

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council
held in the Sidmouth Guide HQ, Lawn Vista, Sidmouth
on Monday 7 April 2025

Ward	Councillors Present:
Sidmouth North	Stephen Blakeway Bernie Davis
Sidmouth South	Paul Dodds Chris Lockyear (Chair) John Nicholson Rachel Perram
Sidmouth East	Lorraine Brown
Primley	Francetta Bridle Hilary Nelson (Vice Chair) Kevin Walker
Sidbury	John Loudoun
Sidford	Joanne Dodds Mike Goodman
Salcombe Regis	Ian Barlow Edward Willis Fleming
Apologies:	Kelvin Dent, Stuart Hughes

The meeting started at 8.15pm and finished at 9.00pm.

PART 'A'

124 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 3 March 2025 were signed as a true and accurate record.

125 Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were received at this meeting.

126 Matters of Urgency or Report from the Chair

- The Chair reminded Members of the retirement of the Council's Finance Officer and thanked Mrs Hall for her hard work on behalf of the Council.
- The Chair reported that Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub in partnership with Sidmouth School of Art had requested permission to use the town centre catenary wires for the Festival of Flags during the summer season 2025. The project would be run on the same basis as agreed with the Town Council for 2024 and SCCH and SSA would like to instal the flags from 14 July to 15 September.

RESOLVED: That permission be granted to Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub in partnership with Sidmouth School of Art to use the town centre catenary wires for the Festival of Flags during the summer season 2025 subject to the same conditions as 2024.

127 Police Advocate Report

Cllr Nelson reminded Members to advise her of any issues they wished to be raised at her meeting with the Neighbourhood Team, to be held on Wednesday 9 April.

128 Committee/Working Group Reports

128.1 Planning Committee Report

Councillor Perram presented the report of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12 March.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee report be noted and agreed.

128.2 Tourism and Economy Committee Report

Councillor Nelson presented the report of the Tourism and Economy Committee meeting held on Wednesday 19 March.

RESOLVED: That the Tourism and Economy Committee report be noted and agreed.

128.3 Environment Committee Report

Councillor Barlow reported that the next meeting of the Environment Committee would be held on Monday 14 April.

128.4 Council Resources Working Group

The Chair reported that there had not been a Resources Working Group meeting since last full Council.

128.5 Youth Provision Committee

Councillor Nelson reported that a Youth Provision Committee meeting had been held on Friday 4 April and the minutes would follow shortly.

129 Reports from Members with Special Responsibilities

129.1 Finance Report

Councillor Lockyear presented the Finance Report for February 2025.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Report for February 2025 be noted.

129.2 South West Water Liaison

Councillor Lockyear reported that he had contacted SWW's Charlie Ford and gave an update regarding the work being carried out by South West Water.

129.3 Climate Awareness Partnership Sidmouth (CAPS)

Councillor Davis reported that the next Eco Hub community session would be on the topic of Active Travel and to encourage wider engagement this would include children's activities.

The Chair agreed to take the following two items in reverse order for the ease of residents in attendance.

130 East Devon District Council Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs)

East Devon District Council had three existing Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) which applied across the district. These included a Dog Control PSPO, Seashores and Promenades PSPO, and Control of Anti-Social Behaviour & the Consumption of Intoxicating Substances in Exmouth PSPO. These orders were reviewed every three years and had been considered by the Town Council on 5 August 2024 as part of that process. During that consultation phase, the Town Council had recommended that no changes were made, agreeing that the existing orders were suitable.

The resulting PSPOs from that review process which took account of responses from the consultation had been presented for public consultation.

The consultation would run for eight weeks between 3 March 2025 and 28 April 2025. The Sidmouth sections of the questionnaire had been extracted for Members convenience.

RESOLVED: East Devon District Council be advised that:

- 1) the PSPO, relating to Seashores and Promenades, associated dates and designated areas be supported as proposed.
- 2) The PSPO as proposed for Sidmouth Cemetery be fully supported with additional clear and suitable signage erected to support.
- 3) The PSPO for the Bys be not supported. Members felt that clearer and more appropriate signage should be introduced by EDDC and DCC along the footpaths and shared path/cycleway.

131 Devon County & East Devon District Council Event Advertising Policy (Signs & Banners)

Members were asked to consider Devon County Council and East Devon District Council's policies regarding the use of signage for the advertising of events and make any recommendations regarding their operation. It was noted that Devon County Council was not looking to change it's approach as this was based on national highway legislation but that East Devon District Council had asked for a response relating to land and property under its control.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee consider this issue and report back to a future full Council with a suggested response to East Devon District Council and a procedure and protocol for the advertisement of events within the Sid Valley area.

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CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL