



To: All Members of the Town Council

**Meeting of Seaton Town Council
on Monday 2nd October 2017 at 7.30pm**

26th September 2017

You are hereby summoned to attend the above meeting to be held at 7.30pm or immediately following the Planning Committee Meeting, whichever is sooner, at Marshlands, Harbour Road, Seaton. If the Planning Committee finishes before 7.30pm the Council meeting will start before 7.30pm. It is proposed that the matters set out on the agenda below will be considered at the meeting and resolution or resolutions passed as the Council considers appropriate.

Yours faithfully,

Amy Tregellas

Town Clerk

This meeting has been advertised as a public meeting and as such could be filmed or recorded by broadcasters, the media or members of the public. Please be aware that whilst every effort is taken to ensure that members of the public are not filmed, we cannot guarantee this, especially if you are speaking or taking an active role.

AGENDA

The Deputy Chairman will say a prayer at the start of the meeting

- 17/COU/01 Apologies for absence**
To receive any apologies for absence
- 17/COU/02 Declarations of Interest**
To receive any Members' declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda
- 17/COU/03 Minutes**
To agree the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 4th September 2017 and Special Council meeting held on Monday 18th September 2017

17/COU/04 Chairman's Report

17/COU/05 Public Question Time

To allow any questions or reports from members of the public.

17/COU/06 Police Report

17/COU/07 County Councillor Report

17/COU/08 District Councillors' Reports

17/COU/09 Reports from Council representatives on Outside Bodies

17/COU/10 Town Clerk Report

17/COU/11 Top priorities for Seaton Town Council

To receive a progress update on the priorities of the Council

17/COU/12 100th Birthdays

To consider a proposal from Cllr Pigott that the Council recognises, when made aware of, Seaton residents celebrating their 100th birthday and sends them a card

17/COU/13 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

- a) **Cllr. J Rowland:** *Seaton Town Council urgently requests Devon County Council Highways to review the siting of the bus stops on both sides of the Underfleet in view of the dangerous situations this is causing when vehicles attempt to overtake parked buses in close proximity to roundabouts in both directions. A solution would be for bus lay-byes to be provided on both sides of the Underfleet that would require discussions with East Devon District Council as owners of the land required for the bus lay-byes. This problem is particularly pronounced in the main tourist season due to the volume of traffic using the Underfleet which will continue to increase with the continued regeneration of Seaton.*

17/COU/14 Update on Actions arising from previous meetings:

Improving the vitality of the Town Centre

Update: Three Councillors have undertaken consultation on re-opening up of the town centre

Write to Police and Highways regarding speeding issues on Seaton Down Hill/Road to ask for an update on previously promised action

Update: The Town Clerk has chased both Devon County Council and the Police and to date has only had a response from Meg Booth's assistant who is looking into the matter.



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Seaton Town Council on Monday 4th September 2017

Present

In the chair: Cllr Jack Rowland

Councillors: K Beer, P Burrows, C. Chadwick, M Pigott, S Read, K Rye, H Sanham, M Shaw, D Squire, R Webster

Officers: Assistant to the Town Clerk
8 members of the public

85. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr Stephen Read made his declaration of acceptance of office.

86. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Hartnell which were accepted.

87. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Burrows declared a personal interest as a Councillor with East Devon District Council (EDDC).

Cllr Shaw declared a personal interest as a Councillor with Devon County Council (DCC).

Cllr Burrows declared a personal interest in item 13: Post Office consultation. Cllr Burrows was advised by the Assistant to the Town Clerk that in declaring a personal interest he would be able to take part in the discussion and vote should that prove necessary. Cllr Burrows stated that he would leave the meeting during the discussion of the item.

88. To agree the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7th August 2017

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the meeting on Monday 7th August subject to the following amendments:

Minute 70: should read 'Diana Nason'

Minute 74: to clarify that Cllr Sanham had attended the President's Lunch at the Yacht Club.

(proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Beer)

89. Chairman's Report

Council **NOTED** the Chairman's Report.

90. Public Question Time

Several Members of the Public spoke in Public Question Time:

Mr John Chilcott spoke against the Harbour Development scheme and its visual impact on a world status Jurassic Coastline. Mr Chilcott asked who pays for what would be a multi-million-pound scheme and is of the view that berthing income would cover annual costs but not a return on capital or a sinking fund for repair and renewal. In Mr Chilcott's opinion a private developer would seek to build apartments adjoining a marina which will require sea views to be attractive to buyers and are, typically, three or four storeys and cited Exmouth of an example of this kind of development. Mr Chilcott feels that even a public sector funded, minimal development would adversely overwhelm and dominate the coastline.

Hilary Arnold spoke against the Harbour development as she considers the harbour a wonderful asset with the best beach around. The development will change the dynamics of the harbour and spoil the environment. She considers groins to be environmentally damaging. Mrs Arnold referred positively to extending walking from the Chime to Seaton Hole and an extension of Mackerel fishing.

Mr Eric Bowman spoke in support of Cllr Chadwick's motion at item 19 (i), particularly as traffic is increasing and the road is an access route for town traffic and buses. Mr Bowman referred to the deteriorating quality of drivers and the actions of boy racers.

Mr Bowman spoke on the issue of graffiti in Seaton, that it moves from one part of the town to another and depicts foul language on occasion, in particular near to a play area and a cycle path. Mr Bowman called for more education, CCTV and police enforcement and asked what the Council is doing to combat graffiti. Mr Bowman advised that he had reported a piece of graffiti near his home and has received a crime log number.

The Chairman advised that if graffiti occurs in areas within the Town Council's responsibility it is dealt with by our maintenance team. Otherwise it is reported to East Devon District Council.

Mr Daniel Ledger spoke on the issue of youth funding and referred to a historical referendum held by Seaton Town Council (STC). Mr Ledger also said that historically, an amount of STC's Council Tax precept had been ring-fenced for youth provision and asked if this was still the case.

Cllr Sanham explained that precept ring-fencing had been for one year.

The Chairman said that STC will look into the history of the youth funding and respond to Mr Ledger.

Mr Matthew Tyne asked about the possibility of a Beacon to commemorate the ending of WW1.

91. Police Report

Council **NOTED** the Police Report.

92. County Councillor Report

Council **NOTED** the County Councillor Report.

93. District Councillors' Reports

Council **NOTED** the District Councillor Report from Cllr Hartnell.

94. Reports from Council representatives on Outside Bodies

Council **NOTED** that Cllr Beer had supplied reports for this item which were not included on the agenda for the meeting. Cllr Beer's reports will go on the agenda for the Full Council meeting in October.

95. Appointments to Council Committees

Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Hartnell to the Community & Open Spaces Committee.

(proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Shaw)

Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Read to the Planning Committee and the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr Squire)

95. Seafront Enhancement

Cllr Sanham explained that this report followed on from discussions on 21st August and sought Council support to move forward. Cllr Sanham proposed that Council receive the proposals in the Town Development Team's Working Party Report on the Sea Moorings for Seaton and agree points a) to e) in the report in one go.

(seconded by Cllr Rowland)

Cllr Shaw proposed an amendment to the proposal taking each item separately.

Cllr Sanham agreed to accept the amended proposal.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the amended proposal.

Cllr Shaw was of the view that the Council cannot insist that the findings of the report be incorporated into the work of the Seaton Beach Management Plan Group.

Council considered each of the elements in the report as follows:

a) Support the principle of increasing water-based activities as part of the town's 'Year-Round Adventure' branding.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

(proposed by Cllr Beer, seconded by Cllr Burrows)

b) Agree that the Town Council is represented at any on-going discussions on Sea Moorings with the Axe Yacht Clubs and other interested parties.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

(proposed by Cllr Burrows, seconded by Cllr Sanham)

c) Agree that the findings of the report be incorporated into the work of the Seaton Beach Management Plan Group

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

(proposed by Cllr Burrows, seconded by Cllr Read)

d) Support any undertaking of a feasibility study into the provision of a deep-water harbour for the town

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

(proposed by Cllr Sanham, seconded by Cllr Chadwick)

e) Agree that the findings of any feasibility study form part of future funding applications to deliver the Council's seafront enhancement plans as appropriate
Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal
(proposed by Cllr Sanham, seconded by Cllr Rowland)

96. Post Office Consultation

Cllr Burrows left the room at 19.50

Council discussed the extent of progress with the consultation, the effect on parking facilities in the proposed new location and the importance of retaining a Post Office facility in the Town

Cllr Beer proposed that the Council should respond positively to the proposals as advantageous to the Town

(seconded by Cllr Rowland)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal)

Cllr Burrows re-joined the meeting at 19.54

97. Member Officer Protocol

Cllr Rowland proposed that the Council adopts the Member / Officer Protocol recommended by the Personnel Committee

(seconded by Cllr Rye)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

98. Youth related facilities

Cllr Rowland relayed suggestions for improvement arising in discussion with users of the Skate Park which could be incorporated into any forthcoming redesign and to support bids for prospective sources of funding.

Cllrs discussed a historic referendum and the deployment of Section 106 monies to create the Adventure Golf Course. Cllr Sanham suggested contacting EDDC to ascertain the amount of any remaining Section 106 funding

Council discussed the cost and benefits of a consultation and managing expectations arising and the demographic of those to be consulted.

Cllr Rowland proposed an in-principle agreement to hold a public consultation to establish the priorities for spending on youth related facilities for incorporation into the 2018/2019 budget

(seconded by Cllr Burrows)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

99. Fisherman's Gap

Council discussed a proposal from the Environment Agency (EA) for prospective works to the Fisherman's Gap gate to address health and safety issues. Cllrs were made aware of an historic Royal Charter which governs what can be done reference the size of the gates and that it would require an Act of Parliament for the Charter to be altered.

Cllr Sanham asked if the EA is aware of plans in hand reference the Seafront Enhancement Scheme.

Cllr Read advised Council that one way forward could be to extend the aprons slightly by the slipway. This would negate the need to change the gate size.

Cllr Burrows proposed responding to the EA to the effect that STC are averse to extending the size of the gate but suggesting that the EA looks to extend the aprons by the slipway as described by Cllr Read.

(seconded by Cllr Rowland)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

100. Adventure Golf Course

Cllr Squire proposed contacting EDDC to make known concerns to do with the general appearance of the Adventure Golf Course, the extent of the facilities, the state of signage and advertisements and if public money is being properly used in the maintenance and management of the site.

(seconded by Cllr Rowland)

Council discussed evening opening times and the availability of staff to hand out equipment as well as the possibility of light refreshments being made available and an improved welcome for those using the course.

Cllr Sanham described work in hand with EDDC and Leisure East Devon (LED) to improve signage and a consideration of longer opening hours for 2018.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree Cllr Squire's proposal.

101. Christmas and New Year Opening Arrangements

Cllr Rowland moved acceptance of the proposed Christmas and New Year opening arrangements.

(seconded by Cllr Shaw)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

102. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Cllr Rowland moved acceptance of the motions put forward by Cllr Chadwick and proposed consideration of both motions together.

(seconded by Cllr Sanham)

Cllr Chadwick accepted the amendment.

Council discussed problems arising from increased traffic.

Cllr Shaw volunteered to bring the issues to the attention of DCC Highways with the possibility of arranging a meeting on site. Cllr Shaw highlighted a Traffic Management meeting scheduled for 25th September.

Cllrs discussed a point of information reference ascertaining bus stop ownership and that this might impinge on efforts to have bus-stops relocated.

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the following motions:

The Council supports requesting a 20mph restriction along the Underfleet, particularly near the dropped kerb opposite the playpark and also the possibility of citing a pedestrian crossing here; and,

The Council supports some action to have the bus stops on the Underfleet relocated into the coach park subject to confirmation of bus stop ownership.

103. Update on Actions arising from previous meetings:

Cycle Way measures introduced at Harbour Road / Underfleet Roundabout: safety issues

Council revisited ongoing health and safety issues to do with the Cycle Way and responses received from DCC to date. DCC had clarified the cost of installing the

Cycle Way. Cllr Rye stated that he would not feel safe using the route as a Cyclist. Cllr Sanham volunteered to speak with Axe Valley Pedlars for their input and will copy the response to Cllr Shaw in his capacity as a Devon County Councillor. Thereafter STC will revert to DCC with more detail.

STC Top 5 priorities:

An update on progress will be provided at the October meeting of Full Council.

Speeding issues: Seaton Down Hill and Road

Cllr Rowland confirmed that formal complaint letters have been sent to DCC and the Police and Highways.

Council **NOTED** the update on actions arising

The meeting ended at 8.45pm

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____



Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting of Seaton Town Council on Monday 18th September 2017

Present

In the chair: Cllr Martin Pigott

Councillors: P Burrows, C. Chadwick, M Hartnell, S Read, K Rye,
H Sanham, M Shaw, D Squire, R Webster

Officers: Town Clerk

104. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Rowland and Beer which were accepted.

105. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hartnell declared a personal interest as a Councillor with East Devon District Council (EDDC)

Cllr Burrows declared a personal interest as a Councillor with East Devon District Council (EDDC).

Cllr Rye declared a personal interest for item 06 as a trader at the Art at Jubilee Market

Cllr Webster declared a personal interest for item 06 as a trader at the Art at Jubilee Market

106. Public Question Time

There were no member of the public present

107. Cycle Fest 2018

The Council **RESOLVED** to hold the Cycle Fest for 2018 on the 1st July 2018.

(Moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Rye)

108. Confidential Items

Cllr Pigott moved, and the Council **RESOLVED** that in accordance with the Councils Standing Orders the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of agenda items 06 and 07 as there was likely to be disclosure of confidential information as matter were being discussed that could identify individual(s).

109. Marketing and Events Contract

The Council **RESOLVED** that:

1. The Council agrees a fixed term contract with a service level agreement for the Marketing role;
2. The Events Management role be brought in house, to focus on all events including the Cycle Fest;

3. Delegated authority be given to the Working Group (in conjunction with the Town Clerk) to do further work on the specification for the Marketing Contract; and
4. The Events Management role be considered by the Personnel Committee before returning to Council for approval

(Moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Sanham)

110. Moridunum

The Council **RESOLVED** that Seaton Town Council enter into discussions with East Devon District Council concerning options for the Moridunum.

(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Sanham)

Councillors Hartnell, Burrows, Sanham and Shaw to be involved in the discussions.

The meeting ended at 6.46pm

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____

Seaton Town Council – Full Council 2 October 2017

Chairman's Report

September has been dominated by 2 subjects from my point of view:

1. The media attention following the press release by the Mendip Mule Bus Company to discontinue the service.
2. The ongoing discussions concerning the future of the Seaton Hospital site.

Mendip Mule Bus Service

As reported in the local press I did have a constructive meeting with the owner, Derek Gawn, on 14 September at 2pm. On the same day ITV West Country News interviewed Derek at 10am in Colyton and then interviewed me at 11.30am in Seaton and the edited news bulletin was broadcast at 6pm.

The outcome of the meeting with Derek was that he wanted to take a break to gather his thoughts, but ideally he was looking for someone to take over the business for next season with him acting as a mentor in the background to utilise his 47 years of experience in the bus and coach industry. Amy and myself also offered to:

- Explore what grant possibilities (not the Town Council grant system) may exist that his business may be eligible to apply for.
- Campaign for Devon County Council to review the siting of the bus stops in the Underfleet with the aim of DCC and EDDC working together to provide bus laybys in view of the current issues with traffic back up and dangerous overtaking close to the 2 roundabouts in both directions.

Having seen the ITV news bulletin Derek then withdrew his offer to work with us citing the views shown from a few Haven Court residents. I have since been in email correspondence with Derek and am still hopeful we can meet again when he returns from his holiday.

Seaton Hospital

I have heard many people say “the hospital has closed” – we have lost the battle to retain the beds at the hospital, but there are still 50 clinics and over 100 staff at the site. I deeply regret the loss of the beds having campaigned for their retention ever since the news broke in January.

The next campaign is to ensure that the site is retained with a compelling case for retaining the existing services and extending these. To this end I attended a meeting on 6 September to discuss the next steps. I cannot give fuller details at this stage, but broadly the idea is to set up a Steering Committee for an Axe Valley Health Hub and to work in conjunction with Axminster to build a case for retaining both sites with complementary services.

Other subjects

Since the last Council meeting on 4 September I have attended:

- On 6th the Seaton Hospital future use meeting.
- On 8th the Seaton in Bloom presentation evening
- On 11th the Community and Open Spaces committee meeting.
- On 13th the Town Development Team meeting and the EDDC extraordinary Council meeting and spoke in the public participation slot.
- On 14th gave the ITV West Country news interview, attended the “Have your say” session, met Derek Gawn and attended the Testudo production of Footloose in Colyton.
- Reviewed the applications for the maintenance position and agreed with the Town Clerk the people who will be invited for interview.

Jack Rowland

24 September 2017

County Councillor's Report, October 2017

Community Stakeholdings in Local Hospitals

I made a proposal to the Health Scrutiny Committee on 21st September to ask them to carry out an investigation into (a) the changing ownership and governance of community hospitals; (b) the kind of stakeholding that Leagues of Friends and local communities can claim in our hospitals; and (c) how community stakeholdings should be secured.

I argued that this could be done either by formally entrenching the place-based health use of hospital buildings, or by directly recognising the financial stakes established. While neither would be a simple matter, it would benefit from proper investigation, taking into account the views of all interested parties, and the hundreds of thousands of Devon people who support the hospitals deserve no less.

The background to this is that (1) in 2016 all 12 hospitals were transferred into the ownership of NHS Property Services, a government-owned company required to charge market rents to NHS organisations and empowered to sell off surplus buildings; and (2) the Devon NHS Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) will seek to sell off surplus buildings and a Local Estates Strategy is being developed as part of this. (I have been told that the savings envisaged amount to nearly 600 dwellings being built on NHS sites.)

I pointed out that 'Seaton hospital was built in the 1980s with money raised by the local community, matched £ for £ by the health authority; later the League paid entirely for two new wings. It has recently been valued by NHS Property Services at £3m, but the League contributed over half that amount to its construction. Leagues have given huge amounts of money - huge amounts for small towns and villages, anyway - not to the NHS as a national or regional service, not for specific services, but in order to have a hospital providing place-based services in their towns.'

The Committee was sympathetic to the moral claim of local communities which I was making, and agreed to look further at the matter following advice from the County Solicitor.

Future cuts to the NHS in Devon

This item followed a presentation by a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) representative showing that £117m savings need to be achieved this year and £500m in the next 5 years, and that the NHS was finding it increasingly difficult to find staff. However in reply to committee members' questions she refused to give any hard data. A councillor did a back-of-envelope calculation that this year's savings amounted to 2500 jobs, which the CCG did not dispute.

A motion was proposed by my fellow Independent, Claire Wright, criticising the 'lack of transparency' of the CCG, but this was deleted by Conservative members. The committee will however look in more detail at the STP, and also at deteriorating ambulance response times.

The Scrutiny Committee's failure to refer the community beds decision

I am proposing a motion to ask the full DCC to look again at this, in the light of the Standards Committee's criticisms of the way the 25 July meeting was handled and the recent urgent warning of the head of the NHS in England that the NHS will need more beds for the coming winter when a severe flu season is possible (a point I made to the Scrutiny Committee but they ignored!).

Meeting about adult social care

Together with the other three members of the County Council's Non-Aligned Group, I had a 2-hour meeting with the chief officers responsible for social care to discuss the Council's policies and provision in this area. This was very informative and highlighted the big problems of recruiting and retaining staff (there is a 35 per cent annual turnover among care workers), being made worse as Brexit and the declining pound make the UK less attractive to workers from EU countries and elsewhere in the world.

Officers asked us to publicise the 'Proud to Care' campaign (<https://www.proudtocaredevon.org.uk>) which highlights career pathways now available in social care, and also the ways in which communities can help (see the 'Pinpoint' website <https://services.pinpointdevon.co.uk>).

Road repairs

A significant sum has become available for patching in the division. I have asked the 9 parish councils to give me their priorities, which most have done, and I will be meeting Steve Kelly shortly to agree a programme. We will inform parishes when we know which roads can be done.

Speeding issues: new Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)

Speeding remains a big problem across the division and I am working with Speedwatch teams in Seaton Down Hill and Colyford and the A35 Action Group in Wilmington, as well as Seaton Town Council and Colyton and Widworthy Parish Councils, around these issues.

A new VAS, paid for by Seaton Town Council and my predecessor's Locality Budget, has finally been installed on Seaton Down Hill, and Steve and I recently met with local campaigners and Colyton Parish Council to agree the siting of a VAS near Gully Shoot in Colyford. I have agreed in principle to support this out of my Locality Budget for this year.

Cllr Marcus Hartnell EDDC Ward Member Report – September 2017

EDDC Meetings that I have attended:

30th August - Beach Management Plan Stakeholder Group Meeting

6th September – Meeting at Seaton Hospital

6th September – Cabinet

20th September – Beach Management Plan Stakeholder Group Meeting

21st September – Scrutiny

Report

The new lease for Seaton Tramway has now been granted by EDDC and construction work has commenced on the new terminus, which is scheduled for completion in March 2018.

The Beach Management Plan is moving forward at pace, and at the last meeting we drew up a long list of options that will now be scoped by CH2M. These included:

- West Seaton (Seaton Hole)
 - Cliff Stabilisation
 - Recharge and/or recycling of beach material
 - Beach control structure
 - Extension of promenade and sea wall/defence to Seaton Hole
- Seaton Town (Main beach)
 - Better drainage to discharge of flooding caused by overtopping
 - De-mountable defences
- Seaton Spit/Axmouth Harbour
 - Dredging
 - Floodgates at Yacht Club slipway

The next steps are to produce a short list of options which will be followed by further public consultation and then the production of a draft plan.

The construction of the new EDDC HQ at Honiton is now underway with the council expecting to be in the new premises by December 2018.

As part of EDDC's measures to prevent fraud and protect public finances, checks are underway this month to ensure the single person council tax discount is being claimed correctly. The review will be completed by December.

I recently visited the Baker Estates' Rowan Drive development to see the foundations of the affordable homes they are building. Providing affordable homes is one of our top priorities at EDDC and it is fantastic to finally see some being delivered in Seaton.

Cllr Marcus Hartnell

District Councillor Report from Cllr Jim Knight

Not much to report other than the tramway enhancement is underway, EDDC new offices moving forward at the Honiton Business Park. Attended two extraordinary council meeting and two licensing meetings (looking into cars for sale on the public highway and whether they are a business if so would possibly need a street trading license).

Cllr Peter Burrows District Councillors report 2/10/17

Attended the DMC meeting on the 5th September, there were no items relating to Seaton. I attended the Budget working party on the 13th of September, which is not open to the public. But I can say my words were heeded on one of the items discussed and supported by others. Later, that day was the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting with the motion asking the leader of the Council, Paul Diviani, to resign. I spoke, along with other movers of the motion, and do believe he should have gone, but it was defeated as expected. Cllr Knight voted with me and Cllr Hartnell was absent.

District issues raised by members of the public include the graffiti at the Underfleet. This has been removed but there is still some offensive remarks on a wall that I assume is privately owned, I am investigating this.

Dog fouling has been getting worse latterly, Cliff Fields has been an area which I and other members have picked up fouling left by dog owners. I hope members of the public are more vigilant and report it! Last week I reminded someone that their dog should be on the lead & they did after I was about to take a picture. I notice them, a little later, further down where there is no dogs at all with another person who has already had a penalty notice in the past. I will follow this up. I have also received complaints about people cycling on the seafront, contrary to the bylaws, older people!

There is an unease within the Town Centre about the number of empty shops. Is there a commitment from any Council to help I am asked? The state of roads does not help and the amount of traffic that uses it when it is supposed to be a pedestrian area?

Cllr Peter Burrows

Update from Cllr Beer on Project Griffin

17/8/2017

This is a project run by Devon and Cornwall Police regarding COUNTER-TERRORISM and i attended their meeting on the 17/8/2017.

The contact number to report anything suspicious is **0800 789123** and this number should be on the town website and on the reception desk of Marshlands.

At present the category is SEVERE. which means an attack may be imminent.

They recommend that we watch "Stay Safe" on Utube which gives guidance in case of attack.

I have given the contact cards of the organisers to the Town Clerk as the names are not for general distribution.

They emphasised that they had no knowledge of a threat to the west country.

Ken Beer
Town Councillor

Update from Cllr Beer on the DALC Devon County Council Strategy Forum group

15/8/2017

This was organised by Rowland Pyle and David Slocombe both work for Devon County Council (DCC).

The purpose of the meeting was to ask what Town and Parish Councils wanted and needed in the next 5 years.

It was pointed out by one attendee that they had spent a lot of time on Unitary councils which was cancelled at change of government. So, were these discussions any different?

Mr Pyle suggested that as we councils were nearer to the public we should take over social health provision. I pointed out that Seaton had been stripped of hospital facilities and now to suggest that we pick up the problems was beyond belief.

Ivybridge stated that they were now about to build accommodation for the old and infirmed.

It was suggested that DCC advise all councils of work that they would no longer be doing in future? So that arrangement could be made to cover this work.

Broadband: this was thought to be a major requirement for the future to encourage more industry to Devon and help people communicate as almost all DCC information was now mainly on line.

If industry was encouraged this would increase skill levels and youth employment as most of our youth move away from Devon.

Industry should be encouraged to move to other parts of Devon rather than around the large conurbations.

It was suggested that on all future building developments that broadband be classed as an essential utility.

Infrastructure of roads was discussed as Devon has one of the longest average commuter journey times in UK.

Next meeting would be in the autumn 2017

Ken Beer
Town Councillor

COUNCIL

Town Clerk Update Report – October 2017

Since the last update report the Town Clerk has the following update:

Have Your Say sessions

The 'Have your Say' sessions with the Police have been continued for another three months. The first of those sessions took place on 14th September between 1pm and 2pm. A couple of local residents attended the session. The next sessions are 12th October and 9th November 2017.

Tourist Information Centre

The Town Clerk met with the Visitor Experience Manager from Seaton Jurassic to discuss the Tourist Information Centre. A report on the activity of the TIC will come to Council on the 2nd January 2018. The Town Clerk will now have regular meetings with the Visitor Experience Manager and a number of performance indicators will be developed for the 2018.

Town Maintenance Person Interviews

The Town Clerk has been involved in the interviews for the Town Maintenance Person.

Training for Councillors

The Town Clerk did some training for Councillors and the two sessions took place on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th September

Training for Town Clerk

The Town Clerk is due to attend the Devon Association of Local Council's budget and precept training on Tuesday 3rd October

Christmas

The Administration and Finance Assistant, in conjunction with the Town Clerk, have been working on the programme for Christmas 2017. This includes the Christmas lights and decoration of the town and the schedule for the light switch on event.

COUNCIL

Top Priorities for Seaton Town Council

At the Council meeting in July, the following priorities for 2017/18 were agreed:

- 5-year financial plan
- Marketing and Events Contract
- Complete remedial work at Marshlands and market the remaining available space
- Improve the appearance of the Town Centre including improved signage
- Seafront enhancement (Cllr Sanham to champion)
- Improve methods of communicating with Seaton residents (Cllr Squire to champion)

Progress against each of these priorities will now be covered in turn:

5-year financial plan

The Town Clerk has started to set out the budget for the next 5 years (18/19 to 22/23), with particular focus on 2018/19. This document includes a list of assumptions. This information will be presented to the Finance Committee at their meeting on the 16th October.

All of the Committees have been asked to start thinking about their budget for the 2018/19 financial year and this will then be factored into the financial plan.

Marketing and Events Contract

In August Council resolved that they would split the Marketing role from the Events role. A working group was set up to look at the options for the Marketing and Events contract.

Cllrs Pigott, Burrows, Hartnell, Sanham, Squire and Webster formed the working group. The working group met on the 17th August and 7th September and took a proposal to the Communities Committee on 11th September. The recommendations were resolved by Council at a Special meeting on the 18th September.

The working group met again on the 25th September to discuss the finer detail but it was agreed that the Marketing role go out to tender.

The Events Officer role is to be discussed by Personnel Committee to look at the detail before going back to Council to be ratified. This will then be advertised.

Marshlands

A list of remedial works has been drawn up and this is being worked through by the Maintenance Team, where appropriate. For the areas that they cannot deal with the Council is obtaining tenders for the works to be completed.

Now that the Maintenance Team have finished the repairs and painting of the street furniture in the Town Centre and Seafront, they are now focusing on the work at Marshlands.

Quotes are being obtained for the windows and repairs to the plastering. Once all quotes have been received a report will go to the Estates Committee.

PAT testing – quotations are being obtained and the testing will take place based on the best value for money.

Fire risk assessment – the next fire risk assessment will be done in the first two weeks in October and fire warden training will also be included.

In terms of letting rooms at Marshlands:

1 office is let

1 office is potentially let

1 office is being used for adhoc bookings.

The Town Clerk is drafting some information to go on the website and then to promote on social media.

The Town Clerk is also planning to do a welcome pack for new tenants so that they have all the information that they need in this document.

Improve the appearance of the Town Centre

Cllr's Sanham, Rye and Webster were carrying out consultation on a number of the town centre issues.

Cllr's Rowland and Pigott met with the Technical Officer from East Devon District Council to do a walkabout in the town and to discuss areas that needed to be improved.

The Seaton Regeneration Forum is due to meet on the 11th October to discuss the Town.

Seafront Enhancement

The planning application for the Seafront Enhancement Scheme was approved by East Devon District Council on the 7th August 2017.

Cllr Sanham confirmed that a meeting with the Architects is taking place on 27th September 2017 to talk about funding opportunities to take the project forward.

Improve methods of communication with Seaton residents

Started to use Facebook and Twitter to communicate with the public. More information needs to be given to the public using these platforms – e.g. the publication of agendas and minutes, road closures, etc.

The Town Clerk is drafting a community engagement strategy which will come back to Council in November/December.