

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group held at Online via Zoom app on 12 September 2023

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.05 am and ended at 11.03 am

After the roll call was completed, it was apparent that the meeting was inquorate. Following advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer, it was agreed that as there were no decisions to be made, it would be acceptable for the meeting to continue on an informal basis.

9 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 July 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 July 2023 were noted as a true and accurate record. The Project Manager Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) advised that Cllr Matt Hall's name had been omitted from the attendee list at Appendix 1 Page 4.

10 Declarations of interest

Cllr Davey wished it to be recorded that he is on the membership of the PETS Group in his capacity as Portfolio Holder Strategic Planning, Exmouth Town Ward Member and as Chair of Exmouth Town Council.

11 Public speaking

Two members of the public had registered to speak in the meeting.

Suzanne Isaacs spoke in her capacity as Vice-Chair of Exmouth Rowing Club. She outlined the Club's history, its current situation, and its challenges for the future. The Club would like to request the use of the land next to their boatyard for boat storage, to resolve their storage challenges and enable them to continue to serve the community.

Jonathan Fisher spoke in his capacity as General Manager – South and East Devon properties, National Trust. He outlined the areas of National Trust land and properties in and around Exmouth for which he has responsibility, and was keen for the National Trust to contribute in the Placemaking process, going forward.

12 Presentation of the Exmouth Youth Survey

A presentation detailing the results of the Exmouth Youth Survey was delivered by Pip and Debbie Piper from One Small Barking Dog Media Charity. The survey was supported by Exmouth Town Council and was undertaken with a view to empowering the young people of Exmouth and ensuring their voices are heard.

Discussion included the following points:

- Members were concerned to note the issues that were affecting young people including mental health, vaping and smoking, travel to and from schools, and traffic around schools.
- The lack of a police presence in Exmouth was of particular concern, and Members felt it would be appropriate to seek the views of the Police and Crime Commissioner on how this issue could be addressed.

The Project Manager Place and Prosperity (Exmouth) stated that the survey is the start of a process to ensure young people are represented, and the findings have been passed to the Placemaking consultants.

The Chair thanked Pip and Debbie Piper for their work on this important survey.

13 **Progress update on Placemaking in Exmouth**

The Project Manager – Place and Prosperity (Exmouth) ran through the update report which summarised progress since the last meeting of the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group. In an appendix to the report, members received a summary of the vision setting workshop which took place on 31st July 2023.

Members also received a verbal update on LED's activities at the Queen's Drive Fitness Space, and were informed of plans by the RNLI for a Yellow Welly Trail around Exmouth to commemorate the RNLI's Bicentennial in 2024.

Discussion and clarification included the following points:

- It is understood that the Exmouth Active Travel Improvement Scheme (formerly known as Exmouth Gateway) has changed over time, to meet the refined criteria for Levelling Up Round One, and the further refined criteria for Levelling Up Round Two. This has meant that the Scheme now has a different emphasis to what was set out in the original application, and is more highways focused.
- The impact of the inclement weather on attractions in and around Exmouth has been varied and it would be advantageous to have more all-weather attractions on Exmouth seafront.
- There have been a large number of events taking place and the Chair expressed thanks to the StreetScene staff for their very good work in dealing with the litter and refuse from these events.
- Members commented positively on the work of the Placemaking consultants, WSP, and felt that a lot of good conversations had come out of the workshop which took place on 11th September 2023.

Members noted the update report and the progress since the previous meeting.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

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

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

G Jung
C Nicholas
M Rixson
E Rylance
E Wragg

Officers in attendance:

Tim Child, Assistant Director Place, Assets & Commercialisation

Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Gerry Mills, Project Manager Place & Prosperity (Exmouth)
Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
Katie Webb, Property Lawyer

Councillor apologies:

B Bailey
M Hall
P Hayward

Also in attendance:

Lisa Bowman, Town Clerk, Exmouth Town Council

Chair:

Date: