



Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting On Monday 4th March 2019

Present

In the chair: Cllr K Beer

Councillors: P Burrows, M Hartnell, D Ledger, S Read, J Rowland, M Shaw and D Squire

Officers: Town Clerk

Public: Mr Michael Rolls (for agenda item 11 only)
No members of the public were present

211. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Chadwick, Rye and Sanham

212. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Shaw declared a personal interest as a Councillor with Devon County Council (DCC)

Cllr Hartnell declared a personal interest as a Councillor with East Devon District Council (EDDC)

213. Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting on Monday 4th February 2019.

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Read)

214. Chairman's Report

Discussion took place around:

- Updated that there are 22 traders attending the
- Two people have applied for the Town Crier post – interviews taking place at Marshlands on Sunday 10th March

The Council **NOTED** the Chairman's Report
(moved Cllr Beer)

215. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present

216. Police Report

The Council considered the Police Report covering 1st to 24th February 2019.

Discussion took place around:

- Concerns over the number of crimes this month – ask PC Speers to attend the next meeting to discuss

- Query as to whether the additional funding being made available nationally for additional resourcing will filter through to local regions like Seaton.
- Writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask them whether there will be any additional resources for Seaton and what their plans are for policing the local area
- Whether a motion to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner should be added to the next Council agenda in order to give complete Council support to the letter

The Council **RESOLVED** to write to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ask them whether there will be any additional resources for Seaton and what their plans are for policing the local area
(Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

The Council **NOTED** the Police Report
(moved Cllr Beer)

217. County Councillor Report

Discussion took place around:

- Thanking Cllr Shaw for putting funding towards seafront enhancement scheme from his DCC locality budget
- Seaton Down Hill speedwatch team confirmed that progress is being made on the 40mph speed limit

The Council **NOTED** the County Councillor Report
(moved Cllr Beer)

Cllr Burrows arrived at 7.47pm

218. District Councillor Reports

The Council considered the report of Cllr Hartnell and discussion took place around:

- EDDC meetings will be video recorded in the future and that the large screens will be used to relay the meeting to the public gallery
- EDDC will be using modern.gov after the election
- Cliff inspection report – does the Ward member get to see a copy of it? Cllr Hartnell confirmed that if he is made aware of anything he will update the Council
- Where the cliff drainage will be put – the Chime going along West Walk going eastwards toward Fisherman's Gap

The Council **NOTED** the District Councillor Report
(moved Cllr Beer)

219. Amendment in the order of business

Councillor Beer Proposed and the Council agreed to change the order of the meeting to allow agenda item 11 to be considered next.

Councillor Beer proposed, and the Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders so that Mr Rolls could speak on agenda item 11, Seaton Swimming pool

220. Seaton Community Swimming Pool

Mr Rolls, Executive Head for Axe Beacon Federation introduced his report to the Council. Seaton Primary School has had a swimming pool for a long time and it is a good resource for the local community. Education budgets are being squeezed and having to look at all aspects of funding. Leisure East Devon (LED) have given them £1000 and they run the pool from Easter to end October half term. The School is still responsible for the maintenance of the pool. The School is looking to have the pool running all year round, which would enable all schools in the federation to use it. The actual cost as run now costs £20,000. If the School was to use the Flamingos pool in Axminster and close the school pool it would cost £12,000. The School have set out a proposal for keeping the pool open and increasing its use. They are looking to take on the swimming outside school hours to run pool rather than LED doing this. By doing this they would look to make improvements to the pool and facilities. The School envisages that they can come in at similar costs to currently with LED running it. Any income would be invested back into the pool and they see it as an opportunity to run a service for children and the community. The school is keen to promote swimming and to make all children competent swimmers. The School are not sure what they can get in terms of income but they potentially have someone interested in renting the pool for private swimming lessons. The School are hoping that Seaton Town Council can make some commitment to enable the pool to be kept open to the public. The Business Plan they are looking to put into place is a three year plan

Discussion took place around:

- What the situation would be if LED withdrew their support. Mr Rolls confirmed that losing £1000 is only loss to the pool
- Whether the figures for income has been based on actual use. Mr Rolls said done on an average based on figures from LED
- Whether there was an opportunity to apply for funding from the Communities Together Fund
- The need to increase the marketing and promotion
- Whether some of the LED money obtained from EDDC could be allocated to Seaton Primary School
- The fact that Councillors only had this evening to look at the business plan
- Whether there is an argument for the parishes to get together and each contribute funding towards this – Colyton, Kilmington and Shute
- Whether the business plan was optimistic in terms of its income assumptions
- The fact that the figures just apply to April to October half term
- The need to go back to EDDC for further clarification on the position in terms of funding

The Council **RESOLVED** to write to EDDC regarding funding for the Swimming Pool (moved Cllr Ledger; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve that the Mayor write to LED to confirm that information had now been received from the School and now questions being asked of EDDC before a decision can be made.
(moved Cllr Beer)

The Council moved back into Standing Orders

221. Town Clerk Report

The Council considered the Town Clerk's Report and discussion took place around:

- Cllr Burrows to try to get a report done on plastic free and circulate it to all Councillors – if a report is forthcoming put on the April agenda. If not remove from the agenda
- An enquiry from the Police about room availability at Marshlands

The Council **NOTED** the Town Clerks Report
(moved Cllr Beer)

222. Committee meeting minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes for:

- Planning Committee 21st January 2019
- Finance & General Purposes Committee 21st January 2019
- Planning Committee 4th February 2019
- Communities and Open Spaces Committee 28th January 2019

(moved by Cllr Squire; seconded Cllr Rowland)

223. Social Media Policy Review

Discussion took place around:

- The suggestion of Councillors keeping a separate Facebook page for their role as a Councillor and a separate one for personal use
- The need for responses to go through Seaton Town Council Facebook page at the moment
- The need to signpost people on website if they can, if they are looking for information
- The need for the staff to have the policy discussed with them before it is approved by the Council - Cllr Squire to speak to staff about the policy
- The need to review the policy and for a further discussion to take place at the April meeting before the revised Policy goes to the AGM in May

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the recommendations in the report and then sit down and meet with staff before it comes back to Council for consideration in April
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Rowland)

223. Recording of Council meetings

Discussion took place around:

- Will help with clarity of minutes
- Think about having a phased approach so that can be used for minutes at the moment and then the second approach to

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase the Philips DV8010 digital audio recorder
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Burrows)

224. Caretaker at Marshlands

Cllr Beer advised the Committee on discussions that he'd had with a local resident re the caretaking role.

Discussion took place around:

- Personnel Committee had asked for posters to be put up around town
- Payment to be made to the individual
- The need to do checks on the individual
- Adopting a consistent approach for parking

225. Annual Meeting

Discussion took place around:

- The Annual Meeting to be schedule for 25th April at 7pm
- Queries about whether the Purdah rules apply
- Whether it is appropriate for Chairpersons of Committees to make a report at the meeting, given the Purdah period and whether a written report on the work of the Committee would be more appropriate

The Council **RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Meeting at 7pm on Thursday 25th April 2019

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

226. Christmas and New Year Opening 2019

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree that the Council offices be closed from the close of business on Tuesday 24th December 2019, reopening on Thursday 2nd January 2020.

(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Rowland)

227. Confidential Items

The Chairman moved, and the Council agreed to move in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 1 (c) press and public will be excluded from the meeting during the discussions of item 18 on this agenda as there is likely to be disclosure of information as matters are being discussed which could identify an individual

228. Staffing Matter

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Robert Martin as Locum Clerk until the end June 2019.

(proposed Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Read)

Meeting closed at 21.55pm

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____