

**Minutes of the Seaton Town Council ('the Council')
Meeting
on Monday, 2 September 2024**

Present:

Chair: Cllr. M. Hartnell

Town

Councillors: K. Beer, P. Burrows, N. Dyke, D. Haggerty, J. Russell & C. Wood

Officers: Town Clerk

Public: 3 members of the public were in attendance

50. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received, and reasons accepted, from Cllrs. Bowman & Singh. It was further noted that Cllr Dyke would be slightly late and he subsequently arrived during the East Devon District Councillors' reports.

51. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs. Hartnell & Haggerty declared a personal interest as East Devon District Councillors (EDDC) and Cllr. Hartnell as a Devon County Councillor (DCC).

52. Council Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of a meeting of Seaton Town Council held on Monday 1 July 2024. (proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

53. County Councillor's Report

Members noted Cllr. Hartnell's verbally report. In particular, the following matters were highlighted:

- the highway resurfacing and repairs to Valley View and Harepath Road had been postponed until early 2025, due to delays in work being undertaken by utilities companies in those areas
- the zebra crossings in the town would be repainted during this financial year
- the bus shelter on the seafront was scheduled to be replaced in the Autumn
- a grant of £300 from Cllr Hartnell's Locality Budget had now been paid to the Council towards the repairs to the town war memorial

54. District Councillors' Reports

Members noted the written reports of Cllrs. Haggerty and Hartnell. In particular, the following matters were highlighted:

- a report on the future of the Moridunum was due before Cabinet in the coming week, so a decision was imminent



- as regards the damaged brick seafront planter, Cllr Hartnell had had discussions with both DCC and EDDC. The subsoil beneath the planter was owned by DCC as it was built on public highway. However, it was not clear who had built the planter, as neither DCC or EDDC had accepted responsibility for it. The Town Clerk was looking into how Seaton Town Council might be able to improve this part of the town and the costs thereof and a report would be brought to Council in due course
- as regards the issue of pollution from sewerage, EDDC were keeping a close eye on this and had asked South West Water to appear before its Scrutiny Committee on more than one occasion.
- A meeting would be taking place on 11 September regarding the East Devon Local Plan which was urgent, in light of the new Government's proposals for higher housing targets. Cllr. Burrows would attend the meeting, on behalf of Seaton Town Council, and reiterate the representations already made in writing to the District Council

55. Public Question Time

The following matters were raised by members of the public:

- a member of the public expressed concerns about the repositioning of the bus shelter on the Fisherman's Gap Roundabout. In particular she highlighted the removal of flower beds, obstruction of the view, additional distance for elderly passengers to access the bus stop, light pollution caused by illuminated signage in a Unesco site and potential for storm damage. Cllr. Hartnell explained the background to the scheme, the results of the public consultation and the fact that there had been insufficient justification for a change in view. He also confirmed that the flower beds would be replaced with planters, the shelter would have a living roof, any illumination would be side on to prevent obstruction of view and finally that the shelter would be constructed in as resilient materials as possible, to withstand coastal weather conditions, as all shelters in such locations were
- a second member of the public, Mr. Jack Rowland, asked whether any further correspondence had been received from the owner of The Lookout. The Town Clerk confirmed that nor further communications had been received since the response to the initial enquiry by the Council. Members **RESOLVED** that a letter should be sent to EDDC, as the local planning authority, to ask whether consideration could be given to the service of a s215 notice, under Town & Country Planning legislation might be served (proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Dyke). Mr Rowland also raised the question as to whether there was any point in arranging a meeting with the Council, EDDC and the owners of the Hook & Parrott as, in his view, the building was an eyesore.

56. Committee Minutes

Members noted the minutes of the following meetings of the Council's committees:
Planning Committee –3 & 17 June, 8 & 29 July 2024 (proposed Cllr. Burrows; seconded Cllr. Russell)



57. Chairman's Report

Members noted the Chairman's report and Cllr Burrows asked that the Mayor be thanked for crowning the Carnival Queen.

58. Town Clerk's Report

Members noted the report and correspondence log.

59. Updates to the Council's IT Systems

Members noted the update and **RESOLVED** to adopt the Bring Your Own Device Policy. (proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

60. Update on Seaton Tourist Information Centre

Members noted the update and asked that a vote of thanks to Cllrs. Bowman & Dyke be noted, for their work in organising a rota of volunteers for weekend opening of the tourist information centre during summer weekends.

61. Report on the Council's investments

Members considered the Council's current investments and, having considered the associated risks, **RESOLVED** to transfer an additional £200,000 from the Council's treasurer's account at Lloyds Bank to the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund. (proposed Cllr. Beer; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

62. Report on Seaton Summer Celebration 2024

Members considered a comprehensive report from the Deputy Clerk on feedback from events held in 2024 with recommendations for future events and **RESOLVED**:

- to note the information contained within the report
- that Seaton Summer Celebration would not take place in 2025
- to note that Seaton Outdoor Cinema would not take place in 2025
- to authorise the Town Clerk and officers to collect and collate data to establish the views of local residents, regarding the delivery of events in Seaton and how these might be enhanced going forward
- to give a vote of thanks to the Deputy Clerk for her hard work in organising the events and collating such a comprehensive report.

(proposed Cllr. Burrows; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

63. Playpark inspection reports

Members noted the play park inspections

64. Annual Tree Inspections

Members noted the annual tree inspection reports.

65. Community Grants

Members **RESOLVED** to award the following community grant:

- Seaton Tramway - £836
- (proposed Cllr. Wood; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)



66. Councillor Surgery

Cllr Wood provided an update on issues raised at the recent councillor surgery.

Confidential Items

The Chairman moved that in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 1(d) press and public would be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items on the agenda, as matters being discussed included commercially sensitive information and potentially personal data relating to staff.

67. Update on Marshlands

Members **RESOLVED** to note the update on Marshlands. (proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

68. Officer/Member communications

Members **RESOLVED** to extend for a further three-month period, the principle of the following resolution made by Council on 3 June 2024:

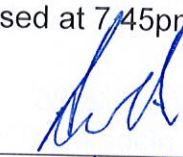
- *'all correspondence from all councillors should, in the first instance, be directed to two named councillors - Cllr. Singh & Hartnell – rather than directly to officers.'* This would be reviewed again after the renewed three-month period.

(proposed Cllr. Russell; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed _____

Dated _____



16/9/24