

Agenda for Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 9 May 2017, 6.00pm



[Members of the Scrutiny Committee](#)

Venue: Council Chamber, Knowle, Sidmouth, EX10 8HL

[View directions](#)

Contact: Debbie Meakin, 01395 517540 (or group number 01395 517546): Issued 27 April 2017

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- 1 [Public speaking](#)
- 2 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2017 (pages 3 - 7)
- 3 Apologies
- 4 [Declarations of interest](#)
- 5 [Matters of urgency](#) – none identified
- 6 To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including press) have been excluded. There are no items that officers recommend should be dealt with in this way.
- 7 Decisions made by Cabinet called in by Members for scrutiny in accordance with the Overview Procedure Rules. There are no items identified.

Matters for Debate

- 8 **Manor Pavilion Car Park** (pages 8 - 14)
The Chief Executive has determined that a request to call-in the decision by Cabinet on 5 April 2017 “that public pay and display parking in Sidmouth’s Manor Pavilion car park be offered” is not a valid request; however the committee can still discuss the issue and put forward a representation to the parking places order before a formal variation is made. The Cabinet report of 5 April 2017 is included in the agenda papers for reference, along with an extract of the Cabinet minutes. Relevant officers will be available to respond to questions.
- 9 **Mental Health Services in East Devon**
The committee agreed at the last meeting to discuss this issue at the earliest opportunity. Due to purdah conditions relating to the DCC election at the time of agenda production, it has not been possible to secure a response from the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care or the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. The committee can hear from the Heather Penwarden of the Honiton Dementia Action Alliance and the Honiton Hospital League of Friends, and discuss how they wish to progress future debate on the issue.

10 **NEW Devon CCG decision on reducing community hospital inpatient beds**

A request has been made to the Chief Operating Officer of the NEW Devon CCG to attend the meeting to provide assurance that packages of care will be both adequate and in place before any closures commence.

11 **Draft Scrutiny Annual Report to Council** (pages 15 - 17)

The draft annual report for presentation to Annual Council in May is presented for comment. It is recommended that the report be finalised by the Chairman and Vice Chairman on behalf of the committee, taking into account comments made at the meeting, prior to submission to Annual Council.

12 **Scrutiny forward plan and suggestions to scope for future work** (page 18)

Committee members are asked to put forward suggestions to be scoped for the forthcoming civic term.

For information, a response in respect of NHS Property Services is attached at page 19

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, any members of the public are now allowed to take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on all public meetings (including on social media). No prior notification is needed but it would be helpful if you could let the democratic services team know you plan to film or record so that any necessary arrangements can be made to provide reasonable facilities for you to report on meetings. This permission does not extend to private meetings or parts of meetings which are not open to the public. You should take all recording and photography equipment with you if a public meeting moves into a session which is not open to the public.

If you are recording the meeting, you are asked to act in a reasonable manner and not disrupt the conduct of meetings for example by using intrusive lighting, flash photography or asking people to repeat statements for the benefit of the recording. You may not make an oral commentary during the meeting. The Chairman has the power to control public recording and/or reporting so it does not disrupt the meeting.

[Decision making and equalities](#)

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EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held at Knowle, Sidmouth on 30 March 2017

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 7.22pm

***47 Public speaking**

There were no questions from members of the public.

***48 Minutes**

The minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on the 2 March 2017 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

***49 Declarations of interest**

Councillor Darryl Nicholas: minute 55; personal interest; works for New Devon CCG.

***50 Mental Health Services for East Devon**

The Committee was reminded that the Chairman of the Honiton Hospital League of Friends and the Honiton Dementia Action Alliance had asked the Committee to consider the current state of services in the district. This request was as a result of the imminent closure of 'the Haven', Honiton, run by MIND and the transfer of the East Devon Community Mental Health Team from Honiton to Exeter.

RESOLVED

1. that this topic be considered at a future meeting of the Committee – at the earliest opportunity;
2. that the Chairman write to the Portfolio Holder, Stuart Barker, at Devon County Council, to advise that the Committee wished to debate the current state of mental health services in the district and ask him and officers to attend, giving him the chance to respond;
3. that the Chairman write to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee to advise of the Committee's intended debate on mental health service issues in the district and invite his attendance to respond in respect of the allocation of resources for health services.

The aim would be for the item to be included on the agenda of the next Committee meeting of 9 May 2017 subject to responses received – resolutions 2 and 3 above refer.

***51 Modern Day Slavery**

The Committee received a verbal presentation on modern day slavery from Inspector Julian Pezzani. This was a global problem and, now estimated to be the second largest illicit trade worldwide. Inspector Pezzani gave statistical information on modern slavery's prevalence in the UK. However, he advised that this was also a local problem across all sectors of the economy but particularly within hospitality and agriculture. An example given in the South West was industrial cannabis manufacture. Victims earned their captors thousands of pounds; their heinous crimes needed to be addressed.

The police service across the UK was committed to combating modern day slavery. Work was been undertaken by the police in partnership with the government, other law enforcement agencies and partnerships (significantly including the voluntary sector) to improve the response to modern day slavery. For the police, the overriding focus was to

improve its ability to identify, rescue and support victims and in doing so ensuring that perpetrators were brought to justice. The perpetrators were often involved in other crimes including drugs firearms, money laundering and child abuse.

The initiative was supported through the Modern Slavery Bill legislation, which provided law enforcement agencies in the UK with greater opportunities and stronger framework to protect victims, bring offenders to justice and recover illicit assets. As modern day slavery was a hidden crime, the police had to act proactively to increase the detection rate. The complex legislation now covered child trafficking, forced labour/debt bondage, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation (the most prevalent crime in this area where trafficked individuals were forced to carry out illegal acts) and domestic servitude. When an offence was discovered, there was a set legislative procedure in place to protect the victim. However adult victims had to consent to action being carried out – there was often reluctance on their part to come forward.

Addressing modern day slavery had significant government commitment supported by funding and a national action plan. Issues faced included:

- Un-reporting – victims can be unwilling to assist with investigations due to being manipulated by their abusers.
- Complex investigations – the perpetrators are very wily and so significant resource (including time) was required in identifying and investigating the crime.
- Recognising that, although involved in illegal trade, the modern day slave is a victim.
- The problem needed to be tackled though all partners working together.
- Trafficking had an impact on local services and included risks to local communities.

The police needed help in increasing general awareness and council support particularly in the early days following a rescue when victims needed accommodation.

Following the presentation, the Committee raised a number of issues including:

- Was there a manned confidential telephone number that members of the public could use to report concerns? Inspector Pezzani advised that the 101 service was improving but noted comments made at the meeting on its inadequacy. The default position was 'crimestoppers' (0800 555111) – operators had specific training on hidden crime which included domestic violence and modern day slavery. Alternatively, there was a national intelligence bureau form for organisations to enable intelligence to be shared.
- What was the level of co-operation on an international scale? Inspector Pezzani advised that new issues would need to be faced now that Britain was leaving the European Union. The British police had a good track record of procedures and worked closely with the International Crime agency.
- Would legalising growing cannabis make the problem of industrial manufacture easier to deal with? Inspector Pezzani did not think that such a change in legislation would help. The Devon and Cornwall Police was making good progress in identifying victims, filtering the exploiters from the victims when an illegal operation was detected. The police wanted to deal with modern day slavery issues as a whole and would hesitate to support the legalisation of cannabis.
- The Home Secretary had asked for additional funding. How could this impact on other police services? Inspector Pezzani advised that tackling modern day slavery

was complex and expensive, particularly when on an international scale. Local policing was fundamental to tackling modern day slavery in the area. A national modern slavery team was being set up in Exmouth to look at crime patterns and best policing practice. This small team was to be drawn from forces all over the country – all forces would be able to tap into this knowledge.

- It would be useful for all Councillors to have documents or briefing notes to increase general awareness. What signs should everyone be aware of? What can the Council do to help? Inspector Pezzani advised that Torbay Council had a draft toolkit prepared for their staff. When this document was signed off, it would be circulated to authorities across Devon – the toolkit included signs and symptoms to look out for. Gerry Moore advised that the Community Safety Partnership had run events to increase awareness and that he would circulate these slides to Councillors.
- Were the victims initially accommodated in safe houses following their rescue? Inspector Pezzani advised that he was not aware of any safe houses in the Devon and Cornwall area. Ideally, he would like to see victims accommodated outside the immediate area to get them away from those who have exploited them – so that a Devon victim was initially accommodated in Cornwall, for example.
- There appeared to be an increase in the number of people (often young) begging in Exeter and an increase in people sleeping rough. Inspector Pezzani agreed that there were instances of aggressive begging linked with modern day slavery.
- All Members should be enlightened and made more aware. If Councillors were better informed, they may be more likely to support a safe house.
- Inspector Pezzani was unable to comment on the penalties imposed due to the range of levels of crime involved but that it was usual for a custodial sentence to be given to a trafficker.
- Does trafficking into the UK mean that people are smuggled in without passports? Inspector Pezzani advised that nationally this was the case. There were concerns that now that borders controls had been tightened around the usual traffic routes that the traffickers may start to look for less obvious routes and this would make the South West coastline vulnerable.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Pezzani for his informative presentation. The Council would look into possible awareness training for all Councillors through Democratic Services.

RESOLVED that modern day slavery awareness training be arranged for all Councillors with the slides from the recent awareness session, organised by Gerry Moore, the Council's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer being circulated in the meantime.

***52 Report from East Devon District Council's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer**

The Chairman welcomed Gerry Moore, Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer to the meeting.

Members noted the current priorities of the East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership for 2016/2017 and additional priorities for 2017/2018. The report outlined the Partnership projects and initiatives, in place and planned, to achieve these priorities.

Committee members were invited to attend the Partnership's Annual Conference at Broadclyst Victory Hall on 5 April – this year Alison Hernandez, the Police and Crime Commissioner would be speaking at the event.

Gerry Moore advised that there was a legal responsibility for the work of each Community Safety Partnership across the county to be subjected to a scrutiny process but the current joint arrangement with Mid Devon was proving ineffective. He suggested that as an alternative, the Community Safety Officer for each authority report direct to meetings of the Scrutiny Committee – either six-monthly or annually - with reports focusing on East Devon.

Issues raised by members of the Committee included:

- The Parishes Together Fund had supported the funding request for a hard-hitting play called Chelsea's Choice about child sexual exploitation to be performed at the eight secondary schools across the district.
- Boy-racers continued to be a problem in Exmouth. Although they were not always breaking the speed limit, the high revs and noise were generating on-going public complaints. A speed awareness group would be supported by the Police but only in daylight hours for safety reasons. Gerry Moore advised that the Council had been requested to impose specific public spaces orders to help tackle the issue as this would give the police greater powers to act. Cabinet had already supported the request; the next step was public consultation. The police had not been made aware of a greater increase in incidents of boy-racing but suggested that there could be under-reporting. He believed that a volunteer group would be helpful.

Chief Inspector Sarah Johns acknowledged the police resource issue but confirmed that a full team of officers was working across the district throughout the night. She also acknowledged the depth of feeling in respect of boy-racers and that the police would benefit from the public space restriction orders. The Chief Inspector advised that she would investigate support that could be given to a speed-watch group in Exmouth and possible training.

The Chairman thanked Gerry Moore and Chief Inspector Sarah Johns for their attendance and contribution.

RESOLVED that the Council's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Officer be invited to meetings of the Scrutiny Committee on a six-monthly basis to present his report on community safety activity within East Devon.

***53 Scrutiny Forward Plan**

The forward plan was noted. The following comments were made:

Manor Pavilion car parking arrangements – being referred to April Cabinet.

NHS Property Services – correspondence had been received – the Chairman would continue to push for representatives to address a future meeting.

New Devon Clinical Commissioning Group – useful update was needed.

Thelma Hulbert Gallery – progress – Officer advice was that this was not an appropriate item for this Committee.

Local Plan – processes – Officers had advised at a previous meeting that this was not an appropriate issue for the Scrutiny Committee; site identification had now gone through the Strategic Planning Committee. However, issues around the call for sites may need to be considered.

Sports Club rents – on-going issue. Cabinet was discussing the Playing Field Strategy – as Scrutiny was retrospective, it was unable to deal with this on-going issue. The Sports Champion was working with Officers on this matter.

Possible charging organisers for Streetscene clean-up after events had been discussed at the joint meeting of Scrutiny and Overview Committees in January. Charges needed to be fully assessed and balanced with the economic benefits from staging the events. This possible new charge would not be introduced in April this year but would be reviewed for possible inclusion in the future - it would be an Overview Committee matter until a decision was made.

Attendance list (present for all or part of the meeting):

Scrutiny Members present:

Roger Giles
Alan Dent
Dean Barrow
Maddy Chapman
Bruce de Saram
Cathy Gardner
Simon Grundy
Marcus Hartnell
Bill Nash
Cherry Nicholas
Darryl Nicholas
Val Ranger
Marianne Rixson

Other Members

Megan Armstrong
David Barratt
John Dyson
Peter Faithfull
Dawn Manley
Tom Wright

Officers present:

Jaye Lambe, Service Lead – Regeneration and Property
Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor
Diana Vernon, Democratic Services Manager

Apologies:

Jill Elson

Chairman Date.....

Report to: Cabinet
Date of Meeting: 5 April 2017
Public Document: Yes
Exemption: None



Review date for release

Agenda item: 17

Subject: East Devon Parking Places Order Update March 2017

Purpose of report: To ask Members to approve changes to the legal Order used by East Devon District Council to manage its public car parks in accordance with Civil Parking Enforcement rules.

Recommendation:

1. To extend the boundary of Exmouth's Camperdown Terrace long stay car park to offer additional parking spaces and trailer storage by extending the car parking areas onto adjacent land recently vacated by Devon County Council's Highways service.
2. To offer public pay and display parking in Sidmouth's Manor Pavilion car park.
3. To designate Mamhead Slipway, Exmouth as a parking place with just two parking bays and to enforce the remainder of the area for loading and unloading only, allowing vehicles to enter and remain for the purposes of launching and recovering water craft from the slipway but prohibiting the parking of vehicles and the leaving of trailers.

Reason for recommendation:

Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 sets out the duties of all local authorities in respect of a range of traffic related functions including the provision of off-street parking.

We have been careful to consider the needs of our community as a whole in arriving at these recommendations which seek to represent a balance of differing priorities and points of view.

These proposals will not interfere with the security of (or access to) any other premises and we believe that they will not be prejudicial to the amenity of the locality and they are in all other material respects consistent with our legal duties and our responsibilities to our communities.

Officer: Andrew Ennis, Service Lead Environmental Health and Car Parks
aennis@eastdevon.gov.uk - 01395 517452

- Financial implications:**
1. Camperdown Terrace Car Park – There has been an approved Capital Program budget for these works of £80,660 in 2017-18 to cover the costs involved.
 2. Manor Pavilion Car Park – All costs involved with the set-up of the car park machine and works are to be funded from the existing budget for 2017-18 and off-set by the income generated.

It is difficult to quantify the generation of additional income at this stage; budget assumptions have assumed additional income of between £20,000 to £30,000 per annum.

Legal implications: The land at Camperdown Terrace referred to in this report is currently leased to Devon County Council, whose lease does not contractually expire until 31st March 2017. The proposed changes to this particular parking place cannot therefore be invoked until this lease has been determined. Legal Services are happy to provide further advice to Parking Services in this regard.

The statutory procedure for amending EDDC's Parking Places Order will need to be invoked which will involve consultation with specified organizations as well as the public, together with advertising etc. This will dictate if/when these changes can be brought into effect.

Equalities impact: Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk

Links to background information: <http://eastdevon.gov.uk/media/1184211/combined-agenda-for-031012-public-version.pdf>

Link to Council Plan: Encouraging our communities to be outstanding, delivering and promoting our outstanding environment.

Report

1.0 Camperdown Terrace Car Park

- 1.1 The additional capacity at Camperdown Terrace car park arises following the departure of the Devon County Council Highways Depot from the land adjacent to the car park. This Council is the landowner and the land is currently the subject of a separate application for planning consent to incorporate it into the boundary of the adjacent car park.
- 1.2 If permitted, it will be of value in providing additional car parking for residents of Camperdown Terrace where on- street parking demand clearly outstrips supply along with providing additional parking for vehicles and trailers that we anticipate will park here after launching water craft at the newly reopened Mamhead slipway.

1.3 There will also be increased demand in the autumn of 2017 when approximately seventy of this Council's own staff relocate to Exmouth Town Hall and this will be the closest public car park being made available to those staff.

2.0 **Manor Pavilion Car Park**

2.1 The introduction of new public parking at Manor Pavilion has already been agreed through the Council's budget setting process and the Service Lead for Countryside and Leisure has explained the rationale that underpins the proposal. The income generated from the pay and display arrangement will help to secure the long term future of the theatre in the face of significant Council budget pressures. The arrangement for parking charges to go directly to this Council's operational costs in running the theatre has been agreed by Full Council and will be shown in the budget reporting process and this arrangement will remain in place whilst the theatre remains under the control of this Council.

2.2 The management of the car park has become over the last 5 years increasingly impossible to control with a significant increase in the abuse of it as a free car park by non theatre users. This situation now needs to be brought under proper management.

2.3 The proposed tariff will allow a 3 hour maximum stay between 8am and 8pm on any day so anyone wishing to park there and spend a whole evening in the theatre would be able to do so if they so wish. The vast majority of evening shows start at 7.30 / 7.45pm which means that anyone using the car park will incur an additional £1 to the cost of their evening and still have time if parked at 7pm to have a drink or ice cream within the theatre. There will therefore be no need to worry about having to leave a performance midway to move a vehicle.

2.4 The concerns raised at Full Council about the ability for vans/lorries to get into the lock up area for their sets are misplaced. There will be an independent entrance/exit point for hirers to get their sets in and out as part of a planned segregated "theatre use only" area that will accommodate staff parking where there will be plenty of space for vans to turnaround and park up next to the lock up area without needing to enter the pay and display zone. This was properly considered by the Theatre Manager and EDDC Engineers in the design of the car park before the proposal was formalised.

2.5 The 21 parking spaces here simply can't accommodate an entire theatre audience of 277, many of whom either don't drive there anyway. Those that do already choose to park on-street nearby or make use of our 300+ space Manor Road long stay car park situated a short walk away. Therefore it is proposed that it is in the best interests of the theatre to make good use of the spaces for public parking.

2.6 We should also recognise that a debate concerning the future of this car park has been in the public domain since at least the publication of the Off-Street Car Parks Review 2011/12. This was reported to Cabinet the beginning of October 2012 as follows:

This car park offers around 20 spaces and is operated as a private car park for staff, visitors and customers of the Manor Pavilion. Both the Town Council and the Chamber of Commerce recognise that the car park is currently misused and would be in support of creating additional public car parking with a double ticketing arrangement put in place for Pavilion customers.

See <http://eastdevon.gov.uk/media/1184211/combined-agenda-for-031012-public-version.pdf>

- 2.7 Although so-called “double ticketing” (i.e. allowing customers to present a parking charge refund voucher at the box office) is entirely possible, for the simple reason of its limited capacity, it frankly doesn’t seem fair to adopt it. We don’t offer the same concession to customers who pay to park in Manor Road long stay car park.
- 2.8 The Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) will operate a 10 minute grace period to allow customers to park and purchase their tickets from the box office or let those using the Arts Centre to drop off equipment without incurring a penalty. The CEOs will work closely with the Theatre Manager to manage this carefully to ensure customers in a long queue especially for the prestigious Summer Season are not penalised. We recognise that this relationship is absolutely fundamental to making the new arrangements work as smoothly as possible.
- 2.9 There is an acceptance that there will be inconvenience for the users of the Arts Centre however this facility is contributing less than 1% of the overall income to the theatre. However the costs of maintaining and servicing the car park already do not cover the utilities, repairs and management of it. The car park income however will help to keep this facility open despite the additional cost to some of its users if they choose the pay and display parking option.
- 2.10 Also for those who hire the venue for a period of a week and use the venue for rehearsals during the day we accept that there will be inconvenience but most importantly we can guarantee getting stage sets in and out. This will not be affected by the pay and display arrangement as vans can be parked up in front of the lock up/garage all day in the “theatre only” area if required. We accept it will be the performers and those who volunteer their time to support their local dramatic group who will have to make a decision on whether they use the pay and display arrangement or find alternative free on street parking or use the long stay on Manor Road. This scenario is, as already mentioned, the norm for theatres all over the country where car parking income helps to support the running and long term future of the venue.
- 2.11 The additional public parking will be of benefit by adding extra parking spaces to support additional footfall in Sidmouth town centre during peak times. It is proposed that the car park will be managed via a fair and transparent short stay tariff that will ensure turnover of spaces and therefore availability at key times. In consequence, the revenue generated will be reinvested in the work of the adjacent Manor Pavilion Theatre.
- 2.12 The income generated from the car park will help significantly to support the ongoing improvements within the theatre for both its customers and hirers including the planned installation of an on line booking service which will mean the reduction in need to buy tickets manually from the box office as well as help to continue to sell out shows. These improvements will go a long way to help ensure the future survival of the theatre when many similar venues across the country are having to close through uncertainties with their funding.

3.0 Mamhead Slipway Parking Restriction

There has been a problem with unrestricted parking on the newly opened Mamhead slipway and there are currently no straightforward enforcement powers available. However, the Council is able to include the area of Mamhead slipway within its East Devon Parking Places Order. Within the area controlled by the Order we propose to include two marked parking bays up close to the sea wall and these bays will be available for long stay parking at a premium rate. The remaining area will be managed under Civil Parking Enforcement procedures so as to prevent the slipway from being obstructed by vehicles and enabling its intended use for launching and recovering water craft. This will result in safer conditions for legitimate users of the new slipway and will enable our Civil Enforcement Officers to serve penalty charge notices on vehicles that have been left there outside of the marked bays so inconveniencing other customers and inhibiting the safe access to and egress from the slipway.

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Extract of Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held

at Knowle, Sidmouth on 5 April 2017 – relating to Manor Pavilion car park

***182 Public Speaking**

Honorary Alderman Graham Liverton, Chairman of the Manor Pavilion Theatre Management Steering Committee spoke on Minute 198 - East Devon Parking Places Order Update. Honorary Alderman Liverton was concerned that the Manor Pavilion Car Park was too small to be used as a Pay and Display. The 3-hour maximum stay was not long enough as well as the barrier closing at night. He understood the need to make money but stressed that all theatres had to have subsidies. He was disappointed there had been no meeting with the Steering Group and no discussion with the Theatre's stakeholders. He asked that the many letters of complaints to this proposal be taken into consideration.

Elizabeth Hammond, the representative for Sidmouth Amateur Dramatic Society spoke on Minute 198 - East Devon Parking Places Order Update. The Society hired the Theatre for 1 month every year to put on the pantomime. Volunteers spent long days preparing for the shows and should not be penalised with parking charges. Larger lorries needed to manoeuvre freely in and out of the car park. The front of house team was also volunteers providing welcome support to visitors on behalf of the Theatre. The Sidmouth Amateur Dramatic Society's long association with the Manor Pavilion Theatre could end because of the parking charges.

Brian Rees, represented Musical Theatre spoke on Minute 198 - East Devon Parking Places Order Update. Mr Rees was concerned that the 3-hour maximum stay was not long enough for theatregoers. He reminded Members there was no on street parking nearby. Two regional theatres had free parking – the Octagon in Yeovil and the Brewhouse Theatre and Arts Centre in Taunton.

Barry Lister, spoke on Minute 198 - East Devon Parking Places Order Update. Mr Lister was concerned that theatre production staff would be penalised for their hard efforts to produce quality productions at the Theatre.

Councillor Ian McKenzie-Edwards, represented Sidmouth Town Council spoke on Minute 198 - East Devon Parking Places Order Update. Councillor McKenzie-Edwards said the Town Council was only informed of this last week and had had no time for proper consultation. At the last Town Council meeting, there was concern for the Theatre's voluntary groups. He asked if this scheme was financially viable with the car park only having 20 spaces. He reminded Members that rehearsals took place during the day so volunteers and cast would be penalised. Councillor McKenzie-Edwards asked the Scrutiny Committee to consider this proposal again.

***198 East Devon Parking Places Order Update**

Members were asked to approve changes to the legal Order used by East Devon District Council to manage its public car parks in accordance with Civil Parking Enforcement rules. Proposals had been carefully considered with the Council having the right to grant concessions.

Discussion included the following:

- The Manor Pavilion Theatre was a wonderful asset to Sidmouth and East Devon
- Charges should be up to 6pm with a maximum 4-hour stay
- The process had not been done effectively
- The Theatre should be allowed to control the car park as it had only 21 spaces
- Theatre volunteers must be looked after
- Income needed to be generated, what was the problem with paying for parking?
- Important to listen to everyone's views

The Chief Executive confirmed that some of the issues raised would be looked at as part of the ongoing management of the car park.

RESOLVED:

1. that the boundary of Exmouth's Camperdown Terrace long stay car park be extended to offer additional parking spaces and trailer storage by extending the car parking areas onto adjacent land recently vacated by Devon County Council's Highways service, and
2. that public pay and display parking in Sidmouth's Manor Pavilion car park be offered, and
3. that Mamhead Slipway, Exmouth be designated as a parking place with just two parking bays and the remainder of the area be enforced for loading and unloading only, allowing vehicles to enter and remain for the purposes of launching and recovering water craft from the slipway but prohibiting the parking of vehicles and the leaving of trailers.

REASON:

Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 sets out the duties of all local authorities in respect of a range of traffic related functions including the provision of off-street parking. Careful consideration to the needs of the community as a whole in arriving at these recommendations that sought to represent a balance of differing priorities and points of view.

These proposals would not interfere with the security of (or access to) any other premises and they would not be prejudicial to the amenity of the locality. They were in all other material respects consistent with the Council's legal duties and responsibilities to its communities.

Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee 2016/17

The Committee has continued to work in alignment with the Council's corporate priorities and regularly receive performance monitoring data. Topics have also debated following decision by the Cabinet and Portfolio Holders, as part of the scrutiny role as the "critical friend".

The civic term began with discussion on the paper light initiative in the planning service to help reduce costs and improve efficiencies, in relation to town and parish councils receiving and commenting on planning applications. The committee discussed some issues based on their experiences of planning meetings at town and parish councils, and work was progressed by the planning team to ensure that any outstanding issues were resolved.

The committee also debated scenarios put forward in the LGBCE Electoral Review Programme, and reached the view that the current number of 15 members was the appropriate size for the Scrutiny Committee. The conclusion of the review programme resulted in no change for the size of the committee.

Some specific examples of public engagement and consultation identified by the committee were scoped and discussed by the committee. Recommendations made to Cabinet on refreshing the Exmouth Masterplan, amending the Exmouth Regeneration Board to be held in public and include press statements; and create a consultation policy to replace the existing consultation guide, were noted.

Work continued throughout the year in reviewing performance monitoring reports, and the committee have been kept up to date specifically on the roll out of the new recycling and waste contract. The committee were keen to see all Ward Members taking an active part in becoming familiar with the new service, in order to better inform their constituents. The hard work and dedication by the Streetscene team, working in partnership with Suez, was recognised by Members.

The committee had a productive meeting with representatives of the Devon Partnership NHS Trust on the future of St John's Court, Exmouth providing outpatient services to patients with mental health needs. The committee heard from patient group representatives and discussed the impact on vulnerable people if they had to travel much further afield to receive services. The exchange of ideas was constructive and the DPT agreed to consider some suggested options. At present the DPT has still not found an alternative site so the services remain available from St John's Court.

The committee have also pushed to discuss the state of mental health services in the district as a whole, particularly in light of the recent closure of "The Haven" in Honiton, and a move of the East Devon Community Mental Health Team from Honiton to Exeter. Devon County Council Adult Commissioning and Health have declined to work with the committee on this issue to date and advised the DPT to do the same. In the meantime, the Chairman continues to seek agreement from key councillors at Devon County Council that the

committee can discuss mental health issues, even if the recognised statutory scrutiny body is DCC.

More here on hearing from Heather Penwarden 9 May meeting

The committee met with the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner, Alison Hernandez. A number of questions were put to her on issues such as closure of police stations, PCSO numbers, and Exmouth CCTV; as well as debate on key issues for the District such as modern slavery and better support for dealing with individuals with mental health issues. Recommendations on lobbying for a fairer funding deal, and recognition of the valued work of PCSOs were agreed by Cabinet.

Work continued by the committee in respect of protecting community hospital bed numbers. During the consultation period of the NEW Devon CCG proposals, Members heard from the Chief Operating Officer Rob Sainsbury on the four options the CCG had narrowed down. The meeting was well attended and a number of questions, both from the committee and other Members were answered. The committee formulated a detailed response to the consultation and overall, requested that whatever decision was made, no bed closures should be undertaken until the replacement model of care is recognised as safe and in place, subject to the provision of evidence that the model of care has resulted in no bed blocking at acute hospitals, non-occupancy of beds in community hospitals, and full care in the community.

Since then the Governing Body of the NEW Devon CCG have decided to reduce the number of community hospital inpatient beds from 143 to 72. The Chairman of Scrutiny has asked for the Chief Operating Officer to return to meet the committee to provide assurance that packages of care will be both adequate and in place before any closures commence.

Towards the end of 2016, 12 community hospitals transferred in ownership from Northern Devon Healthcare Trust to NHS Property Services. Despite best efforts, NHS Property Services have declined to attend a meeting of the committee to discuss the impact of this decision but did write to the Chairman of Scrutiny covering an explanation of the calculation of market rent value for freehold properties. The committee discussed their concerns about the impact of NHS Property Services on rents, and sales receipts not being ring-fenced. The Chairman of Scrutiny has since written to local MPs asking them to raise the issue with the Secretary of State for Health, with a view to ensuring full transparency in the work of NHS Property Services.

The committee welcomed an informative outline of the Financial Plan 2017 2022 from the PH Finance and the Strategic Lead Finance. This helped to give an understanding of the medium term financial model, in preparation for considering the draft budget in January of this year.

The committee considered a proposal by the Planning Advisory Service, following the committee's request for a review of the production of the Local Plan. The work offered by the independent body, covering ten days at £600 per day had been considered, but the

committee weighed up the benefit of this work against the introduction of the new Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP). It was possible that the recommendations by the PAS would not be relevant to the GESP and the committee, under vote, decided against the PAS proposal.

Broadband continues to be a standard topic for discussion at the committee, with a further update on progress on the provision of Superfast Broadband in East Devon to 95% of the premises by the end of 2017. The committee heard from representatives from Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS), British Telecom (BT), a fixed wireless broadband provider Voneus, and the PH Corporate Services. The committee still wished to see a push beyond the government target of 95% to full coverage, and recommended to Cabinet that Council continued to work with CDS and other partners to achieve this, which they agreed. The Chairman of Scrutiny also wrote to the local MPs on this issue.

The committee were also informed about work progressing in tackling modern day slavery, including Exmouth as a base for the newly formed national modern slavery team.

Words on manor pavilion car park here 9 May

Joint debates with other committees included:

- Draft budget and service plans for 2016/17, including a recommendation for further investigation by Cabinet into requested additional staff resource for economic development;
- Relocation project progression.

Agenda Item 12**Scrutiny Committee****Scrutiny Committee Forward Plan 2017/18**

Date of Committee	Report	Lead
22 June 2017	Complaints and FOI report tbc 4 th quarter performance management report	
20 July 2017	Citizens Advice Bureau tbc	
24 Aug 2017 (if required)	Service Lead Planning Strategy and Development Management report back on performance indicator queries and new working practices 1 st quarter performance management report	Ed Freeman
21 Sept 2017	Update on implementation of new Recycling and Waste Contract	Andrew Hancock
19 Oct 2017		
16 Nov 2017	2 nd quarter performance management report	
17 Jan 2018	Draft budget and service plans with Overview	
22 Feb 2018	3 rd quarter performance management report	
22 March 2018		
19 April 2018	Agreement on annual report to Council	Debbie Meakin

Work for allocation to the Forward Plan as appropriate:

Proposed date	Topic
tbc	Portfolio Holder update reports being sought; committee can then subsequently ask the PH to attend committee on specific aspects of their portfolio. These will be programmed in once PH posts are confirmed at Annual Council

THE RT HON SIR HUGO SWIRE KCMG MP

(East Devon)



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Councillor Roger Giles
Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee
East Devon District Council
Knowle
Sidmouth
Devon EX10 8HL

7 April 2017

Our Ref: HS69248

Dear Councillor Giles

Further to my previous correspondence, please find enclosed the response that I have received from the Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt. I trust that you will find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H Swire'.



Department
of Health

Your Ref: HS69248

PO-1076085

The Rt Hon Sir Hugo Swire KCMG MP
House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

From the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP
Secretary of State for Health

Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

020 7210 4850

24 MAR 2017

Dear Sir Hugo,

Thank you for your letter of 22 February to Sajid Javid on behalf of your constituent Councillor Roger Giles of East Devon District Council, Knowle, Sidmouth EX10 8HL about NHS Property Services (NHSPS). Your letter has been passed to the Department of Health for reply.

As part of the transfer of the 12 community hospitals in East Devon to NHSPS, it has engaged extensively with the local statutory health overview and scrutiny committee, that is Devon County Council's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.

As stated by Councillor Giles, East Devon District Council is not a statutory body for the scrutiny of health. However, NHSPS does recognise the local community's interest in the transfer of the community hospitals, and further to an invitation to attend a meeting of the scrutiny committee received on 6 December, full answers to the three questions asked by Councillor Giles, as well as comprehensive relevant contextual information was sent to the committee on 22 December.

NHSPS remain committed to openness and transparency and will continue to engage with East Devon County Council's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee as appropriate, sharing relevant new information as and when it becomes available. The NHSPS would also be happy to arrange a briefing for Councillor Giles to address any further issues he may wish to raise.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Jer
JEREMY HUNT