EDDC Councillor report for Seaton Town Council meeting on 1 November 2021

Report produced by Jack Rowland on 30 October 2021

Seaton specific subjects

Seafront Enhancement Scheme / Moridunum

The EDDC Seaton Ward Councillors (Hartnell, Ledger and myself) plus Cllr Hayward (in view of his portfolio responsibility for Economy, Asset Management and Regeneration) plus EDDC Officers met the Directors of FTL Ltd on 5 October to discuss the proposed plans for the Moridunum site. In view of the comments and suggestions we made the Directors are going back to the architect to produce revised plans and images to enable a revised meeting date to be planned to include Seaton Town Council.

My comments in my September report regarding the Levelling Up fund round 2 bid and my reference to a plan B for funds for the seafront scheme still apply and are unchanged at this stage. For information the Levelling Up bid in round 1 for Exmouth was unsuccessful so that highlights to me the need to have a plan B in place.

Seaton Jurassic Centre

In my October report I made reference to the Cabinet meeting taking place on 6 October. Cabinet approved the recommendation that day to provide £45000 to meet the ongoing costs for the remainder of this financial year. The £45K costs cover business rates (taking into account the 3 month break), utilities, insurance, wifi for the CCTV in the car park, cleaning, maintenance and security whilst the building is empty. These costs are in addition to the costs involved to rectify the mechanical and engineering issues with the building.

In view of social media and other press comments concerning the centre I have responded to Seaton Nub News who have now posted my response and the latest edition of the Midweek Herald has also shown my email in the letters page.

Seaton Hospital

As part of my role of chairing Seaton Area Health Matters (SAHM) I am about to arrange a meeting of the steering group to decide on the future direction and role of the organisation.

Seaton Heights

A planning application, reference 21/1782/MFUL, has now been submitted and is currently awaiting a decision.

District wide subjects

New Council Plan 2021 - 2023

As part of the process for this administration to produce a new Council plan the latest draft was considered by a joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees on 16 September and received approval. The plan was subsequently approved by Cabinet on 6 October and then by Full Council on the 20th.

Innovation and Resilience Fund (IRF)

The first meeting to consider the applications received to date was held on 27 October. Of the 12 bids that were discussed 6 were approved and 6 deferred pending requests for more information from the applicants. I am a member of the cross party panel and the meetings to consider applications will be held monthly or more frequently depending on the volume of applications received.

Public Toilet Review

The survey closed on 1 October and the results will be initially presented to and discussed by the Overview Committee on 18 November at 6pm. The agenda and accompanying report will be issued the week before.

An equalities impact assessment will be carried out as part of the decision making process on future provision.

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