

**Minutes of the Seaton Town Council ('the Council')
Meeting
on Monday, 4 April 2022**

Present:

Chair: Cllr D. Ledger

Town

Councillors: K. Beer, E. Bowman, D. Haggerty, M. Hartnell, J. Russell, M. Steven, D. Wright & C. Wood

Officers: Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Facilities & Projects Officer

Public: One member of the public was present – East Devon District Councillor Jack Rowland.

195. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Burrows, Macaskill and Singh.

196. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hartnell declared a personal interest as a Devon County and East Devon District Councillor and Cllr Ledger declared a personal interest as an East Devon District Councillor and as the owner of a property close to the allotments.

197. Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday, 7 March 2022 (moved Cllr Wright, seconded Cllr Hartnell)

198. Chairman's Report

The Chairman confirmed that he would not be standing for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

199. Public Question Time

A question was raised by Cllr. Rowland as to whether this was an appropriate juncture to be considering WC provision on the seafront, considering that:

- EDDC were awaiting the report of their retained consultants on any possible levelling up bid and, depending on the outcome of that, it may be that match funding might be sought from bodies such as the Town Council which is something the Council may wish to consider in due course

- The position regarding Thury Harcourt and Marsh Road public conveniences was still uncertain and, in due course, the Town Council may wish to consider taking these over

200. Police Report

No police report was available.

201. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Hartnell presented and invited any questions on his written report. Members noted the report.

202. District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Rowland presented a written report and he and the other district councillors (Cllrs Hartnell & Ledger) verbally added the following:

- Moridunum - district councillors had met with officers a few days earlier and there were issues with regard to encroachment on the Moridunum by the adjacent developer without the appropriate licences being in place and concerns about the safety of the structure as a result. Remedial work was likely to be needed. The heads of terms regarding the Moridunum were yet to be agreed.
- Electric vehicle charging points – this work had been delayed as components were still awaited. A schedule of works had been requested by Cllr Rowland so that the town could be updated on when works would be happening in Seaton
- Confirmed that, as regards levelling up, Devon had been elevated from tier 3 to tier 2
- as regards the River Axe report, this did not directly affect Seaton but the towns and parishes to the north such as Axminster and Kilminster. However, this may put pressure on Seaton to deliver more housing.

Members noted the report.

203. Town Clerk's Report

Members noted the summary and work log.

204. Committee meeting minutes

Members received and noted the minutes of the following committee meetings:

- Planning Committee – 21 February and 7 March 2022
(moved Cllr Hartnell, seconded Cllr Wright)

205. Volunteer Policy

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the Volunteer Policy and associated documentation (moved Cllr Haggerty, seconded Cllr Wright)

206. Seaton Allotments

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- approve the proposed changes to the Non-Statutory Allotment Rules including the amendments circulated
- note the financial position and ear marked reserve

(moved Cllr Wood, seconded Cllr Ledger)

207. Insurance Renewal

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- note the revised premium for insurance cover for 2022/23
- delegate authority to the Town Clerk to renew the motor insurance cover for 2022/23 with the provider that represents best value and at a cost not exceeding of £658.00, inclusive of insurance premium tax

(proposed Cllr. Wright; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

208. Direct Debits & Regular Payments

Members reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule of regular direct debits and payments, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulation 5 (proposed Cllr. Haggerty; seconded Cllr. Wright)

209. Seaton Beach School Lottery Application

To note and ratify the decision to submit an application for National Lottery funding towards the delivery of Seaton's Summer Beach School (proposed Cllr. Wood; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

210. Review of Asset Register

Members reviewed the updated asset register and **RESOLVED** to:

- approve the asset register as at 31 March 2022 with a value of £353,436.89, after deletion of the water refill station which had been given to East Devon District Council as they had agreed to assume responsibility for maintenance and insurance purposes as it was on their land
- approve the disposal of the items listed

(proposed Cllr. Haggerty; seconded Cllr. Wright)

211. Art Trail

Members **RESOLVED** to delay any art work on the wall at Marshlands for the time being and proceed with the original plan to install said works to the exterior walls of the West Walk Public Toilets

(proposed Cllr. Steven; seconded Cllr. Wright)

212. Update on First Aid Station

Members noted the report on the successful outcome of the first aid station in 2021 and update and costs (£4,960) of delivering the service in Summer 2022 and **RESOLVED** that it should proceed as proposed.

(proposed Cllr. Haggerty; seconded Cllr. Wright)

213. Provision of WC/Shelter

In light of the current uncertainty over the future of existing public conveniences in the town, Members rejected the proposal to consider the feasibility of installing a new WC/shelter towards the eastern end of the seafront at the current time and, after extensive debate, **RESOLVED** to instruct officers to engage with EDDC and research and prepare a report into the possible acquisition, maintenance and ongoing cleaning costs of the existing public conveniences at Marsh Road and Thury Harcourt and whether, if the Town Council took either of these blocks on, there would be a possibility of them being repaired and updated by EDDC as part of their capital repairs programme before such a transfer.

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

214. Review of Town Plan

Members noted the progress of the Town Plan to date and went through the proposals for priorities for the municipal year 2022/23 and agreed some amendments as regards specific targets and dates and to include a further objective regarding the preparation of a community engagement plan.

Members **RESOLVED** to:

- note progress to date
- approve the updated plan, including amendments to some targets and time frames
- to add a community engagement plan
- to add the research project regarding the town's public conveniences as detailed at minute 213 above

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

Meeting closed at 7.42pm

Signed _____

Dated _____