

**Minutes of the Seaton Town Council ('the Council')
Council Meeting
on Monday, 6 October 2025**

Present:

Chair: Cllr. A. Singh

Town

Councillors: P. Burrows, N. Dyke, D. Haggerty, M. Hartnell, D. Ledger, K. Pike, & C. Wood

Officers: Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk

Public: One member of the public was in attendance.

75. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Bowman & Rowland and the reasons accepted.

76. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs. Haggerty, Hartnell & Ledger declared a personal interest as East Devon District Councillors (EDDC). Cllr. Dyke declared a personal interest as volunteers at the Gateway Theatre Company, and Cllr. Wood declared an interest as a volunteer and trustee of the Gateway Theatre Company. Cllr. Hartnell declared a personal interest, as his son was a volunteer and conducting work on a self-employed basis for the Gateway Theatre Company.

77. Minutes

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of a meeting of Seaton Town Council held on Monday, 1 September 2025. (proposed Cllr. Ledger; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

78. Committee Minutes

Members noted the minutes of the following meetings of the Council's committees:

- **Finance & General Purposes Committee** – 8 September 2025
- **Planning Committee** – 1 September 2025

79. County Councillor's Report

There was no county councillor's report.

80. District Councillors' Reports

Cllrs. Haggerty, Hartnell & Ledger gave verbal reports, highlighting the following:

- the beach protection works at Seaton Hole were now underway

- a new town near Exeter Airport has been named as one of 12 towns to receive additional funding
- a fair funding review has been carried out and there will be a significant shortfall in EDDC finances, if devolution does not happen
- a meeting with the prospective purchaser of the Moridunum was due in the next couple
- five towns were now designated as Coach Friendly in East Devon and, already in 2025, there had been an 18% increase in touring coaches in the area

Members noted the reports.

81. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

82. Update on Gateway Theatre Company

Members received an update from the manager of the Gateway Theatre Company ('GTC'), as follows:

- GTC was returning to its community roots, and the manager had held meetings with community groups including the Carnival Committee and the Grizzly
- sales were up 236% since he has started
- more live acts were planned, including locally sourced talent
- an emerging youth project was planned, including providing young people with rehearsal time on stage
- serious consideration would be given to whether events, such as the Dub Pistols, could go ahead if it was not sold out

Members noted the update.

83. Town Clerk's Report

Members **RESOLVED**:

- to note the report and correspondence log
- not to run Seaton in Bloom in 2026

(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Hartnell)

84. Appointments to committees

No councillors agreed to sit on the Planning Committee so three vacancies remain. With only four sitting members, this left the committee at risk of being inquorate as had happened at the meeting immediately before the meeting of full Council.

Therefore, Members **RESOLVED** that until the casual vacancies had been filled that all planning applications would come to full council.

(proposed Cllr. Hartnell; seconded Cllr. Singh)

85. Update on Seaton Tourist Information Centre

Members noted an update on enquiries to the tourist information centre.

86. Annual Governance & Accounting Return 2024-25

Members reviewed and **RESOLVED** to note:

- the Annual Governance & Accounting Return 2024-25
- completion letter from external auditor
- notice of conclusion of audit.

(proposed Cllr. Singh; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

87. Youth Provision in Seaton

Members noted the report on youth provision in Seaton by Restore and **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to allocate £3,652 - representing 50% of the first year's overall estimated costs of running the project - from EMR329 (Youth Projects) to support the delivery of the Restore Youth Club for the academic year 2025/2026, subject to Restore CIC providing regular quarterly reviews of the project in December 2025, April 2026 and August 2026.

(proposed Cllr. Wood; seconded Cllr. Pike)

88. Play Park Inspections

Members noted the inspection reports

89. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered by full Council as the earlier meeting of the Planning Committee became inquorate:

25/1800/FUL

Sonja Critchley

**Unit A, Marine Place, Seaton
EX12 2LL**

Change of use from Use Class A1 (retail) and A3 (cafe) to Class E - (commercial, business and service). Installation of an ATM accessible from the side elevation, replacement of side window to allow for the ATM. Repainting of shopfront windows and doors (one to be fitted with an automatic door push pad) Existing louvre apertures on the side elevation to be enlarged allowing for larger extract louvres and siting of a new AC condenser

The Committee **RESOLVED** to propose no objection to the application.
(moved Cllr Ledger; seconded Cllr Haggerty)

Agenda item 10.

25/1801/ADV

Sonja Critchley

**Unit A, Marine Place, Seaton
EX12 2LL**

2no external illuminated fascia signs, 2 no external illuminated projecting signs, 3no non-illuminated signs positioned on front door (opening hours sign, CCTV sign, DDA sign), 3no illuminated posters inside shopfront window, 1no Vinyl community message.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to propose no objection to the application but would like a condition attached to the granting of planning permission stating that the illuminated projecting banking hub sign to be sited on the corner of the building overlooking Harbour Road and Marine Place was not left on past the opening hours of the banking hub.

(moved Cllr Ledger; seconded Cllr Haggerty)

Agenda item 11

25/1868/FUL

**Mr Simon Allchurch
(EDDC)**

**Tennis Courts and Pavilion,
Seafield Road, Seaton EX12
2QS**

Replacement of windows to north, south, and west elevations of Seafield Gardens Tennis Pavilion.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to propose no objection to the application.
(moved Cllr Burrows; seconded Cllr Singh)

Agenda item 12

25/1820/FUL

**Mr Jorge Pineda-Langford
Hill,
(EDDC)**

Toilets West Walk, Castle

Seaton EX12 2QW

Proposal to demolish existing public toilets and replace with a new modular public toilet building. (Retrospective application for design changes to approved application 23/2561/FUL)

The Committee **RESOLVED** to propose no objection to the application.
(moved Cllr Singh; seconded Cllr Pike)

Confidential Items

The Chairman moved that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Order 1(d), press and public will be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the following items, as there are matters being discussed which may be legally or commercially sensitive:

89. Report on Fire Panel Replacement at Town Hall

Members considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

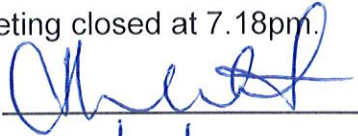
- approve the installation of a new fire alarm panel, a repeater panel and any other requisite components in the town hall building
- delegate authority to the Town Clerk to contract Arch Fire Systems to undertake the necessary works, as outlined in this report, to include repeater panel, at a cost of £9,296.43 exc. VAT
- transfer £9,300 from EMR328 General Asset Maintenance to general reserves to cover the cost
- delegate authority to the Town Clerk to enter into a maintenance contract with Arch Fire Systems to facilitate the regular inspection of the fire alarm system in accordance with statutory regulations

(proposed Cllr. Burrows; seconded Cllr. Haggerty)

90. Update on potential legal claim

Members noted the update from the Town Clerk on the potential claim against the Council.

The meeting closed at 7.18pm.

Signed: 

Dated: 3/11/25

