

MINUTES

OF THE

MEETING OF

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ON

MONDAY 7TH JANUARY 2008

AT 6.30 PM

WOOLCOMBE HOUSE

SIDMOUTH, DEVON

Members Present:

Sidmouth North Councillor Mrs. S. Carr
 Councillor S. Hughes
 Councillor P. Sullivan (Vice-Chairman)

Sidmouth South Councillor J.G.T. Dyson
 Councillor C.F.A. Gibbings
 Councillor Mrs. M. Jolly

Sidmouth East Councillor Mrs. F.I. Newth
 Councillor S.P. Pollentine

Sidmouth West

Primley Councillor T.J. Cox (Chairman)
 Councillor J. Turner

Sidford Councillor S.J. Brokenshire
 Councillor I.J. McKenzie-Edwards

Sidbury Councillor Mrs. C.E. Drew
 Councillor J.W. Hollick

Salcombe Regis Councillor A.W.J. Reed

08:01/1 PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by the Prebendary Reverend David James.

08:01/2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. L.W.A. Kelly, Mrs. A.E. Liverton, G.K. Liverton and C.H. Wale.

08:01/3 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 3rd December 2007 were received and signed as a true and accurate record.

08:01/4 **MATTERS OF URGENCY**

There were no matters of urgency brought forward by the Chairman.

As no questions had been received Standing Orders were not suspended for a
PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

08:01/5 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were received as follows:

08:01/15 Councillor Hughes Personal – Member of Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Committee

08:01/6 **MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman's Diary (as attached) was circulated to Members at the meeting.

- The Chairman read a Press Release received from the Sidmouth Folk Week committee regarding the appointment of a new Festival Director (Leo Beirne).

08:01/7 **POLICE REPORT**

PC Lemon presented the December Police Report (as attached). A printed copy of the November Police Report was attached with the agenda.

08:01/8 **COMMITTEE/WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

08:01/8.1 Planning Committee Reports

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor C.F.A. Gibbings, presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on the 5th and 19th December 2007.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Reports be noted and agreed.

08:01/9 **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

08:01/9.1 Finance Report

Councillor Turner, Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, presented the Finance Report for November and the Interim Finance Report for December 2007.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Reports be noted and agreed.

08:01/10 **NORMAN LOCKYER OBSERVATORY**

Mr. Gerald White met with the Chairman of the Council and Town Clerk in December to outline the next project at the Observatory which was for a new dome to house a 20 inch Newtonian reflecting telescope. The Observatory hoped to make a bid for funding and asked for a letter outlining the Town Council's continued support for the work of the Observatory and its dedicated team. A copy of the letter sent to Mr White was attached to the agenda for Members' information.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

08:01/11 ITV REGIONAL NEWS PROPOSALS

Attached to the agenda were copies of letters and documents received from both ITV and Hugo Swire MP in response to letters sent by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: That these be noted.

08:01/12 GASTRO-INTENSTINAL CANCER SURGERY SERVICES

Attached to the agenda was a letter received from the Department of Health in response to the letter sent by the Town Clerk. A letter had also been received from Dr. Kevin Snee of Devon Primary Care Trust and was attached for Members information, however, the attachments were not copied as they were marked Private & Confidential.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

08:01/13 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP

08:01/13.1 The report of the October Traffic Management Group meeting was tabled at the meeting for Members information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

08:01/13.2 It was agreed at the December meeting that discussion should take place at this meeting as to the most efficient way to ensure that reports of the Traffic Management Group were reported punctually to the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That this issue was to be added to the next agenda of the Traffic Management Group to be held on Tuesday 12th February 2008.

08:01/14 WOODS FARM RECYCLING CENTRE

Councillor John Dyson proposed the following :-

“Due to the increasing use and congestion at the Woods Farm Recycling Centre, Devon County Council should urgently consider in detail the merits of alternative sites such as the lay-by on the A3052 east of the Bowd Inn”.

RESOLVED: (i) That a letter be sent to Devon County Council stating that the Town Council was concerned on the future recycling policies for this area and appreciate the merits of Woods Farm but were anxious that this site may not continue to be sufficient for the needs of the area in future years.

(ii) The District Council must be encouraged to increase household collections wherever possible and a copy of the above letter will also be sent to that authority.

08:01/15 DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2008/09 – 2010/11

Views were requested on the Draft Corporate Plan as above; the consultation period would formally close on 4th February 2008. The Chairman encouraged Members to take part in the consultation process and read about the proposals at

www.consultationfinder.com/devon/devonfireandrescue and comment as individuals sending a copy to the Town Clerk who, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, would collate a corporate response.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

08:01/16 DESIGN STATEMENT & POLICIES FOR FASCIA BOARDS & HANGING SIGNS (ADVICE NOTE)

The Planning Committee requested the Town Council agree the Advice Note to be sent to all shops and businesses who display (or will be displaying) fascia boards and hanging signs. The Chairman read out a response from Steven Beli of the District Council; who suggested a minor alteration to paragraph 1.5(a) as follows:

(a) 4.6 metres or 3.6 metres in an area of Special Control

RESOLVED: That the Advice Note be noted and agreed to include the alteration to paragraph 1.5(a) as advised by Steven Beli.

08:01/17 LIST OF COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2008/2009

Attached to the agenda was a list of dates for 2008/2009 for Members' information.

RESOLVED: That this be noted and agreed.

08:01/18 EVENTS OF COUNCIL LAND

08:01/18.1 Churches Together in Sidmouth had requested to hold a series of services in the Connaught Gardens as follows:

3rd August am
20th & 27th July pm
10th, 17th & 31st August pm

08:01/18.2 South London Concert Band had asked to perform in the Connaught Gardens on the 24th May 2008. It was understood that this band had performed here previously and there was no interference with any other event.

RESOLVED: That these be noted and agreed.

08:01/19 ROAD CLOSURE ORDERS

Manstone Lane (one way section) 21st to 25th January inclusive. Sid Valley Tree Surgery need to undertake tree works.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

08:01/20 DOCUMENTS AND/OR PERIODICALS

The following had been received and were available in the office:

- Devon Rural Transport Partnership – Autumn Newsletter 2007
- Community Council of Devon – Village Green December 2007

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

08:01/21 QUESTIONS TO COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

No questions had been received.

PART 'B'

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

**under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960
the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting due to the
confidential nature of its contents.**

08:01/22 WOOLLEY TRUST

Members were asked to discuss principles/policies for future use of funds from the Woolley Trust. The Town Clerk read out the wording of the will as follows:

'I give my Estate as aforesaid to the Chairman and Members for the time being of the appropriate Local Government Authority of Sidmouth in the County of Devon as my said Trustees shall decide for the benefit of the people of Sidmouth generally it being my wish that the same shall be used for the pleasure, happiness or welfare of the inhabitants of Sidmouth and its immediate district with the particular object of benefiting the elderly or the sick or both.'

RESOLVED: That the wording of the will is to be carefully considered each time an application is made. Wherever possible applications should be accompanied by a copy of the organisation's Accounts.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL