



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

Present

In the chair: Cllr K Beer

Councillors: A Gwyn Davies, S Read, J Rowland, J Russell, H Sanham,
M Shaw and A Singh

Officers: Town Clerk and Admin Officer

Public: Cllr Marcus Hartnell (EDDC) and one member of the public

149. Apologies for absence

The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllr Tony Antoniou, Cllr Del Haggerty & Cllr Dan Ledger.

150. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Rowland declared a personal interest as a Councillor with East Devon District Council (EDDC)
Cllr Shaw declared a personal interest as a Councillor with Devon County Council (DCC)

151. Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting on Monday 7th October 2019
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Read)

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meetings on Monday 21st October
2019
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded by Cllr Read)

152. Chairman's Report

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

153. Public Question Time

Cllr Marcus Hartnell spoke requesting information on the CycleFest. Cllr Hartnell had attended a meeting of the Communities Committee on 29th July and had read out a statement to the Committee concerning the annual Cyclefest, in which he raised a number of queries, particularly in relation to the cost of the event and value to the town. The Chairman, Cllr Sanham, advised that he would be responded to when all information was available. He wanted to know what the income and expenditure had been this year for the CycleFest and wanted to know if any information was available in terms of what it had cost the rate payers of Seaton to put the event on.

Also, at the Communities Committee meeting on 29th July the Committee had resolved to create a Cycle Fest Working Party comprising Cllrs Sanham, Haggerty, Singh and Ledger, to draft a questionnaire to



take to local businesses, residents and cyclists to gauge the level of support for the event, and to analyse the results and findings. Cllr Hartnell wanted to know if the consultation had taken place with local businesses, residents and cyclists.

The Chairman, Cllr Beer, said that the financial accounts had just been updated to ensure they were correct so hopefully the information would be available soon as to what the CycleFest had cost to put on.

In answer to Cllr Hartnell's second question no survey had been completed. Cllr Sanham, Communities Committee Chairman, responded saying it had been agreed but not undertaken due to Christmas. The decision had been taken to do the survey after Christmas.

Cllr Hartnell asked why the Council has committed itself to putting on the CycleFest for the next three years when no consultation has been undertaken and there is no financial information available to make an informed decision.

Cllr Beer responded that the figures which are available are not incorrect but had been coded to the wrong expense codes and the council is trying to give some continuity to make sure that the events which work are supported. There is a clause with any contract that if the Cycle Fest is not a success in the first or second year the event will not be put on again. The Town Council should ask the people of Seaton, mainly the traders, what their views on the CycleFest are.

Peter Burrows asked please would Councillors not park their cars right up against the door to the Council offices as someone less abled than himself would have difficulty getting into the building.

Peter Burrows also stated that he was awaiting an answer from Cllr Sanham regarding the minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on 26th November 2018 where he spoke as a member of the public and raised a question regarding the signage in the town centre following on from a letter received from The Gateway. The Chairman, Cllr Sanham, pointed out that as this item was not on the agenda for Communities Committee meeting it could not be discussed and suggested that was added to the agenda for the next Full Council meeting on 3rd December 2018. Mr Burrows was still awaiting an answer to his question first raised at the Communities Committee meeting in November 2018. Cllr Sanham responded that this would be dealt with by the Communities Committee.

Peter Burrows asked whether a Remembrance Event was going to take place on Monday 11th November at Windsor Gardens. Cllr Beer replied that he was aware of the church service on Sunday 10th November but was not aware of any event happening in Windsor Gardens, but if there was, he would attend.

154. Police Report

Cllr Beer said he was concerned to see in the Police Report mention of the cultivating of cannabis and the possession of controlled drugs in Seaton. He said at the next meeting he has with the Police he will take this up with them.

The Council **NOTED** the Police Report
(Moved by Cllr Beer)



155. County Councillor Report

The Council considered Cllr Shaw's report.
Cllr Beer thanked Cllr Shaw for his report.
The Council **NOTED** the County Councillor's Report.
(moved Cllr Beer)

156. District Councillor Reports

Cllr Rowland explained that the proposed increase in Car Parking charges across the district had been called-in to the Scrutiny Committee at East Devon District Council. The call-in excluded a 12-month trial of free coach parking in Seaton Jurassic car park which the district council had agreed should commence immediately. At the Extraordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 24th October it was resolved that a working group be set up to look in detail at the proposed increase in car parking charges.

Cllr Rowland attended and spoke at a Planning Chairman's Delegation meeting where the planning application for 11, Seaford Road for the conversion of the bed and breakfast into four self-contained flats was discussed. The application was refused by the district council.

Cllr Rowland attended a meeting of the Licencing and Enforcement Committee where it was resolved to move the taxi rank from Marine Place to Castle Hill.

The Scrutiny Committee will be looking at S106 funding at their meeting on 21st November which cllr Rowland will be attending.

Cllr Beer read out the District Councillor Report from Cllr Geoff Pook. Cllr Pook confirmed the decision to commence free coach parking for 12 months in Seaton Jurassic car park.

Cllr Beer thanked the four district councillors for their reports. The Council **NOTED** the District Councillor Reports.
(moved Cllr Beer)

157. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Council considered the report from Cllr Rowland on Seaton Area Health Matters and discussion took place around:

- Business Plan – Current situation. Cllr Rowland and Cllr Geoff Pook were having a meeting on 7th November in Exeter with the RD&E & NHS Property Services regarding the purchase of Seaton Hospital.
- Seaton Area Health Matters 'Have your Say' survey. Nearly 600 responses have been received. The survey is open until 17th November. Could Councillors please complete the survey and please send out a reminder to contacts on social media to complete the survey.
- Cllr Rowland had held a meeting with the Chairs of NHS Devon CCG and NHS Dorset CCG on 22nd October along with representatives from Axminster and Lyme Regis. A press release is being drafted about the meeting.



159. Committee Meeting Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes for:
(see website for the minutes):

- Planning Committee 30th September & 14th October 2019

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Shaw)

159. Appointment to an Outside Body

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Beer be appointed to represent the Town Council on the Axe Valley and West Dorset Ring & Ride Service Ltd.

(moved Cllr Beer)

159. Town Clerk's Update

Discussion took place around:

- Allotments Committee – The Council **RESOLVED** that a committee of allotment holders was formed who would manage the allotments day to day. They would carry out inspections and report back to Hester with any issues which she would deal with. The council's rules and procedures would still apply. The Clerk recommended that the notes of the meeting held with some of the allotment holders be noted and the clerk was delegated to authorise and take whatever action was considered appropriate when reports were received from the management group.
- Financial Regulations – Members resolved at the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 21st October to approve amendments to the Council's financial Regulations. This has been particularly helpful in the last couple of weeks moving Council business forward more quickly.
- Town Council's new website – The proposed home page for the Council's new website was shown to Members. The Clerk said secure emails were imperative for Councillors and asked that the Council consider this recommendation and approve it. With Cllr Singh's help they would liaise with Vision ICT to put these into place as soon as possible.
- Update on the Council's priorities for 2019/2020 – The Clerk reported that they had updated most of the Council's priorities with any information they had and asked Councillors to note these. There had been an enquiry from one of the tenants who was interested in renting another room. The Service Level Agreement was with Devon Wildlife Trust awaiting approval.

Cllr Rowland wanted to pass on his thanks to the Clerk for their reports and the work they and the staff have been doing.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Clerk and Cllr Singh liaise with Vision ICT to set up protected email address for Councillors.

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Singh)

The Council **RESOLVED** to implement the progression of the new website for Seaton Town Council and the town.

(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Russell)



160. Confidential Items

The Chairman moved that in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 1 (c) press and public would be excluded from the meeting during the discussions of item 11 on this agenda as there was likely to be disclosure of information as matters were being discussed which were commercially sensitive/could identify an individual.

161. Staffing Matters

The Council **RESOLVED** to recruit a permanent employee with immediate effect to work three days a week as a Finance Officer.

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Russell)

Meeting closed at 20.52pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____