



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Seaton Town Council On Monday 6th November 2017

Present

In the chair: Cllr J Rowland

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

Officers: Town Clerk

Public: 5 Members of the Public

125. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies as all Councillors were present.

126. Declarations of Interest

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

Cllr Hartnell 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)

127. Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the meeting on the 2nd October 2017

(moved Cllr Beer; seconded Cllr Sanham)

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting on the 18th September 2017.

(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Pigott)

128. Chairman's Report

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the Chairman's report.

(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Beer)

129. Public Question Time

Mr Bowman spoke in public question time on two matters. Firstly, he said that he was concerned that Seaton Town Development Team (STDT) hasn't met since September and he wonders if the team is up and running. Secondly, when will the Town flag be flown.

Cllr Rowland responded that the STDT is very much up and running but explained that the Marketing and Events Contractor role has recently come to an end. The Council are currently advertising a Marketing Contract and will shortly be advertising an Events Officer role. In the meantime, the Town Clerk

will be arranging a meeting for early January 2018 to work with the STDT on a future action plan.

In terms of the town flag Cllr Rowland explained that the flag is on order and will be flown as soon as it is received.

130. Police Report

Cllr Rowland welcomed the new Neighbourhood Beat Manager, PC Adam Spears to the meeting. Statistics for September and October had been circulated.

Discussion took place around:

- Concern over the category of possession of a weapon being on the statistics report. PC Spears confirmed that this could be anything including a brick or a piece of wood and isn't necessarily a knife or gun
- If someone commits a robbery with a weapon, whether this gets recorded twice

131. County Councillor Report

Discussion took place around:

- The meeting of the hospital campaigners on the 24th October. Cllr Burrows queried why all Town Councillors were not invited to the meeting and Cllr Hartnell asked how details of the meeting had been publicised. Concerns were raised that it was a closed meeting and there could have been a perception that the Town Councillors not in attendance were not interested in the hospital, which was not the case
- Cllr Shaw confirmed that the invites were sent to the people on the mailing lists that had attended previous events and were involved in the campaign to save the hospital. Cllr Shaw also confirmed that information had been emailed out and the event was also publicised on Facebook
- Cllr Rowland confirmed that he had attended the meeting as the Mayor to update the meeting on ongoing discussions that he is having in terms of the future of the hospital building
- Cllr Beer confirmed that he had attended the meeting and that it wasn't a closed meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the County Councillors report.
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Rowland)

132. District Councillor's Reports

A District Councillor report had been received from Cllr Hartnell.

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the District Councillor report
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Pigott)

133. Reports from Council representatives on Outside Bodies

There were no updates from representatives on outside bodies

134. Town Clerk Report

Discussion took place around:

- The works completed by HAGs in respect of the Underfleet Play Area
- An update on the Christmas Lights, which were being put up in the weeks commencing 6th November and 13th November

The Council noted the report from the Town Clerk
(Moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Pigott)

135. Top Priorities for Seaton Town Council

Discussion took place around the brown signs project and it was agreed that East Devon District Council be chased for their response in terms of funding.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the progress update report on the top priorities for Seaton Town Council.
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Shaw)

136. Air Ambulance Night Time Landing Strip

Councillor Pigott updated the Council on the Air Ambulance project and that £1,000 was to come in from the Masonic Lodge.

Councillor Rowland placed on record the Council's thanks to all those people and groups that had donated money for this project.

Discussion took place around:

- How will the Council be made aware of what needs doing and when in terms of maintenance of the equipment
- The need to make it clear that the Council is only holding the funds and will not be financially responsible for the ongoing costs
- The need to include the DAA in the formal agreement

The Council **RESOLVED:**

1. That Seaton Town Council (STC), in liaison with Seaton Cricket Club (SCC) and Devon Air Ambulance (DAA), apply for the planning permission as soon as possible;
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Shaw)
2. Once planning permission has been agreed, funds to be released to pay the works from DAA supplier,
(moved Cllr Chadwick; seconded Cllr Shaw)
3. That STC agree that all donations received for "DAA community night lights are held in a reserve account to be used only for the upkeep and maintenance of the lights;
(moved Cllr Squire; seconded Cllr Chadwick)
4. To have a formal agreement between Seaton Town Council, SCC & Devon Air Ambulance and that the draft agreement come back before Council;
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Burrows)
5. SCC to liaise with STC & DAA when funds are required for lights maintenance; and

(moved Cllr Pigott; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

6. STC to have sole responsibility for holding the funds
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

137. Events Officer Job Description

Discussion took place around:

- Whether the role should focus on the town centre or town
- The need to consider new events as well as those already in the schedule
- The average hours a week

The Council **RESOLVED** to amend the overall purpose of the job wording to read 'To develop, project manage and deliver an annual programme of events designed to boost the economy of the town through increased footfall'
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Burrows)

The Council **RESOLVED** to add the following wording in at the end of bullet point one under the role 'including the development of new events to enhance the programme'
(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Sanham)

The Council **RESOLVED** to amend the hours of working to 'average 12 hours a week'
(moved Cllr Reed; seconded Cllr Webster)

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the Job Description for the Events Officer role subject to the three amendments listed above.
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Webster)

138. South Western Railway train timetable consultation

Discussion took place around:

- Clapham Junction being an important stop on the line for local people
- It being the station used for people going to the London Airports
- It being a busy hub on the rail network for people accessing the west side of London rather than having to go into Waterloo and back out again

The Council **RESOLVED** to respond to the consultation to the South Western Railway train timetable in respect of the proposals for Clapham junction
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Shaw)

139. Update on actions arising from previous meetings

Improving the vitality of the Town Centre

Cllr Sanham provided an update stating that the Council had been approached by a number of businesses who wanted the town centre to be opened up to traffic. Further consultation has been done and 27 businesses support the proposal, 6 are against the proposal and 4 are neutral in their view. So the majority of the shops are keen to have a trial. Cllr Sanham also pointed out that traffic does already go up and down the road.

Discussion took place around:

- The road in Queen Street is not good and is of concern.
- The need to manage the traffic to ensure that there is no parking in inappropriate places
- The importance of improved signage.
- Is it feasible to open the road?
- The needs to be wider public consultation including with residents in Fore Street and Queen Street
- What happens if Devon County Council say that they have no money for this project
- Concerns over the state of the road outside Salon 27 and Boots

Based on the results of the consultation with businesses, the Council **RESOLVED** to ask Devon County Council if it is feasible to open Fore Street and Queen Street to traffic for a trial.
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Webster)

Cllr Burrows asked for his objection to be recorded
Cllr Shaw asked for his abstention to be recorded

Cllr Burrows declared a personal interest in that he has a property in Queen Street during this discussion

X52 Jurassic Coaster Bus Service

Cllr Sanham proposed that in light of Mr Morgan's letter to the local paper, it would be sensible for the publicise that if local people don't use the service that it could be lost in the future.

The Council **RESOLVED** to do a press release and put something on the Council's website to encourage people to use the bus service
(moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Shaw)

Cliff Field Gardens

Discussion took place around:

- Members of the public had asked for dogs on leads to be permitted in Cliff Field Gardens
- Whether it was appropriate to consider this at the current time or whether this should be put to one side for the moment and considered further down the line
- Cliff Field Gardens being a nice gardens due to not having dogs in it
- The path alongside the gardens puts people off as it is dark and overgrown
- Not being able to have dogs in the gardens is putting people off coming to events

Cllr Sanham proposed that the Council consult the public to see if there was an appetite for the byelaw to be changed to allow dogs on leads in Cliff Field Gardens
(seconded Cllr Pigott)

The vote was as follows:

For = 3;

Against = 4; and

Abstentions = 4

Therefore, the motion was not carried

Youth related facilities

Cllr Rowland updated Council and confirmed that he would bring a paper to the December meeting of Council on this matter.

Cllr Hartnell suggested liaising with the CIL/S106 officer and the Community Engagement and Funding Officer at East Devon District Council to get their ideas about doing a consultation.

Safety Issues re Harbour Road/Underfleet Cycleway

The Council **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr Shaw as the Devon County Councillor and officers from DCC to meet with representatives from the Axe Valley Pedallers and the Seaton Town Council Mayor to do a site visit to discuss the safety concerns.

(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Sanham)

Adventure Golf Course

Cllr Squire raised concerns regarding the signage at the Adventure Golf Course and Cllr Sanham confirmed that Mr Cook at EDDC was following this up. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would liaise with Mr Cook to find out if the matter had been resolved.

140. Confidential Items

Cllr Rowland moved, and the Committee **RESOLVED** that in accordance with the Councils Standing orders the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of agenda items 4 to 8 as there was likely to be disclosure of confidential information as matters were being discussed that could identify individual(s).

141. Town Maintenance Person

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Stephen Fitzgerald to the position of Town Maintenance Person as per the Personnel Committee recommendation (moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____

DRAFT