

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group held at Online via the Zoom app on 18 March 2025

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.02 am and ended at 10.55 am

23 Minutes of the previous meetings held on 10 December 2024 and 10 February 2025

The minutes of the previous meetings held on 10 December 2024 and 10 February 2025 were noted as a true and accurate record.

24 Declarations of interest

Cllr A Bailey – Minutes 28-30; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr O Davey – Minutes 28-30; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr T Dumper – Minutes 28-30; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr M Hall – Minutes 28-30; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr N Hookway – Minutes 28-30; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

25 Public speaking

No members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting.

26 Matters of urgency

There were no matters of urgency.

27 Confidential/exempt items

There were no confidential/exempt items.

28 Update on the Exmouth Placemaking Plan review

The Interim Project Manager Place and Prosperity introduced this report which outlined the progress made to date in developing the strategy and approach for the Exmouth Placemaking Plan, to allow the next stage of this work to be brought forward.

Discussion and clarification included the following points:

- There had been some challenges engaging with the Placemaking consultants due to a change in personnel, but officers had had a positive meeting last week with the new project team which included some new and some familiar faces.
- A timeline is in place setting out the steps up to adoption of the Placemaking Plan in early August, and officers do not foresee any reason for a delay against this timeline.

29 **Governance Strategy**

The Interim Project Manager Place and Prosperity introduced this item which provided an update in regard to the Governance Strategy and Stakeholder Engagement to be delivered as a result of all works associated with the Placemaking Plan.

Discussion included the following points:

- Officers were asked to reconsider the position of Exmouth Town Council on the Proposed Stakeholder Map following feedback that it does not accurately reflect the Town Council's high level of interest in the Placemaking project.
- Town councillors would welcome full meetings with EDDC officers as part of the engagement process.
- It was suggested that community organisations, such as the Exmouth Community Association, could be included as stakeholders.
- It would be appropriate to renew efforts to engage with Devon County Council following the county in elections in May.
- One Member was of the view that meetings of the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group should be held in person rather than virtually online, suggesting that it was easier to talk face to face.
- The Placemaking work needs to be a corporate project across the Council and with buy-in from all key partners, particularly Exmouth Town Council and Devon County Council, in order to get the necessary traction for the Plan to be delivered and so that private investors can have confidence in it.

30 **Update on Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens concept designs**

The Place and Prosperity Officer introduced this item which provided an update regarding the works for Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens.

Discussion included the following points:

- The draft concept designs for Queen's Drive Space and Beach Gardens are being finalised along with cost estimates, and will be presented to Members at a workshop in April.
- There is a need for bicycle racks along the seafront and it was noted that the current provision is insufficient.

Attendance List **Councillors present:**

P Arnott (Vice-Chair)
A Bailey
O Davey
T Dumper
M Hall
P Hayward

N Hookway (Chair)

T Olive

G Deasy (Exmouth Town Council)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

I Barlow

G Jung

E Rylance

Officers in attendance:

Anne Mountjoy, Growth Point Communications Officer

Tim Child, Assistant Director Place, Assets & Commercialisation

Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer

Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer

Katie Webb, Property Lawyer

Marie Ainsworth, Place & Prosperity Officer

Rachel Papworth, Interim Project Manager Place and Prosperity

Louie Belfield, Corporate Engagement Business Graduate Partner

Councillor apologies:

A Hall

Chair:

Date: