

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group held at Online via the Zoom app on 10 December 2024

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 11.05 am

11 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 September 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 September 2024 were noted as a true and accurate record.

12 Declarations of interest

Cllr N Hookway – Minutes 16-17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr O Davey – Minutes 16-17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr M Hall – Minutes 16-17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

13 Public speaking

One member of the public had registered to speak at the meeting.

Mrs Ann Membery commented on the Exmouth Placemaking Plan Delivery Strategy Chart and offered views on public consultation and the ideas set out within the plan, challenging whether the money spent on consultancy was justified. She expressed concern at the time it was taking for the Council to go through due process before changes were made to the town and seafront. Mrs Membery further remarked that details of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Feasibility Studies should be made public and added that developments to the Queen Drive Space should include all-weather attractions, affordable to all members of the public.

The Chair thanked Mrs Membery for her contribution and responded that public consultations had taken place, the results from which could be republished. He reiterated that the Council must follow due legal process as recommended by Officers, and summarised the implications for the Council if it failed to do so. The Chair further outlined how the UKSPF was being spent, and expressed that he was supportive of the aspiration for affordable amenities on the seafront, for all residents and visitors to enjoy.

14 Matters of urgency

There were no matters of urgency.

15 Confidential/exempt items

There was one confidential/exempt item (minute 17 refers).

16 **Exmouth Placemaking Plan Update**

The Corporate Lead – Major Projects and Programmes presented this report which updated members in regard to the work on the Placemaking Plan and the strategy to adoption, along with an overview of the current status in regard to the Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens.

The report was noted.

The meeting went into private session.

17 **Exmouth Phase 2 Seawall alignment and Stuart Lines Winch House Relocation**

The Engineering Projects Manager introduced this item and asked members to consider the report and provide feedback.

In discussion at length, members asked direct questions and offered views and feedback on the content of the report.

The Engineering Projects Manager also outlined plans to replace some sets of steps on the seafront, and members discussed the most feasible and affordable options.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

P Arnott (Vice-Chair)
O Davey
A Hall
M Hall
N Hookway (Chair)
G Deasy (Exmouth Town Council)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

I Barlow
G Jung

Officers in attendance:

Marie Ainsworth, Place & Prosperity Officer
Tom Buxton-Smith, Engineering Projects Manager
Tim Child, Assistant Director Place, Assets & Commercialisation
Ed Freeman, Assistant Director Planning Strategy and Development Management
Naomi Harnett, Corporate Lead (Interim) – Major Projects & Programmes
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Anne Mountjoy, Growth Point Communications Officer
Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer
Rachel Papworth, Interim Project Manager
Katie Webb, Property Lawyer
Andrew Wood, Director of Place

Also in attendance (for some of the meeting)

Olly Swayne, LED CEO

Councillor apologies:
T Dumper

Chair:

Date: