

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Exmouth Queen's Drive Delivery Group held at Online via the Zoom app on 3 May 2022

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 10.39 am

30 Minutes of the previous meetings held on 17 February 2022 and 8 March 2022

Minutes of the meetings held on 17 February 2022 and 8 March 2022 were noted as a true and accurate record.

31 Declarations of interest

Cllr N Hookway: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Former Chair of the Save Exmouth Seafront group.

Cllr A Colman: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Exmouth Town Councillor.

Cllr O Davey: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Exmouth Town Councillor.

Cllr B De Saram: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Exmouth Town Councillor.

Cllr A Bailey: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Exmouth Town Councillor.

Cllr S Gazzard: Minutes 32 – 35; Personal Interest: Exmouth Town Councillor.

32 Officer update report

The Project Manager – Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) delivered a verbal update, including:

- Leases have now been issued for all of the Queen's Drive Space pitches.
- The Queen's Drive Space opened as scheduled but there is a delay with the fairground rides; this is being addressed.
- Temporary Uses planning consent was granted on 13 April 2022.
- Due to delays with issuing Heads of Terms, it has not been possible to exchange contracts with LED for the Fitness Space. A meeting will take place with the LED CEO later this week to explore options going forward.
- Meetings have taken place with a number of interest groups and the feedback to date has been positive.
- Cycle racks will be installed in the Imperial Road car park.
- There is an opportunity to submit a Levelling Up bid in July 2022; this will be led by Devon County Council and will require the support of Simon Jupp MP. The emphasis for the bid will be an environmental improvement scheme focused around Dinan Way, and the 'Gateway'; i.e. the point in the town centre at which the road and the railway station converge.

Comments, questions and clarification included:

- It was clarified that Imperial Road car park will be the location for secure covered storage of electric bikes.
- Members were keen to see more cycle racks installed on the seafront, particularly at Ocean and the Queen's Drive Space, to accommodate a minimum of ten bicycles. The Service Lead – Place, Asset & Commercialisation informed the Delivery Group that it had not been possible to secure procurement of bike racks within the required timescales to utilise the European Regional Development Fund Welcome Back Fund, but it should nevertheless be possible to arrange for simple racks to be installed at the Queen's Drive Space.

- The Project Lead – Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) will report back to the Delivery Group following his discussions later this week with the LED CEO concerning the Queen's Drive Fitness Space.
- It is understood that Simon Jupp MP is supportive of the planned Levelling Up bid.

33 **Report of the workshop held on 6 April 2022**

The Project Manager – Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) presented his report of the workshop held on 6 April 2022 which summarised the themes and characteristics for successful placemaking in Exmouth as discussed at the workshop, and set out the next steps for delivery of placemaking in Exmouth for the Delivery Group.

It was recommended that the Delivery Group agrees to the themes and characteristics identified at the 6 April meeting and that it recommends to Cabinet i) to endorse the same; and ii) to proceed to consult publically in the manner set out in the report.

Comments, questions and clarification included:

- Thanks were expressed to the Project Manager for organising the workshop.
- The Exmouth Town Council looks forward to a further meeting with the Project Manager.
- There needs to be greater emphasis on the need for sustainable travel by ensuring there is adequate bicycle storage in the right locations, encouraging people to travel to Exmouth by train, and potentially providing a shuttle bus to transport people from the railway station to the seafront.

The Delivery Group agreed to the themes and characteristics identified at their meeting on 6 April 2022 as set out in the notes attached to the report which summarise the findings identified in the workshop.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet:

- To endorse the themes and characteristics supported by the Delivery Group.
- To proceed to consult publicly in the manner set out in this report (para 1.6-1.9) to seek views on the identified Themes and Characteristics to help form a terms of reference for placemaking in Exmouth.

34 **Exmouth Queen's Drive Delivery Group Terms of Reference amendments**

The Delivery Group considered proposed amendments to its terms of reference, which would enable Cabinet and Council to consider recommendations relating to the whole of Exmouth.

A summary of the proposed changes was set out as follows:

1. Name change of the Group to e.g. Placemaking Exmouth; or Exmouth Place and Prosperity Group or Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group
2. Remove the Queen's Drive reference throughout
3. Remove the specific reference to Ocean
4. Amend – 'To liaise with and share information with Exmouth Town Council' – and add 'and relevant Stakeholder groups as appropriate'.

In discussion, Members acknowledged that in the interests of openness and transparency, it was only with very strong justification that any matters would be deemed confidential and discussed in Part B private session.

RECOMMENDED TO Cabinet:

That the amended Terms of Reference (Final Revised Terms of Reference) be adopted.

35 **Local Development Plan Call for Sites**

The Project Manager – Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) introduced his report, highlighting the following points:

- East Devon DC had made a Call for Sites to be submitted to the Local Development Plan, providing individuals and organisations with the opportunity to suggest land they own that they think has the potential to be developed.
- The Call for Sites would run from 28 March 2022 until 12.00 noon on 10 May 2022.
- The report summarised the steps Officers are taking in Exmouth to identify sites in previously prepared Local Plans, which are still relevant, as well as those that may need to be considered in light of new and emerging government policy.

Comments, questions and clarification included:

- It was considered appropriate to wait until analysis had been carried out to ascertain which sites were suitable for development before looking to pair any sites with available funding.
- Some Members shared specific observations concerning some individual sites named within the report.

The Chair thanked the Project Manager for his report and the Delivery Group noted the actions being taken by Officers.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

P Arnott (Vice-Chair)
O Davey
N Hookway (Chair)
A Colman
D Ledger
B Taylor
C Wright
B De Saram
J Rowland
S Gazzard (Exmouth Town Council)
A Bailey (Exmouth Town Council)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

P Faithfull
G Jung
E Wragg

Officers in attendance:

Tim Child, Service Lead - Place, Assets & Commercialisation
Simon Davey, Strategic Lead Finance
Caitlin Davey, Streetscene Events Officer
Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Gerry Mills, Project Manager Place & Prosperity (Exmouth)
Giles Salter, Solicitor
Kate Yeo, Events Support Officer

Also in attendance:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk, Exmouth Town Council
Peter Gilpin, CEO, LED
Justin Moore, Ocean

Councillor apologies:

M Armstrong
P Hayward

Chair:

Date: