

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group held at Online via the Zoom app on 9 September 2024

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.04 am and ended at 10.25 am

7 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 July 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 July 2024 were noted as a true and accurate record.

8 Declarations of interest

Cllr N Hookway – Minute 10; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr O Davey - Minute 10; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr T Dumper - Minute 10; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

9 Public speaking

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

Mrs Ann Membury was of the view that the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group had spent too much time and money on the 10 year strategic plan for Exmouth, rather than making improvements to Exmouth now. She commented that the Queen's Drive Space needs attractions for all generations to enjoy, at an affordable price. Mrs Membury added that she agreed with the content of a letter written by Mr Tweddle and recently published in the Exmouth Journal; she invited members to read it.

The Chair thanked Mrs Membury for taking the time to speak and responded that the Council needs to follow due process, and draw on the specialism of the consultants, and this takes time. He remarked that there are significant legal implications for the Council in the event that it fails to follow due process.

10 Progress Report on The Draft Options for Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens, Exmouth

The Project Manager – Place and Prosperity introduced this report which outlined the progress made to date on draft design and feasibility options for Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens on Exmouth seafront.

Discussion and clarification included the following points:

- Concern was expressed that the loss of car parking spaces at Beach Gardens could cause difficulties for those customers of the Pavilion who have limited mobility and who currently use the Beach Gardens car park due to its proximity to the facility. In response, it was confirmed that whilst there is an ambition to reduce the level of car domination on

the seafront, the needs of users must take priority and any car parking spaces that are removed will need to be replaced so that the car parking capacity remains.

- It will be important to consider car parking for all users of the Pavilion, including performers and the audience.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

A Bailey
O Davey
T Dumper
P Hayward
N Hookway (Chair)
G Deasy (Exmouth Town Council)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

I Barlow
P Faithfull
G Jung

Officers in attendance:

Tim Child, Assistant Director Place, Assets & Commercialisation
Naomi Harnett, Delivery Manager
Tracy Hendren, Chief Executive
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Gerry Mills, Project Manager Place & Prosperity (Exmouth)
Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer
Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
Andrew Wood, Director of Place (interim)
Marie Ainsworth, Place & Prosperity Officer

Also in attendance:

Chetna Jones, Exmouth Deputy Town Clerk

Councillor apologies:

P Arnott
T Olive

Chair:

Date: