



**08:08/4      MATTERS OF URGENCY**

There were no Matters of Urgency.

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

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

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

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

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

Councillor Mrs. Drew reported that she had been the only Member in attendance at the service held by Christians Together in Sidmouth.

**08:08/7      POLICE REPORT**

The Chairman read out Inspector Gale's reply received in response to a letter sent by the Town Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** That a letter be sent to the local police and their colleagues thanking them for their successful policing during Folk Week. A further letter of thanks be sent to East Devon District Council's React Team and the Licensing Department.

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

08:08/8.1      Planning Committee Reports

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor C.F.A. Gibbings, presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008.

The Sid Vale Association had registered their concern regarding the future loss of paper copies in respect of planning applications now that they are received on line. The Planning Committee recommended that an item be placed on the Town Council agenda to ask if a computer could be provided for use by the Sid Vale Association and members of the public who wished to access planning information.

**RESOLVED:** (i) That the Planning Reports be noted and agreed. (ii) The Sid Vale Association be recommended to use the services available at the District Council, where paper copies will continue to be available, unfortunately Sidmouth Town Council cannot provide administrative assistance.

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

08:08/9.1      Finance Report

Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, Councillor Turner, presented the Finance Reports for June and July 2008.

**RESOLVED:** That the Finance Reports be noted and agreed.

08:08/9.2      Parish Paths Partnership

Councillor Dyson requested a release of funding in respect of a vegetation clearance contract; this had been quoted by Ben Gilbert at a cost of £340. Councillor Dyson reported that the P3 Committee had two new members; Chris Brown who currently surveys a number of footpaths for P3 and Jeanette Prettejohn who regularly rides the local bridleways.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted and agreed.

**08:08/10**      **FIRE BEACON NATURE RESERVE**

A successful application had been made to Natural England for a Higher Level Stewardship Agreement between themselves and Sidmouth Town Council in respect of Fire Beacon Nature Reserve. This Stewardship Agreement provided a considerable amount of funding over the next ten years for the enhancement and preservation of Fire Beacon. Toby Taylor of the RSPB attended the meeting to outline the proposals and implications of the Agreement.

**RESOLVED:** That the Stewardship Agreement be accepted and thanks given to RSPB for their work. A tripartite Management Team be set up between Sidmouth Town Council, the RSPB and East Devon District Council to agree responsibilities for the ongoing management and development of Fire Beacon Nature Reserve.

**08:08/11**      **LIFT IN WOOLCOMBE HOUSE**

As it was now over twelve months since Gartec installed the platform lift in Woolcombe House they had written asking whether a maintenance contract was required. There were three options depending on the complexity of the lift mechanism. Challice wrote that 'it is their understanding that the lift employed is of a simple, low maintenance type and the degree to which it is used should therefore determine its maintenance plan'. It was hoped that Option 3 which included two planned inspection visits per year and lubrication of drive components costing £280 might be sufficient.

**RESOLVED:** That Option 3 be agreed at a cost of £280 per annum.

**08:08/12**      **INSURANCE**

The Chairman and Town Clerk met with the local representative of Zurich Insurance to assess and amend where necessary the Town Council's current insurance cover. Five years ago a contract was undertaken with Zurich which maintained renewal cover at a low level. The Chairman and Clerk had negotiated one further year with Zurich with a reduction of 10%. It was intended that in the spring of 2009 the insurance schedule would be discussed with other companies to ensure that the Town Council was receiving best value.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted and agreed.

**08:08/13**      **TWINNING**

Next year Sidmouth would celebrate 25 years of twinning with Le Locle. The Chairman had been asked by the Twinning Circle whether the Council would be prepared to write formally to Le Locle inviting a party to attend a 4/5day visit during the first half of October 2009

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted and agreed.

**08:08/14**      **BOUNDARY COMMITTEE'S DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR DEVON**

Members were asked whether the Town Council wished to make a response to the Boundary Committee's draft proposals; the closing date for submissions was 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008. It was proposed that a Special meeting be held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.30pm, as the original meeting scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> was considered too late for an adequately informed submission.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted and agreed.

**08:08/15**      **CCTV**

A Town Council Working Party comprising of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Councillors Turner, Dyson and Newth met on the 29<sup>th</sup> July (Cllr Newth tendered her apologies); this was followed by a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce Working Party. Chris Taylor had reported that the Chamber of Commerce preferred option would be for the Town Council to create a specification and obtain tenders prior to purchase and that the Town Council would then take responsibility for ownership and ongoing maintenance of the CCTV system.

**RESOLVED:** That Sidmouth Town Council wished to play only a supporting and not a lead role in the CCTV provision for Sidmouth.

**08:08/16**      **PROVISION OF DOG BINS**

Councillor Mrs. Kelly asked whether the Town Council would support the provision of a dog hygiene bin at the entrance to The Byes near the Hunters Moon Hotel. Councillor Mrs. Drew also requested that a big be supplied for the Sidbury Millennium Field.

**RESOLVED:** That the District Council be asked to supply a map of the dog bins currently available and the annual cost of emptying an individual bin.

**08:08/17**      **DOG CONTROL ORDERS - CONSULTATION**

The attached letter had been received from East Devon District Council for the Town Council's consideration.

**RESOLVED:** That the list be noted and agreed with the addition of the Furze Hill play area which should also have a dog ban. The District Council be asked who the 'individual' was that was referred to in the letter and how would the list be policed.

**08:08/18**      **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP**

The following items were brought forward for the agenda of the next Traffic Management Group Meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2008:

- Full report on a possible one-way system at the top of High Street from the mini roundabout to Blackmore Drive.
- Lymebourne & Arcot Park Tenants Association's letter regarding difficulties experienced by elderly tenants in crossing the busy road in this area.
- Alexandria Road – parking restrictions on one side of the road.
- Manstone Avenue – the speed bumps have been removed and replaced by equally poor bumps – platforms are needed in this area.

**RESOLVED:** That these be noted and included in the next TMWP agenda.

**08:08/19**      **BT's REMOVAL OF PUBLIC CALL BOXES**

The attached letter had been received from a firm of Solicitors in Minehead

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted.

**08:08/20**      **SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTH DEVON & DORSET**

The Chairman of the Council and Councillor Pollentine attended a Key Stakeholder Forum in Poundbury on the 30<sup>th</sup> July; Councillor Pollentine gave a verbal report to the meeting expressing concern at what was missing from the document. Councillor Liverton offered further information from the District Council and County Councillor Hughes reported his intention to take this matter further at the County Council.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted.

**08:08/21**      **EAST DEVON AONB PARTNERSHIP**

East Devon AONB Partnership had sent a consultation draft copy of the Management Strategy and asked for comments by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008. This document was a review of the 2004 Strategy and its format had been developed jointly with the four other AONBs in Devon.

**RESOLVED:** That a Working Party be created to review and report back to the next meeting. Members to be included were Councillors Mrs. Drew, Mrs. Jolly, Pollentine, Sullivan and Wale.

**08:08/22**      **USE OF COUNCIL LAND**

A late request had been received in respect of the annual regatta and fireworks on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August. As the Council had never objected to this in the past, the Chairman gave consent and this item was for report only.

A further request had been received after compilation of the agenda from Tail Back Thames to film in Sidmouth for their programme 'Escape to the Country' they would like to film a short sequence on the seafront and in Connaught Gardens on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**RESOLVED:** That these be noted and agreed.

**08:08/23      ROAD CLOSURE ORDERS**

- Knowle Drive – between the junctions of Knowle Gardens and Broadway  
27/29 October 2008 – Balfour Beatty Utility Solutions - To renew a sluice valve
- Coburg Road, Sidmouth – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August – Western Power Distribution for utility works
- Councillor Hollick reported that he had been given information regarding a road closure in Sidbury at the beginning of October.
- Councillor Liverton reported that he had been advised that the Fore Street pavements were to be repaired/replaced during November.

**RESOLVED:** That these be noted.

**08:08/24      PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2006  
BRIDLEWAY NO. 116 & FOOTPATH NOS 27 & 28 SIDMOUTH**

An order had been confirmed to divert part of the public bridleways and public footpaths on Mutter's Moor on the parish boundaries of Otterton and Sidmouth to lines in regular use by the public. (see attached map)

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted.

**08:08/25      LETTERS OF THANKS**

A letter of thanks had been received from HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust for the Council's offer of funding from the Woolley Trust.

Another letter had been received from Sidmouth Folkweek for the Council's support of the Children's Events during Folk Week.

**RESOLVED:** That these be noted.

**08:08/26      INVITATION TO TOWN BAND PROMS CONCERT**

Members were reminded that Sidmouth Town Band had invited them to attend the Last Night of the Proms Concert in Connaught Gardens on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**RESOLVED:** That ten Members would be attending the Proms Concert, some of whom would be taking guests.

**08:08/27      COUNCILLOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SCHEME**

Attached to the agenda was information in respect of the DAPC initiative to celebrate Democracy Week in October.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted.

**08:08/28      DOCUMENTS AND/OR PERIODICALS**

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

- East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Plan – Summary
- Devon Adult & Community Learning East Devon – Autumn 2008 Programme

- East Devon CVS – Newsletter June 2008
- Devon Countryside Access Forum – Annual Report 2007/08
- DAPC – Newsletter Jul/Aug 2008
- Devon Youth Service East Devon Annual Report 2007
- Devon County Council – Annual Report 2007/08
- Sid Vale Association – Newsletter July 2008
- East Devon District Council – Choice Based Lettings
- Devon Playing Fields Association – Newsletter Summer 2008

**RESOLVED:** That these be noted.

**08:08/29      QUESTIONS TO COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Hollick to County Councillor Giles:

Q. What is the cost per mile of surface dressing roads?

A. Based on the A396 Cove scheme total £130,274 for 29770 m2 treated - £4.37 per m2. Cost per mile £42,214.

Q. What is the life of surface dressing?

A. Design life 5 years.

Q. What is the cost per mile of complete resurfacing work?

A. Based on B3177 Alington scheme total £117,34 for 12650 m2 treated - £9.27 per m2. Cost per mile £93,702.

Q. What is the life of this?

A. Design life is 20 years.

Q. When is Sidbury Hill (A375) going to be resurfaced?

A. Site length 3 kms (2 miles) – Phase 1 in 2010/11 (£140,000) and Phase 2 in 2011/12 (£140,000)

This is not a firm commitment but it has been requested for the site to be re-evaluated to establish a definite place in the priority list.

As you will appreciate there are many factors which will affect the cost of such schemes but hopefully this puts some perspective on the relative costs of the two treatments. Resurfacing gives a longer life but for the same budget only half the length can be treated and the remainder continues to deteriorate with the associated problems of funding intermediate repairs.

## **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.**

**08:08/30      STORAGE FACILITY ENCLOSURE/WOOLCOMBE HOUSE**

Quotations had been received from local companies to enclose the barn area next to the Band Headquarters at Woolcombe House for use as a storage facility.

**RESOLVED:** That the quote from Skinner Construction Ltd. be accepted in the sum of £3666.40 plus VAT.

**08:08/31      STAIRCASE TO BAND HEADQUARTERS**

Quotations had been received from local companies to install the replacement wooden staircase leading to the Band Headquarters.

**RESOLVED:** That the quote from Skinner Construction Ltd. be accepted in the sum of £1390 plus VAT and re-fit of wooden guttering for the sum of £289.43 plus VAT totalling £1679.43. The Town Clerk to request a discount for the placement of both orders with the same supplier.

08:08/32      **WOOLCOMBE HOUSE ALTERATIONS – ROK CONTRACT**

The Chairman gave a verbal report regarding the current position of the Rok contract.

**RESOLVED:** That this be noted.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL