

The Chairman reported that there had been a cliff fall which had affected the boundary of Alma Field and requested agreement for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Town Clerk to have delegated powers to arrange installation of temporary fencing. This was noted and agreed.

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

09:02/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:

09:02/10	Councillor G.K. Liverton	– Personal – Member Manor Pavilion Advisory Cttee
09:02/11	Councillor Wale	– Personal – Herald petition organiser
09:02/12	Councillor Hughes	– Personal – Member Sidmouth Carnival Cttee
09:02/14	Councillor G.K. Liverton	– Personal – District Council Portfolio Holder
09:02/18	Councillor Hollick	– Member Sidbury Village Hall Cttee

09:02/06 MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- The Chairman reported that he had attended the Local Action Group meeting on the 27th January 2009.
- The Chairman, with his wife and Councillor Mrs. Jolly, had attended a Sidmouth Twinning night held at The Swan in the evening of 29th January 2009.
- Sidmouth in Bloom had reported that South West in Bloom would be holding its Spring Seminar on the 5th February 2009.
- An email had been received from the District Council regarding the Annual Duck Race to be held on the River Sid on Sunday 19th July 2009.
- The Town Clerk had arranged an Asset Transfer meeting with Derek Smith and Councillor Andrew Moulding of the District Council to be held on 4th February 2009; Councillors Cox, Sullivan and Turner would attend.
- Notes had been tabled to inform Members that the May Council meeting scheduled for Monday 18th May would be brought forward to Wednesday 13th May 2009.
- Councillor Liverton reported that Mrs. Lock, wife of the former Councillor Frank Lock, had died on Friday 30th January 2009.

09:02/07 POLICE REPORT

PC Steve Lemon presented the December Police Report (as attached).

09:02/08 COMMITTEE/WORKING PARTY REPORTS

09:02/08.1 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 7th and 21st January 2009.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Reports be noted and agreed.

09:02/08.2 Tourism & Publicity Committee Report

The Chairman of the Tourism & Publicity Committee, Councillor S. Pollentine, presented the report of the Tourism & Publicity Committee meeting held on Monday 19th January 2009.

RESOLVED: That the Tourism & Publicity Report be noted and agreed.

09:02/09 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

09:02/09.1 Finance Report

Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, Councillor Turner, presented the Finance Report for December 2008 and Interim Finance Report for January 2009.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Reports be noted and agreed.

09:02/10 EAST DEVON LEISURE

Mr. John Micklethwait, current Chairman of Leisure East Devon, gave a presentation to the Council and answered Members questions.

RESOLVED: (i) That Mr. Micklethwait be thanked for giving such an informative presentation.

(ii) Information regarding Leisure East Devon's facilities be placed on the Town Council's website.

09:02/11 CLOSURE OF SIDMOUTH HERALD OFFICE

Following Mr. Freddy Wedderburn's presentation to the Council at the January meeting it was agreed that the matter should be discussed at the February meeting of the Council. The Town Clerk reported that at the January meeting of the Tourism & Publicity it had been agreed that Di Bowerman could use the spare table in the Sidmouth Information Centre on Mondays and Fridays, as an interim measure. The Town Clerk read a letter received from the Herald Editor giving assurance that the privacy of the Information Centre staff and its visiting public would not be compromised by the presence of the Sidmouth Herald reporter.

RESOLVED: That this be discussed further in Part B.

09:02/12 STREET COLLECTIONS

Attached to the agenda was the current list of applications received to hold Street Collections in Sidmouth during 2009.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

09:02/13 EVENTS ON COUNCIL LAND

The following requests had been received:

- Sid Vale Athletic meeting and fete on Monday 25th May 2009 (*Clerk's Note: It is assumed that this will again be held on Sidford Recreation Ground.*)
- Lions Club of Sidmouth – Annual Duck Race on the River Sid on the afternoon of Sunday 19th July 2009. To take place between the footbridge at the bottom of Sid Park Road and the weir above Waterloo Bridge, Salcombe Road.

RESOLVED: That these be noted and agreed.

09:02/14 LIGHTING IN CONNAUGHT AND BLACKMORE GARDENS

An email had been received from Mark Pollard reporting that as part of energy saving measures being taken around the district by EDDC, they planned to reduce the supplementary lighting in some of the parks for a trial period of three months.

In Connaught Gardens the lights would continue to go off at 19.00 hrs in all areas except around the café and toilets (which will go out at 21.00hrs). In Blackmore Gardens central section the timer would be reset to switch off at 19.30hrs. The District Council were investigating a similar reduction around Knowle Gardens but this would need to be arranged with a manual override to take account of later evening meetings and events. A start date was not yet known.

RESOLVED: That the District Council be asked whether a Risk Assessment had been carried out and Health & Safety issues had been taken into consideration prior

to this initiative being put into place. The Manor Road car park was also considered to be a good place to make energy savings with regard to lighting.

09:02/15 PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Devon County Council had notified an order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce 30 mins limited waiting 8am-8pm no return in 1hr with exemption for resident permit holders on Fortfield Terrace on the south east side from 13 metres south west of Station Road for 81 metres south westerly (a plan had been attached to the agenda).

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

09:02/16 SIDMOUTH TOWN CENTRE WALKABOUT

Each year the Chairman of the Council, together with representatives from the District Council and Streetscene walk around the town to identify issues of concern. Members were asked whether they wished others to be included.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Councillors Mrs. Newth and Pollentine would take part in the walkabout.

09:02/17 PARISHSCAPES PROJECT

East Devon AONB's Parishscapes Officer had asked if she might attend a future meeting of the Town Council to offer a presentation on this project.

RESOLVED: That this be noted and agreed.

09:02/18 SIDBURY VILLAGE ASSEMBLY

The Chairman of the Council had for some time considered that a meeting should be held in Sidbury Village Hall for the Town Council to hold the equivalent of the Sidmouth Town Assembly, whereby residents of the village could meet with members of the Council and receive presentations as to the work of the Council. Members were asked for their comments and suggestions.

RESOLVED: That in future years the Town Assembly would be rotated around Sidmouth, Sidbury, Sidford and Woolbrook. As this year's had already been advertised this would be held in the Art's Centre as usual.

09:02/19 STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

Every two years the Standards Board for England assessed the level of satisfaction of local government with its performance. Sidmouth Town Council was invited to participate in the latest survey concerning the advice and guidance it provided. Two questionnaires had been received, one to be completed by the Town Clerk, the second to be completed by an individual councillor selected at random. The instructions given were that starting with the letter **S**, working through the alphabet onwards, the Member whose surname comes closest to this letter would be selected. Both questionnaires should be returned by Monday 16th February 2009.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Turner would complete the questionnaire.

09:02/20 DOCUMENTS AND/OR PERIODICALS

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

- Countryside Service – Events Programme 2009

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

09:02/21 QUESTIONS TO COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

There were no questions raised at this meeting.

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.**

09:02/11 CLOSURE OF SIDMOUTH HERALD OFFICE

Members discussed whether Sidmouth Town Council could support the Sidmouth Herald in order that its reporters retain a presence in Sidmouth; giving contact with the community.

RESOLVED: That until such time that Archant can find alternative accommodation; Sidmouth Town Council will, for the benefit and convenience of the public and organisations of Sidmouth, offer a Herald reporter the facility of a desk at the Sidmouth Information Centre, in order to meet members of the public. This will be for a maximum period of three months; Monday and Friday mornings only at a cost of £100 per month.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL