



Minutes of the Council Meeting of Seaton Town Council on Monday 3rd July 2017

Present

In the chair: Cllr Jack Rowland

Councillors: K Beer, P Burrows, C Chadwick, M Hartnell, M Pigott, K Rye, H Sanham, R Webster

Officers: Committee Secretary
Eight members of the public
One Press representative

46. Apologies for absence
There were no apologies for absence.

47. Declarations of Interest
Cllrs Hartnell and Burrows declared personal interests as East Devon District Council (EDDC) Councillors.
Cllr Shaw declared a personal interest as a Devon County Council (DCC) Councillor
Cllr Hartnell declared a personal interest in item 14: Improve the vitality of the Town Centre as he is a business owner
Cllrs Shaw and Burrows declared personal interests in the grant application relating to the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society as they are members of the Society
Cllr Burrows declared a personal interest relating to the grant application from Seaton Library Teenage Drop-in as he is a member of the Friends of Seaton Library Committee

48. To agree the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 5th June 2017
The minutes of the meeting held on the 5th June 2017 were agreed.

49. Chairman's Report
The Chairman thanked all concerned for their support in making Cycle Fest a very successful event. It is hoped that the event had supported retail sales in Seaton. The Council will review the overall effectiveness of the event and seek to make it even more successful in 2018.
The Chairman advised that DCC has been approached to repair the brick flower bed on The Esplanade
Council **NOTED** the Chairman's Report.

50. Public Question Time

Mr D Morgan spoke concerning item 16 on the agenda: Jurassic Coaster Bus Service and updated Council on correspondence received from various interested parties in securing evidence to support Mr Morgan's proposal. Mr Morgan asked Council for its support in challenging forthcoming changes to the X52 Jurassic Coaster bus service from September 2017 as per his letter sent on 27th June.

Mr Garret Maher spoke on the issues of Boy Racers in Swan Road, with increasing incidents of dangerous driving, noise including from modified exhaust pipes, intimidating behaviour and the resulting dangers to pedestrians. Mr Mire asked for further information on the ownership of the road. Visibility for pedestrians is further hindered by the location of the petrol station. Mr Maher said that this is the second time he has spoken at Council on the subject and asked Council what more can be done to resolve the issues arising.

The Chairman expressed regret that the situation was getting worse and noted that other sites in Seaton had been similarly affected. Cllr Shaw offered to speak further with Mr Maher on the issues raised including the adoption of roads. The Chairman said that Council will consider what further action might be forthcoming and will advise Mr Maher.

51. Police Report

Council **NOTED** that no Police Report had been received.

52. County Councillor Report

The Chairman thanked Cllrs Shaw and Pigott for attending the DCC Health Scrutiny Committee meeting where the subject of North, East and West Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (NEW CCG) proposals on bed closures had been discussed. Cllr Shaw said that a further scrutiny meeting is to be held but that time is running out to exert influence over the final arrangements. Cllr Shaw invited those attending the meeting to forward views to him to assist in determining arrangements for traffic groups in the future.

Council **NOTED** the County Councillor's Report.

53. District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Hartnell reported a positive start to new recycling arrangements in East Devon and that the collection of garden waste would be discussed once new recycling arrangements are fully bedded in.

Cllr Beer asked if additional sites could be identified to mitigate incidents of fly tipping. Cllr Hartnell responded that he thought current recycling arrangements were broadly sufficient and made reference to a recent prosecution for fly-tipping.

Council **NOTED** the District Councillor's Reports from Cllr Hartnell and Cllr Burrows.

54. Reports from Council representatives on Outside Bodies

Cllr Pigott reported attendance at the most recent Axe Valley Local Action Group and advised that the issue of Boy Racers had been discussed at the meeting.

Council **NOTED** the report from Cllr Pigott.

55. Town Clerk Report

The Council **NOTED** the Town Clerk's Report.

56. Flag Flying in Windsor Gardens

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the application form and terms and conditions subject to the following

- Applications will be decided by the Chairman and Town Clerk
- All Councillors will be notified of approved applications
- The first sentence under the heading 'Flag Flying Terms and Conditions' will read "By completing the Flag Flying application you are agreeing to abide by the terms and conditions below"
- The reference to Seaton Town Council not accepting liability for theft of the flag whilst being flown or stored prior to flying will become a separate point in this section
- Responsibilities for hoisting and lowering flags will be added to the terms and conditions

57. Co-option of a Councillor

Cllr Sanham proposed agreement to arrangements in the report save only that Section 2 which describes the process for co-option, is incorporated into the Council's policy on co-option going forward, amending dates as necessary and when vacancies arise.

(Seconded by Cllr Shaw)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

Members asked for clarification from the Town Clerk as to the use of the Town Development Team logo on Council headed paper and noted that the application form for co-option would need to be updated to show the names of our current Chairman and Town Clerk.

58. Communities Committee

Cllr Burrows proposed moving Community & Open Spaces meetings currently scheduled for Wednesday 4th October 2017 and Wednesday 3rd January 2018 to Wednesday 11th October 2017 and Wednesday 10th January 2018 respectively starting at 10.30am.

(Seconded by Cllr Chadwick)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

59. Cllr Rowland proposed suspending Standing Orders to enable consideration of item 18 on the agenda: Grant Funding Applications to be considered immediately following item 16 on the agenda: Jurassic Caster Bus Service.

(Secoded by Cllr Beer)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal

60. Improve the vitality of the Town Centre

Council discussed the aims of the project and working with groups such as the Seaton Traders' Association to bring about improvements.

Council revisited previous discussions on the prospect of opening up some, or all of the pedestrianised area in the Town Centre to traffic at particular times to help improve retail trade.

Council noted that Community Enhancement Funding can be used to improve the appearance of shops.

Cllr Squire proposed a meeting between the Town Clerk, the EDDC Portfolio Holder for the Economy and EDDC Ward Councillors to explore options 2, 3 and 4 in the report and to consider informal discussions with shop keepers.

(Secoded by Cllr Shaw)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

Council agreed that Cllrs Sanham, Rye and Webster will take this project forward.

61. Air Ambulance Night Time Landing Site

Cllr Pigott advised Council that sufficient monies to support the development of the landing site is now promised.

Cllr Pigott proposed that Seaton Town Council (STC) sets up a specific account to hold donations towards the development of the Landing Site in earmarked reserves, with no further responsibility falling to STC.

(Secoded by Cllr Sanham)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

62. Jurassic Coaster Bus Service

Cllr Squire proposed correspondence with all relevant parties, to include DCC, our local MP and the bus company to highlight issues arising to do with concessionary fares and tourism

(Secoded by Cllr Sanham)

Cllr Pigott proposed an amendment to include the MPs for West Dorset and Exeter in the correspondence.

Cllr Squire accepted the amendment.

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

Cllr Sanham proposed writing to 1st Wessex highlighting concerns and the feasibility of providing a circular loop.

(Secoded by Cllr Beer)

Council **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

63. Grant Funding: to review applications for funding

Cllr Rowland explained that the Council had allocated £5,000 in total across the two grant funding application windows this financial year and that applications in hand for consideration currently exceeded £5,000. Cllr Rowland invited Council to decide if all of the £5,000 would be allocated to the current tranche of applications, or if Council will retain a portion of the total amount for grant applications to be considered in January 2018.

Council discussed the overall merits of the grant applications to be considered in reaching a decision on apportioning all of the £5,000 available.

Cllr Sanham proposed allocating £2,500 of the total amount available to grant applications under consideration at this meeting.

(Seconded by Cllr Beer)

Cllr Shaw proposed an amendment to the proposal amounting to an allocation of £3,500 in considering applications before Council at this meeting.

A vote was taken on the original proposal to allocate £2,500 at this meeting as follows:

- 6 for
- 4 against
- 1 abstention

The proposal to allocate £2,500 at this meeting was carried.

The Chairman invited representatives who were present at the meeting to speak in favour of their respective applications.

Cllrs Burrows and Shaw left the room during the discussion of the application from the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society.

Representatives of organisations applying for funding spoke as follows:

- Mr Doug Rudge: Axe Vale and District Conservation Society

Cllrs Shaw and Burrows returned to the meeting following Mr Rudge's evidence

- Mr Doug Rudge – Seaton Martial Arts Centre
- P. Hambie-Hilder: Seaton Teenage Library Drop In
- Mr Neville Salisbury-Rood: Citizens Advice Bureau
- Hilary Smith: Testudo

Council discussed STC policy on the matter of awarding grants in respect of new applicants and repeat applicants and individual applications in hand.

Cllrs Shaw and Burrows left the room during consideration of the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society Application

Cllr Burrows left the room during the discussion of the Seaton Teenage Library Drop in application

Cllr Sanham proposed awarding grants of £500.00 each to Seaton Martial Arts Centre, Axe Vale and District Conservation Society, the Citizens' Advice Bureau, Seaton Teenage Library Drop in and Testsudo, an award to HALFF in kind, and to invite Seaton Netball Club to apply again in January 2018.

(seconded by Cllr Webster)

Council discussed the merits and de-merits of the proposal.

The Chairman called for a vote which was recorded as follows:

- 6 for
- 4 against
- 1 abstention

The proposal to allocate £2,500 as outlined was carried.

64. Motions for Debate: Cllr Rowland - top priorities for STC in Financial Year 2017/18

Council discussed the recommendations in the report and considered other projects which could be included, for example, the Neighbourhood Plan, Allotments, By-laws at Cliff Field Gardens and Making Seaton Dementia Friendly

Cllr Hartnell proposed an amendment to the priorities as follows:

- 5-year Financial Plan
- Events and Marketing Contract
- Complete remedial work at Marshlands and market the remaining available space
- Improve the appearance of the Town Centre including improved signage
- Seafront Enhancement
- Improve methods of communicating with Seaton Residents

(Seconded by Cllr Webster)

The Chairman called for a vote which was recorded as follows:

7 for

2 against

2 abstentions

The proposal was carried.

Council allocated the work load arising from the priorities as follows:

- 5-year Financial Plan to the Town Clerk with a report to go to Council in in September as part of budget considerations for 2018/19
- Events and Marketing Contract to the Town Clerk. Cllr Rowland will liaise with the Town Clerk on timing
- Remedial work to Marshlands and marketing the remaining space to the Estates Committee
- Improving the appearance of the Town Centre including improved signage to the Community & Open Spaces Committee with a target date of one month to report back on progress
- Seafront Enhancement to the Planning Committee with Cllr Sanham as champion
- Improve methods of communicating with Seaton residents with Cllr Squire as champion

65. Update on Actions arising from previous meetings

Council agreed that outstanding actions in respect of the Seaton Local Land Trust and Events Clean up should be removed from the list.

Council agreed that items marked 'in hand' on the template should be made more explicit in terms of progress.

Council **NOTED** the update on actions arising.

The meeting ended 22.00

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____