



**Minutes of the Seaton Town Council Meeting
on Monday, 1 February 2021**

Present:

Chair: Cllr. K. Beer

Town

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

Other

Councillors: Cllr. Shaw (DCC), Cllr. Rowland (EDDC)

Officers: Town Clerk

Public: Four members of the public were present

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

135. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Briggs and Cllr Macaskill

136. Declarations of interest

Cllrs. Hartnell and Ledger declared personal interests as East Devon District Councillors. Cllr Ledger declared an interest on the application for a shop front grant (20 COU 14) and indicated he would not take part in the discussions, as part of the application related to work by a company owned by his family.

137. Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Seaton Town Council ('the Council') held remotely on 21 December 2020 (proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Russell)

138. Committee Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the following meetings of the Council's committees:

Planning Committee

- 9 September 2020
- 5 October 2020
- 2 November 2020
- 16 November 2020
- 7 December 2020

Finance & General Purposes Committee

- 16 June 2020
- 22 July 2020



- 19 October 2020
- 16 November 2020
- 14 December 2020

(proposed Cllr. Russell; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

139. Public Question Time

A question was received from a member of the public requesting an update relating to the Seafront Enhancement Scheme an asking whether a mirrored planning application for the Scheme would be resubmitted and the timing and cost thereof.

Further questions were raised with regard to the agenda item regarding the possibility of installing motor home facilities in Seaton's car parks. In particular - was there a demand, had the impact on existing commercial sites been assessed, how would any charging system operate and how would this impact on, for instance, the measures in place such as overnight barriers at the Underfleet to prevent anti-social behaviour?

140. Police Report

No police report was available.

141. County Councillor Report

Cllr Shaw presented his report and highlighted the progress on the Stop Line Way and the recent meeting of the Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee. He also confirmed that a new locality budget would be available in May.

Members noted the report.

142. District Councillor Reports

Cllrs Rowland and Hartnell presented their reports and highlighted the success of EDDC in rolling our grants to businesses and from the hardship fund during the pandemic and the difficulties in obtaining updates from NHS property services at the current time regarding Seaton Hospital. Furthermore, it was explained that the support offered by EDDC to LED was due to the contractual arrangements between the parties. Finally, those present were urged to feedback their views on the emerging local plan.

Members noted the reports.

143. Town Clerk's Update

Members noted the updated work log and the progress made since the Council's December meetings.

144. East Devon Local Plan Consultation

Members **RESOLVED** that the task of preparing a draft response to the consultation be delegated to an informal working panel of the Planning Committee who could go through the local plan and formulate a consultation



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response on behalf of the Council to bring back to either the Planning Committee or Council for approval prior to submission.
(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Beer)

145. Budgetary Review

Members received the summary report of the 2020/21 Q.2-3, including details of material variances and **RESOLVED** to note the report.
(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Wright)

146. Environment Policy

Members approved the Environment Policy and agreed that an appropriate text should be added to the Planning Committee agenda and decisions to reflect the Council's commitment to consider environmental issues on all planning applications.
(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Ledger)

147. Asset Register

Members reviewed the updated asset register and associated report. Cllr Singh raised a question as to whether the Martial Arts Centre building belonged to the Council or the Martial Arts Club itself.

Members **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders to permit a former town councillor now attending as a member of public to speak. He confirmed that when he had joined the Council, the lease for the land to the Martial Arts Club had expired. This had been redrafted by him and they and the Scout Association now had longer leases.

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Approve the asset register
- Approve the replacement value costs attributed to items
- Approve the disposal of the items listed
- Agree that a rolling maintenance programme be prepared by officers and works implemented where such maintenance works can be carried out within approved budgets, with regular updates being brought to the Finance & General Purposes Committee

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Hartnell)

148. Community & Shop Front Improvement Grants

Members noted the update on the Council's grants scheme and **RESOLVED** to approve the application for a shopfront improvement grant of £500 from Seaton Print & Design.

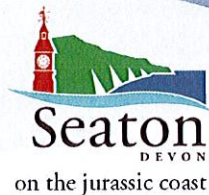
(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Wood)

149. Water Refill Station – No. 2

Members discussed possible locations for the town's second water refill station and there was support for two locations – Seafeld Gardens and the Underfleet Skate



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Park. Discussions took place over the advantages of each site and the possible higher cost of locating a water refill station at the Underfleet due a water supply being possibly less accessible. Due to the long lead times for delivery of the chosen water refill units, Members **RESOLVED** to:

- authorise the purchase of a water refill station, in blue from the previously approved supplier – Washware Essentials
- defer the decision as to location until a report could be brought back to Council detailing the full installation costs of each of the proposed locations

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Ledger)

150. Seaton Down Hill picnic benches

Members **RESOLVED** to purchase two new circular picnic benches made from recyclable plastic for Seaton Down Hill picnic area to a maximum of £1,000.

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Singh)

151. Seaton in Bloom

Members discussed the Seaton in Bloom event for the coming year and agreed in principle that it should go ahead with a contingency plan that should covid restrictions mean that judging could not take place in the traditional way, then entries could be submitted via photographs in a similar way to the Christmas Lights event. Members **RESOLVED** that the Seaton in Bloom event for 2021 should go ahead. In the manner discussed and authorised officers to action taking this forward.

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Wood)

152. Refurbishment of case for mayoral chain

Members considered the proposal from Beer Men's Shed for refurbishing the case and request for a donation and **RESOLVED** to:

- Approve the cost of a replacement case in Baltic birch plywood at a cost of £100
- Agreed in principle to make a donation to the Beer Mens Shed by asking them to apply for a grant under the community grants procedure

(proposed Cllr. Wood; seconded Cllr. Wright)

153. Update to highways maintenance priorities

Members ratified the update to the highways maintenance priorities to include Eyewell Green as a recommendation to Devon County Council for works to be carried out.

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Singh)

154. Motor homes

Members discussed EDDC's initiative to permit overnight stays by motorhomes in car parks in East Devon and noted this was at a very early stage following a pilot scheme in Exmouth. Members **RESOLVED** to write to EDDC expressing an interest

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in discussing further and being considered for any future such schemes in the district.

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Wright)

155. Update on Promote Seaton

Cllr Haggerty provided an update on the work of Promote Seaton.

Members noted the report.

Confidential Items

The Chairman moved that in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 1(d) press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussions of the following items due to their commercially sensitive nature.

156. Town Hall Roof Maintenance

Members considered the quotations for a survey of the town hall roof and **RESOLVED** to defer this item for further quotations to be obtained as to the cost of a survey of the whole of the exterior of the building.

(proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Hartnell)

157. Grounds Maintenance Contract

Members considered the responses to grounds maintenance tender and **RESOLVED** to award the contract for 2021-2024 for:

- planting and watering
- grounds maintenance

to John Widger of Scalwell Lane Nursery on the terms and costs set out in his tender for the work and, further, that a letter be sent to John Widger thanking him for all the work he does to keep the town well maintained.

(proposed Cllr. Bowman; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

158. Asbestos Survey

Members considered the quotations for an asbestos survey of Marshlands and **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Meritt Environmental to carry out the survey on the terms outlined in the supporting report.

(proposed Cllr. Haggerty; seconded Cllr. Wood)

Meeting closed at 7.48pm

Signed _____

Dated _____

1.3.2021

