth Police repeatedly in the past 12 months alone.

91 Coronation of King Charles III – Saturday 6 May 2023

Members were asked to consider how the Town Council could mark the coronation of King Charles III. It was understood that Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce were planning a number of events including a Street Party. Along with Councils across the United Kingdom, Members were asked to consider any ways to help mark the Coronation.

RESOLVED: That suggestions would be considered at a future meeting, to include:

1. Naming the existing project for possible steps at the Arches, the 'Coronation Steps'
2. Planting four specimen trees celebrating the four nations of the United Kingdom; English Oak, Scots pine, Irish Yew and Welsh Sessile Oak.
3. The Chamber of Commerce's request for strong bunting for the Esplanade.

92 Appointment of Representative on Outside Body: Sidmouth Voluntary Services

Following the death of former Councillor Simon Pollentine, who still represented Sidmouth Town Council with Sidmouth Voluntary Services, Members were asked to appoint a replacement.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Nelson would become the Town Council's representative for Sidmouth Voluntary Services.

93 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'

94 A New Vision for Young People in Sidmouth and the Sid Valley

Councillor Cole, Chair Youth Provision Working Group, presented the report that had been issued to Members prior to the meeting and explained why it was proposed to use Design West as contractors to conduct a project of research, engagement and strategy development of the youth services for young people in Sidmouth and the Sid Valley.

RESOLVED: That Design West would be employed to conduct a project as set out in their proposal document.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL