



Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting On Monday 3rd December 2018

Present

In the chair: Cllr P Burrows

Councillors: K Beer, C Chadwick, D Ledger, S Read, J Rowland, K Rye, H Sanham, M Shaw and D Squire

Officers: Locum Town Clerk

Public: No members of the public were present

The Chairman said a prayer at the start of the meeting and asked Councillors too stand in remembrance of Martin Pigott's sister who sadly passed away at the weekend.

141. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hartnell

142. 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)

143. Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting on Monday 5th November 2018.

(moved Cllr Beer; seconded Cllr Rowland)

144. Chairman's Report

The Council considered the Chairman's Report and discussion took place around:

- Cllr Burrows updated the Council that he had attend the switch on of the Christmas lights and the carnival.
- Cllr Rowland thanked Cllr H Sanham for all her work and efforts put into the lighting of the Beacon as part of the first world war centenary service.
- The Chairman thanked Cllr Carmel Chadwick for all the hard work and help that she has given to the residents that were victims of the fire at The Royal Clarence on Sunday. Cllr Chadwick commented in response that she was impressed at the way the community rallied around to help the residents
- An update to be brought to the Council in respect of the emergency plan and social media policy
- Councillors voiced their concerns regarding comments posted on Facebook by Cllr R Webster regarding the Town Clerk and the Events Officer.

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

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr K Beer speak with Cllr Webster
(moved Cllr Beer; seconded Cllr Sanham)

145. Public Question Time

No members the public were present at the meeting.

146. Police Report

No police report had been received. Councillors requested that a list of the dates of future meetings of the council were sent to the police for their information and they are reminded of the date of the next meeting.

147. County Councillor Report

The Council considered and **NOTED** Cllr Shaw's County Councillor Report.
(moved Cllr Burrows)

148. District Councillors Reports

The Council considered Cllr Hartnell's Report and discussion took place around:

- Feedback on S106 monies for the football pitch and whether the monies could be put towards another project in the town. EDDC had responded that this was not possible. Councillors wished to know what was happening to the S106 monies.
- With reference to the Bronze Award given to Seaton Wetlands Cllr D Squire proposed that major events and the towns achievements were promoted on the town council's website. It was requested that One Voice are asked to promote this award. It was also suggested that council agendas are sent to One Voice so they are aware of town events and news
- Support of the installation of a gear mechanism on the flood gates at Fisherman's Gap. Cllr D Squire wanted it established who was responsible for the closing of the flood gate as this would be of importance when compiling the Emergency Plan.
- The council support the idea for a Streetscene/Town Council Joint Monthly Operation

The Council **RESOLVED** to request the Town Clerk that Council agendas are sent to One Voice so that they are aware of town events and news.
(moved Cllr Squire; seconded Cllr Burrows)

The Council **RESOLVED** to support the installation of a gear mechanism on the gates at Fisherman's Gap.
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Read)

The Council **RESOLVED** to support the Streetscene/Town Council joint monthly operation as proposed in Cllr Hartnell's Report
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Beer)

The Council **NOTED** Cllr Hartnell's District Councillors Report
(moved Cllr Burrows)

The Council considered and **NOTED** Cllr Burrow's District Councillors Report.

149. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Council considered the report from the Seaton Area Health Matters Group and discussion took place around:

- Cllr Rowland gave an update on the Helpline which the Council agreed at the November meeting would be run on a trial basis via the front office Council staff. Cllr Rowland had decided to purchase a mobile phone and would run this service himself.

The Council **NOTED** the report
(moved Cllr Burrows)

150. Town Clerk Report

The Council considered the Town Clerk's Report and discussion took place around:

- The application to Historic England to have the Searchlight Emplacement listed. Councillors would like to see the application made to Historic England to have the Searchlight listed and the confirmation saying the site wasn't a strong candidate for listing and that they wouldn't be able to take an application forward.
- Whether any correspondence has been received from Ted Gosling of Seaton Museum. Mr Gosling had sent a letter to the Council but had not received a reply or acknowledgement of it.

The Council **NOTED** the Town Clerks Report
(moved Cllr Burrows)

151. Committee meeting minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes for:

- Finance & General Purposes Committee 8th October 2018
- Planning Committee 22nd October 2018
- Planning Committee 5th November 2018

(moved by Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr)

152. Motions

Motion 1: Cllr Shaw – Seaton Town Council welcomes the publication by the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) (Devon branch) of two reports, 'Devon Housing Needs Evidence' and 'A Review of Government Housing Policy and Its Impact on Devon', and the extensive research from which they result. Noting that the reports conclude that Devon's real housing needs are substantially less than current policy suggests, Council resolves to affiliate to the Devon CPRE in order to obtain copies for members to read, with a view to referring the issue to the Planning Committee for detailed discussion.

Discussion took place around:

- Two reports published by CPRE that conclude that the Government is making councils greatly overestimate housing needs in the county which is distorting housing policy across the county. These reports are only available in hard copy. Because they cost a lot to produce you can only get a copy of the reports if you join CPRE.
- The Council joining CPRE as it would be of benefit as they are raising issues like this on an ongoing basis. Cllr Shaw asked that the Council affiliates to the Devon CPRE which would cost £36 per year in order to obtain copies of reports they publish.

- How the CPRE figures compared to the ones quoted in East Devon's Local Plan. Cllr Shaw said CPRE's estimate of housing needs figures for East Devon are substantially lower than the Local Plan figures.
- If the Council becomes affiliated with CPRE where does that where does that put as with planning applications when CPRE make any comments on them. It was felt that this would not affect how the Council responds to planning applications.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Town Council affiliates to Devon CPRE at a cost of £36 per year.

(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Read)

Motion 2: Cllr Burrows – Seaton Town Council strives to towards becoming a plastic free community. We will work with other agencies including Surfers Against Sewage to make Seaton a plastic free coastline.

Discussion took place around:

- The need for clarification on 'a plastic free coastline' as that covers so many things that it would not be practicable to adhere to.
- Is the Town Council going to set an example and become plastic free? Is there going to be an action plan? Cllr Burrows has made contact with Surfers Against Sewage and they are coming up with some proposals. Cllr Shaw felt there were some elements of this that the town council could look into. Councillors felt they wanted more detail before supporting this motion. What is expected of the Town Council if it supports the motion?

The Council **RESOLVED** that it accepts the principle behind the proposal of the motion, but that a plan of action is brought before the Council.

(moved Cllr Squire; seconded Cllr Chadwick)

Motion 3: Cllr Ledger - To look into redesigning/adding to the town maps to better reflect the businesses in the town, including making the signs consistent with what Seaton offers.

Discussion took place around:

- Cllr Sanham explained the Town Map was produced to encourage people to get out and about.
- Whether detailing all businesses on map would become confusing.
- Whether it was the right decision not to include businesses however if it had been pointed out at the time The Gateway Theatre should have been included.
- Cllr Ledger agreed that Gateway could be excluded but the word Theatre should be included on the map.

The Council **RESOLVED** to include the Theatre where Town Hall is and look to get the map revised.

(Cllr Ledger, seconded Cllr Burrows)

153. Communities Together Fund

Cllr Burrows has attempted to contact Jamie Buckley at EDDC but is awaiting a response. Cllr Sanham expressed concern over missing the deadline – the deadline is 16th January 2019.

154. Seaton Community Swimming Pool

To consider the letter from Leisure East Devon in respect of future funding for the swimming pool.

Discussion took place around:

- The letter raising more questions, current shortfall of £6,000 based on usage. EDDC have contributed £5000 since the start of this, what subsidies do they pay to other school swimming pools. Needs to be a correlation between EDDC contribution and any contribution made by STC, in relation to overall budget.
- The need to ask for comparative figures for the towns of East Devon for EDDC and LED are spending on swimming pools in each of those towns.
- The need to have details of how often the pool is actually open to the community, number of occasions when it has been advertised as open and nobody has been there.
- The fact that they have had a lot of problems this year.
- The need to ask for a representative to come and talk to the Council to answer any questions.
- The change of Head at the school and there maybe different views on how the pool should operate. Information on advertising and promotion from LED would be useful.

The Council **NOTED** the letter and agreed to postpone a decision on a contribution until such a time that LED can attend and answer questions on usage, comparison to last figures received from them, business plan, detailed figures on monies spent by EDDC on each of the towns in East Devon, the view of the school, any contributions by town councils to the running of school pools. How is promoted and consistency with opening in relation to what is advertised.

155. Free Room Booking Request

To consider the request for a free room booking from Axe Valley Runners.

The Council **RESOLVED** to the free booking
(proposed Cllr Sanham, seconded Cllr Rowland).

156. Confidential Items

The Chairman moved, and the Council agreed to move into confidential session

157. Tourist Information

The Council **AGREED** that a meeting should be held with Devon Wildlife urgently as they are not aware of any problems with TIC provision
(proposed Cllr Rowland, seconded Cllr Beer).

158. Personnel Committee

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the recommendation put forward by the Personnel Committee in respect of a staffing matter.
(moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Rowland)

Meeting closed at 20.51

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____