



**Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting
on Monday, 2 November 2020**

Present:

Chair: Cllr. K. Beer

Town Councillors: D. Ledger, D. Haggerty, M. Hartnell, A. Singh, J. Russell, E. Bowman, C. Wood, D. Wright and K. Briggs

Other

Councillors: Cllr. Rowland (EDDC)

Officers: Town Clerk

Public: Three members of the public were present, and the meeting was broadcast live via the Council's Facebook page

Note: All attendees accessed the meeting remotely and could be either seen and/or heard

91. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Macaskill and Cllr Shaw, in his capacity as Devon County Councillor

92. Declarations of interest

Cllrs. Hartnell and Ledger declared personal interests as East Devon District Councillors

93. Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Seaton Town Council ('the Council') held remotely on 5th October 2020 (proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

94. Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that it had been a quiet month with nothing to report other than regular catch up meetings with the town clerk.

Members noted the Chairman's report.

95. Public Question Time

A member of the public spoke and stated that he resided in the Pebble Beach and expressed concern about alleged anti-social behaviour emanating from the Underfleet and Tesco car parks and leading to noisy vehicle being driven too fast around the town. The Chairman asked Sergeant Roy Hutter to address this as part of the police report.

1



SEATON TOWN COUNCIL
96. **Police Report**

Sergeant Roy Hutter attended, in his capacity as neighbourhood local beat manager. He acknowledged that anti-social behaviour had increased, however, this was against a backdrop of lower crime figures generally. He stated that anti-social behaviour was not solely a policing issue and had to be addressed in partnership with others such as EDDC and Tesco, who owned the car parks referred to. He reiterated that the public should keep reporting matters of concern and that the town's new inspector was proactive in approaching the issue. He confirmed that monthly meetings would be held with the town clerk and one of the officers serving Seaton would attend future Council meetings and report on what action was being taken. He reasserted that resources would be deployed over the coming weeks, but the specialist officers in this area were armed response units and the deployment of such had to be carefully balanced against the alarm such armed patrols may cause to the public.

Members noted the police report.

97. **County Councillor Report**

Members wished to thank Cllr Shaw for his generosity in awarding a proportion of his locality budget towards the local school meals initiative set up by Re:store Axe Valley CIC.

Concerns were raised as regards the, apparently, premature closure of the Esplanade, which was due to last for 18 months, but no construction works had commenced. Cllr Ledger stated that he had attended the Seaton & Colyton Traffic Group earlier that day and DCC officers had confirmed that a meeting had been arranged with the contractors to establish when work would be commenced.

Members received and noted the report.

98. **District Councillor Reports**

Cllrs. Rowland and Hartnell presented and answered questions on their written reports. Again, the closure of the Esplanade was raised, and Cllr Rowland stated that he could say little on this and the associated development of Fosseyway Court at present, due to legal involvement on behalf of Fosseyway Court Transition Ltd. As regards Seaton Heights, EDDC were consulting with the owners of the site but the lack of action was frustrating. Cllr Hartnell highlighted that he had raised the issue with officers of school buses taking up spaces that should be available for visiting coaches and this was being addressed. Beachfront management in Seaton was also discussed. Cllr Ledger offered reassurance that the study into this had been prepared for planning purposes and the data underpinning it was the 'worst case' scenario with no interventions. The Beachfront Management Plan was still valid.

Members received and noted the reports.

KBer



SEATON TOWN COUNCIL
99.

Appointments to outside bodies

The following councillors were appointed as representatives to attend the following outside bodies and report back to the Council:

- Seaton Beach Management Plan Group – Cllr Wright
- East Devon Arts & Culture Forum – Cllr Briggs
- Local Action Group (LAGS) – Cllr Bowman, with Cllr Singh as substitute (proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Hartnell)

100. External Auditor's Report

Members reviewed and accepted the conclusion of 2019/20 audit report, by the Council's external auditors, PKF Littlejohn.
(proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Hartnell)

101. Town Clerk's report and update on 2020/21 priorities, including recommendations as to budgetary and other decisions as appropriate

Members received an update on the Council's work and priorities for the 2020/21 municipal year and noted the spreadsheet that had been produced outlining all of the Council's work and projects, who was responsible and how each matter was progressing.

Members **RESOLVED** to:

1. note the Clerk's report
2. agree that the town's banners should not be erected in 2021, with a view to new artwork (banners or an alternative) being considered for 2022 as part of the art trail
3. promote a town wide switch on of the lights in homes and shops at 6pm on Friday 4th December to recognise the Christmas season

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Singh)

102. Community Consultation

The draft community consultation document was not yet available.

Members **RESOLVED**, in order to avoid delay, to defer consideration of this item on the basis that the draft consultation document would, subject to capacity of the town clerk and Cllr Ledger who were jointly preparing the draft, be circulated to all Members by email as soon as practicable for amendment/comment by email, with ratification at the next Council meeting.

(proposed Cllr. Haggerty; seconded Cllr. Singh)

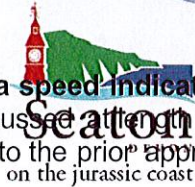
103. Update on Promote Seaton

Members received an update from Cllr Haggerty on the work of Promote Seaton

Members noted the update.

Confidential Items

3



104. Purchase of a speed indicator device

Members discussed at length the purchase of a speed indicator device for the town, subject to the prior approval of relevant authorities. The approximate cost

on the basis of the information received was £10,000 + VAT. Whilst Members broadly agreed that the principle of purchasing a device was positive and demonstrated that the Council was taking this issue seriously, the collective view was that further information was necessary in order to understand how any data obtained could be used, whether the police could use it to either prosecute offences or build intelligence, whether there was a possibility of contributions from other sources such as DCC of the police and what the views of the community would be on such expenditure. Cllr Ledger confirmed that Cllr Shaw had kindly agreed to contribute £1,500 from his locality budget.

Members **RESOLVED** to provisionally allocate a budget of £5,000 for this purpose, subject to the results of the community consultation and further information being obtained as to how such data could be used.
(proposed Cllr Hartnell; seconded Cllr Wright)

105. Marshlands

Members considered the comprehensive report on the requirements for legionella testing at Marshlands and approved the recommendations therein.

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- authorise the clerk to instruct one of the three suppliers to conduct a legionella risk assessment and approved the cost thereof, as detailed in this report
- appoint the town clerk as the 'Responsible Person' for the purposes of this legislation, with authority to delegate any processes necessary to the Council's staff, as she sees fit
- approve the purchase of training and a legionella testing kit, as detailed in this report

(proposed Cllr Ledger; seconded Cllr Bowman)

Meeting closed at 8.02pm

Signed

K Beer

Dated

7/12/2020