



## Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2018

### **Present**

**In the chair:** Cllr P Burrows

**Councillors:** K Beer, M Hartnell, D Ledger, S Read, J Rowland, H Sanham, M Shaw and D Squire

**Officers:** Town Clerk

**Public:** 2 members of the public

### **81. Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Daniel Ledger made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office

### **82. Apologies for absence**

The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllrs Rye and Webster  
Cllr Chadwick was absent

### **83. Declarations of Interest**

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

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

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

Cllr Rowland declared a personal interest as a member of the Seaton Down Hill community speed watch Team

### **84. Minutes**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018 subject to the minor amendment of:

- Minute 64, amending the paragraph where Cllr Hartnell responded to comments made by Mr Booth to read as confirming that East Devon District Council are *seeking to meet* with the developer  
(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Read)

### **85. Chairman's Report**

Discussion took place around:

- Which new shop is opening – Cllr Burrows confirmed that it was a new shop in Cross Street/Queen Street and that he would update Councillors as soon as he knew more details
- The events that Cllr Burrows had been asked to attend were the Memory Café's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, Seaton and District Arts Society Annual Exhibition, the Commodores

lunch at the Yacht Club, the official opening of Seaton Tramway and the East Devon District Council Garden Party  
The Council **NOTED** the Chairman's Report

#### **86. Public Question Time**

Members of the public present, chose to speak in Public Question Time as follows:

Mr Steve Wainwright said that 'back in December I attended the meeting and spoke on the Pedestrian Crossing in Harbour Road. Now that the Premier Inn is open and footfall in the town has been good due to the weather this has exacerbated the problem. I still strongly feel that a pedestrian crossing is needed as elderly people don't want to go to Tesco as they don't want to cross the road. I will get in touch with Tesco regarding the crossing and ask them to write a letter of support. I then plan to write to Devon County Council asking them why the crossing has not been done. I would also like the Town Council to push this with Highways. I am also going to write to Premier Inn regarding the bridge outside their entrance as I feel it is dangerous if a child plays on it and falls they could be straight out on the road. I feel it needs a barrier at the end of the walk way'.

Mr Niall Donnan of Baytree House spoke, saying 'I have had about 20 guests complain about the seagull mess in Seaton. It looks terrible. For the sake of the town is there anything that can be done to stop this?'

Mr Wainwright added to the comments made by Mr Donnan saying 'the sorting office building is awful. It is a question of having pride in the town. Can businesses be encouraged to keep their buildings clean?'

Cllr Burrows thanked them for their comments and suggested that the item of Seagulls be added to the next Communities & Open Space Committee for discussion

Cllr Shaw confirmed that he had raised the matter of the crossing on Harbour Road with Devon County Highways and they had confirmed that it was not in the budget for 2018/19.

#### **87. Police Report**

The Council considered the Police Report covering 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018.  
The Council **NOTED** the Police report

#### **88. County Councillor Report**

The Council considered Cllr Shaw's report.

The Council asked Cllr Shaw to look into the issues regarding the road collapsing outside the florists shop in Queen Street. Cllr Hartnell to email Cllr Shaw with the details.

The Council **NOTED** the County Councillor's Report

#### **89. District Councillors Reports**

The Council considered Cllr Hartnell's Report

Discussion took place around:

- When the meeting with Mr Mooney would take place – Cllr Hartnell believed that it would be in August

- The situation regarding Section 106 monies and when a definitive answer might be expected from EDDC
- Feedback re the polling station location and then need to ensure that a polling station in Seaton is identified for the residents of Seaton but who fall into the new Beer and Branscombe District Ward
- Cllr Hartnell updated the Council on his recent walkabout with Andrew Hancock from EDDC. There is no budget for repairs to the Jubilee Clock and EDDC are going back to their Estates department to see if there is a way of doing this. Dog signage on the seafront was discussed and Mr Hancock agreed that it was ambiguous and has confirmed that his colleague Andrew Ennis will be asked to look at it. The next step is to hear from Andrew Ennis as the beach signage will be replaced this year.
- Cllr Hartnell agreed that the Sorting Office building is in a state of disrepair and suggested that the Council write to the Royal Mail about it. Cllr Hartnell to forward the email address to the Town Clerk

(Cllr Hartnell's Report was noted)

The Council considered Cllr Burrow's Report

Discussion took place around:

- The amount of vehicles coming down Fore Street and whether they should have a permit
- Issues with parking on the verges at the end of Harepath Road and it being good to raise the issues with Baker Estates
- Weeds around the town centre plus the approach to the town. Devon County Council only do if it is a visibility splay. Can we do a big clean in the town centre? Cllr Rowland commented that local volunteers weeded the town centre in the run up to the South West in Bloom judging. Cllr Burrows thanked volunteers for doing this

(Cllr Burrow's Report was noted)

## **90. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

The Council considered the reports from:

Cllr Beer – Devon Association of Local Councils

Cllr Rowland – Seaton Area Health Matters

Cllr Beer – Axe Valley Local Action Group

Discussion took place around the following in respect of the Seaton Area Health Matters report:

- Cllr Rowland had asked Cllr Ledger to set up a website, which was near to going live
- Also setting up a Facebook page
- Meetings have been very productive and have focused on what would be needed at a health hub and a plan plus robust figures are being drawn up.
- Cllr Rowland confirmed that they have been approached by Ottery St Mary to find out what they are doing
- Cllr Sanham suggested that Cllr Rowland get in touch with D Morgan regarding the transport information for the plan
- Cllr Shaw added that the Royal Devon & Exeter hospital will be looking to have discussions in local communities around future services in the next 6 weeks

### **91. Town Clerk Report**

Discussion took place around:

- Devon Air Ambulance and that once a site meeting had taken place at the start of September it was anticipated that the Night Time Landing Strip be installed at the end of September

The Council **NOTED** the Town Clerks Report

### **92. Committee meeting minutes**

Discussion took place around:

- Minutes only coming forward to Council once the Committee have approved them
- There being no need to print copies of the minutes with the agenda – link to them on the website

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

- Communities & Open Spaces Committee 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- Planning Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018
- Planning Committee 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

(moved by Cllr Burrows)

### **93. Councillor Membership**

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Ledger be on the Planning Committee, Finance & General Purposes Committee and Communities & Open Spaces Committee

(moved Cllr Burrows)

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Beer become the Council's representative for the Axe Valley Ring & Ride Group

(moved Cllr Burrows)

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Read be an additional member on the Regeneration Board

### **94. Motions**

#### Motion 1

A. The Council **RESOLVED** that the response from Sgt Squires regarding resourcing was not sufficient and that a request be made to the Chief Constable asking for other Devon and Cornwall Police resources to be allocated to speed enforcement sessions along Seaton Down Hill road where it has been identified that persistent speeding is a problem.

(Moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Beer)

B. The Council **RESOLVED** that Seaton Town Council write to Devon County Council and ask for the changing of the speed limit to 40mph on Seaton Down Hill and the stretch of the A3052 in the approach to the Seaton junction be on the Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) agenda for the November meeting

(moved Cllr Rowland; seconded Cllr Burrows)

C. Cllr Rowland said that he felt that there had already been productive meetings with senior Police Officers, Cllr Stuart Hughes and Neil Parish MP and that progress was being made. In light of this Cllr Rowland didn't feel that there was much point having a public meeting. Therefore Cllr Rowland withdrew part C of the motion

### Motion 2

Cllr Chadwick was not present at the meeting so this was carried forward to the September meeting.

### Motion 3

Discussion took place around:

- The work that EDDC is doing to pull together their registers of the assets under their ownership in the District as this information is currently on a number of different systems
- The need to look at why the Town Council wants to have Windsor Gardens transferred to it – why do we want the asset?
- The need to look at all of the assets for Seaton in its entirety i.e. through a strategic review and not piecemeal
- Windsor Gardens being on hold until the outcome of the Beer pilot is known
- Communities Committee to consider ideas to be brought forward for Windsor Gardens
- A better course of action being to put pressure on EDDC to improve the assets under their ownership

Cllr Burrows withdrew his motion

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Communities Committee consider ideas to be brought forward for Windsor Gardens and the flower bed by the ice cream kiosk, and that the Council holds fire on the transfer of assets pending the outcome of the Beer pilot so that all of the towns assets can be considered at the same time  
(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Sanham)

### Motion 4

The Council **RESOLVED** that Seaton Town Council urge Devon County Council to relocate a pedestrian crossing to the east of the junction of Harbour Road and Royal Observer Way before there is an accident due to the increasing footfall  
(moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Beer)

The Council **RESOLVED** that Seaton Town Council write to Premier Inn to ask them to install a barrier at the end of the bridge  
(moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Beer)

## **95. Tourist Information Centre (TIC)**

Cllr Rowland introduced the report of the TIC Working Group. Discussion took place around:

- The next stage should be working up 2 or 3 options for the Council to consider
- The need to review the visit Great Britain report plus case studies with examples of TICs
- The need to look at the journey that a tourist takes before they arrive in the local area
- The need for the Working Group to look at costings, locations, etc and to put the meat on the bones
- The need for the Town Clerk to write to Devon Wildlife Services to keep them informed as to the process that the Council is going through

The Council **RESOLVED** that the Working Group looks at options 2, 3 & 4 and drops 1 & 5 and brings a report back to Council as soon as practicable (moved Cllr Sanham; seconded Cllr Shaw)

#### **96. Facebook**

Cllr Squire introduced the report of the TIC Working Group. Discussion took place around:

- The need to be more proactive with social media including posting details of meetings, grants, highways road closures, etc
- The proposal of having two Councillors posting factual information on Facebook to respond to any comments where a response from the Council is required
- The need for the two Councillors to reflect the agreed policies of the Council
- The two Councillors to liaise before a comment is made
- The need to let Councillors not present at the meeting know that this will now be Council policy

The Council **RESOLVED** that the recommendations from the Working Group are adopted on a three month trial and that a report then comes back to Council to see how it has worked and that Cllrs Burrows and Hartnell are the two Councillors posting factual information on Facebook, when appropriate (moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Beer)

#### **97. Confidential Items**

The Chairman moved, and the Council agreed, that 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 a disclosure of commercially sensitive information

#### **98. Seafront Enhancement Scheme**

The Council **RESOLVED** that proposed that:

1. The Council explore breaking the Seafront Enhancement Scheme down into more phases
2. The Council spend £2,500 getting an up to date set of costs for the project
3. Borrowing from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) is considered in more detail and calculations done to see how much this would add to the average Band D Council Tax bill
4. Continue to press East Devon District Council to arrive at a solution regarding the Moridunum that would dovetail with Phase 2 at no cost to Seaton Town Council
5. Follow up Neil Parish MP if necessary this month to the request made to him
6. Consider in the budget planning exercise for 2019/20 whether to include a budget allowance to make an application for a PWLB Loan

(moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded by Cllr Squire)

The Council **RESOLVED** that Marshlands is not included as part of the remit of the Seafront Enhancement Scheme Working Group and that a separate Working Group is set up to consider the future of Marshlands including reviewing the full facts, figures, etc and that a report is brought back to Council in October (moved Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Ledger)

Cllr Hartnell requested a recorded vote

For: Cllrs Ledger, Burrows, Hartnell & Squire  
Against: Cllrs Shaw, Rowland, Beer & Sanham  
Abstention: Cllr Read

The Chairman's casting vote meant that the motion was passed

The Council **RESOLVED** that the members of the Marshlands Working Group are  
Cllrs Hartnell, Ledger and Read  
(moved Cllr Shaw; seconded Cllr Hartnell)

The meeting ended at 22.07

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_