

MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF
SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON
MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2010
AT 6.30 PM
WOOLCOMBE HOUSE
SIDMOUTH, DEVON

Members Present:

Sidmouth North	Councillor Mrs. S. Carr Councillor S. Hughes Councillor P. Sullivan	(Vice-Chairman) (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	Councillor Mrs. A.E. Liverton Councillor G.K. Liverton	
Primley	Councillor Dr. D.S. Fung	
Sidford	Councillor S.J. Brokenshire Councillor I.J. McKenzie-Edwards	
Sidbury	Councillor J.W. Hollick	
Salcombe Regis	Councillor D. Barratt Councillor A.W.J. Reed	

10:11/1 **PRAYERS**

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Brian Hadfield.

10:11/2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. C.E. Drew, J. Turner and C.H. Wale.

10:11/3 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 4th and 11th October 2010 were received and signed as a true and accurate record.

10:11/4 MATTERS OF URGENCY

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

10:11/5

Standing Orders were suspended for fifteen minutes during
PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Members of the Public were invited to put questions
(taking no more than 3 minutes) to the Council through the Chairman.
Councillors also had the opportunity to ask questions of the County and District
members during this time slot whilst giving priority to members of the public.

Mr. Richard Eley raised a question regarding the proposed installation of parking meters in Sidmouth and the lack of consultation regarding road closures. County Councillor Hughes replied.

Councillor Mrs. Liverton raised a question regarding brown tourist signs for the Norman Lockyer Observatory. County Councillor Hughes replied.

10:11/6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:

- 10:11/8 Cllr Barratt – Personal – Waitrose employee
- 10:11/10.4 Cllr Hughes – Personal – DCC Member
- 10:11/13 Cllr Gibbings – Personal – EDDC Licensing Committee Chairman
- 10:11/13 Cllr Mrs. Newth – Personal – EDDC Licensing Committee Member
- 10:11/14 Cllr Hughes – Personal – DCC Member
- 10:11/22 Cllr Hughes – Personal – DCC Member
- 10:11/22 Cllr Dr. Fung – Prejudicial – Resident of Fortfield Terrace
- 10:11/25 Cllr Pollentine – Prejudicial – Tenant of Bagwells

10:11/7 MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman's diary, as attached, was tabled for Members information.

10:11/8 POLICE REPORT

Sergeant Andy Turner presented the Police Report for October 2010 and introduced a new temporary member of his team – Mike Kay . The Chairman reported that PCSO Steve Blanchford Cox had requested that the donation of £25 be made to the Sidmouth Living with Cancer group.

10:11/9 COMMITTEE/WORKING PARTY REPORTS

10:11/9.1 Planning Committee Reports

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor McKenzie-Edwards, presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 6th and 20th October 2010.

RESOLVED: That the Planning Committee Reports be noted and agreed.

10:11/10 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

10:11/10.1 Finance Report

In the absence of the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance; the Town Clerk presented the Finance Report for September and the Interim Finance Report for October 2010.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Reports be noted and agreed.

10:11/10.2 DALC Larger Local Council

Councillor Pollentine gave a verbal report on a recent DALC Larger Local Council meeting.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/10.3 Coastal Pathfinder

Councillor Pollentine gave a verbal report on a recent Coastal Pathfinder meeting.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/10.4 Parish Paths Partnership

Councillor Dyson gave a verbal report on Footpath 169 which had been the subject of a site visit by the Chairman of the Public Rights of Way Committee when it had been decided that there would be no diversion made to the footpath.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/11 SIDMOUTH TOWN BAND

It was resolved at the October meeting that Chris Holland from the Sidmouth Town Band be invited to give a presentation to the Council on the Band's successes throughout the summer and the recent success in Harrogate.

RESOLVED: That Chris Holland's appreciation of the generosity of Sidmouth Town Council be noted and he was thanked for attending this meeting and the Town Band again congratulated on their recent successes.

10:11/12 SIDMOUTH TYTHE MAPS

Phillipe Planel attended the meeting to present the Town Council with copies of local Tythe Maps. He presented four mounted maps; Sidmouth, Sidbury, Sidford and Salcombe Regis

RESOLVED: That Mr. Planel be thanked for attending this meeting and for the gift of the local Tythe Maps. It was agreed that these should be presented to the respective villages.

**10:11/13 EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL
REVIEW OF LICENCING POLICY**

The Licensing Act 2003 had been in force for almost six years and requires the District Council to review its statement of licensing policy every three years. The three year period for the current policy comes to an end on the 7th January 2011 and the Licensing Authority must determine a new Statement of Licensing Policy before this date.

At the October meeting the Town Clerk was asked to make enquiries with other Clerks through the SLCC email group how the Act had been interpreted in their areas. The Clerk was also asked to speak with other Town Councils in the District as to whether they would support Sidmouth Town Council in asking the District Council to review their interpretation of the Act.

A copy of the Clerk's report was attached to the agenda for Member's information.

RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to East Devon District Council to ask that they reconsider the terms of the Act and interpret it in a similar

manner to other areas such as Purbeck District Council who had confirmed that they had recently changed their policy under the new legislation and now considered Town Councils to be 'Responsible Authorities' who were consulted and able to make known their observations.

10:11/14 NEW RECYCLING CENTRE FOR SIDMOUTH

A new recycling centre would be needed for Sidmouth as the planning permission for the existing site at Woods Farm will expire in 2012 and was unlikely to be renewed. The existing site was too small, gets very congested and was inadequate for modern demands. As such, Devon County Council was looking to relocate the site and provide a new Recycling Centre fit for modern demands.

Three sites had been identified as having potential to replace Woods Farm facility. These were (a) The Bowd (b) Corehill Lane and (c) Two Bridges Road, Sidford.

Most members had attended the presentation at Knowle on this subject and attached was a copy of the plan with the three sites shown in yellow. Further information could be found on the DCC website:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/environmentplanning/recycling/recycling_centres.htm

The Town Council's response was requested by the 4th November 2010.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council were totally against Option (c) at Two Bridges Road, Sidford. Having considered both Options (a) and (b), it was decided that Site (a) at The Bowd was the favoured position.

10:11/15 SVA/TOWN COUNCIL WALKING LEAFLET

An email had been received from Alan Darrant, Hon. Secretary of the Sid Vale Association asking for the Town Council's approval to offer the two walking packs for the price of one (£2.50 instead of £5.00) to new life members joining the SVA between January and March 2011.

It was understood that after four years, there were 8024 of the original 10,000 packs in stock. Mr Darrant wrote *"by publicising the SVA membership offer we may sell a few packs but more importantly increase our membership a little and make the existence of the packs more widely known and thereby help to boost sales a little. The publications are, I think, excellent and deserve to sell."*

RESOLVED: That this be noted and agreed.

10:11/16 2011 CENSUS

On the 27th March 2011 all residential households in the United Kingdom would be taking part in a census. The census provided an excellent source of information about the population and enabled central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to plan housing, education, health and transport services for years to come. The census statistics feed into the allocation of funding for local authorities and would play a major part in the ability to provide local services, so it was crucial the population estimate was as accurate as possible. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) was responsible for running the census in England & Wales and was working closely with ONS to ensure that the 2011 census in our area was a success.

There were a number of things the Town Council were asked to do to help, including (but was not limited to):

- Making them aware of any special help or support that may be required in our community (e.g. language translation, assistance with the completion of census questionnaires, etc)
- Publishing pre-prepared publicity materials in newsletters, on websites or through email groups
- Displaying posters and other publicity materials on parish notice boards or in village halls etc.
- Raising awareness of the importance of the census at meetings and through discussions
- Making people aware of census jobs and how they can apply for them - see www.censusjobs.co.uk

Additional information about the 2011 Census could also be found at: www.census.gov.uk

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/17 **FOOTPATH NO. 108 SIDMOUTH**
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER

An Order had been made by Devon County Council regarding the public right of way over the land at Knowle Park, Harcombe. The attached map showed the existing path as a bold continuous line and the new path by a bold broken line.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/18 **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP**

Members were invited to put forward items for the next Traffic Management Group meeting.

RESOLVED: That the following items be referred to the Traffic Management Group:

- Councillor Liverton – One-way system in High Street from All Saint’s Road to Blackmore Drive – severe problems during summer months.
- Councillor Mrs. Jolly – a ‘No Heavy Vehicles’ sign was needed at the town end of Fortescue Road.
- Councillor Mrs. Newth – parking problems in Alexandria Road.
- Councillor Dyson – Sid Road is dangerous for walkers where there is no pavement.

10:11/19 **ROAD CLOSURES**

The following Road Closure Orders had been received:-

Manstone Lane	Monday 1 st to Friday 5 th November 2010 Western Power Distribution
Vicarage Road	6 th December 2010 to 28 th January 2011 Western Gas Alliance
Greenway Lane	7 th December 2010 to 9 th December 2010 Openreach (63 metres of duct laying)
Road at Sandcombe Farm, Sidbury	10 th to 14 th January 2011 South West Water
Woolbrook Road	12 th to 14 th January 2011 South West Highways

RESOLVED: That (i) Councillor Hughes would arrange for ‘Sidmouth open for business’ signs to be placed at the entrances to Sidmouth during the Vicarage Road closures.

(ii) A complaint be made to the County Council regarding the slow progress of the work currently being carried out in Vicarage Road.

(iii) An email be sent to Western Gas Alliance requesting that the next road closure be delayed until the new year so that it did not adversely affect the Sidmouth businesses during the Christmas holiday period.

20:11/20 DEVON’S BIG MINERAL DEBATE

Enclosed with the agenda was a leaflet from Devon County Council regarding mineral extraction in Devon including a questionnaire response sheet.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/21 EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY

A meeting of the Emergency Working Party was held on Monday 18th October (see report attached) At the meeting it was recognised that to undertake an Emergency Plan for the whole of Sidmouth would probably be too extensive an area to cover in the first instance. It was proposed that a volunteer Councillor should be found for each Ward to act as co-ordinator to bring together volunteers from organisations such as SVA, etc. to prepare a Ward Plan, which would then feed into a document to cover the whole area.

RESOLVED: That Ward Members would identify potential risks within their wards and report these to the Town Clerk in preparation for the next Emergency Working Party meeting.

10:11/22 DCC – PARKING CHARGES

Information was made available to Members regarding changes to on street parking in Sidmouth.

RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to the County Council stating the Town Council’s strongest objection to the proposals for on street parking in Sidmouth. The letter would contain the following :-

1. The six bullet points in your letter are contradictory and nonsensical.
2. This proposed scheme will be the ‘Death Nails’ to our town.
3. Sidmouth is a cul-de-sac and any parking problems deterring visitors from leaving the A3052 and entering Sidmouth must be avoided.
4. Tourism is Sidmouth’s primary industry and the commercial viability must be protected.
5. The Town Centre Conservation Area cannot accommodate this scheme either practically or aesthetically.
6. It is hoped that Devon County Council take notice of the town’s sincere objections to this proposed scheme.
7. This proposal does not take Sidmouth’s special circumstances into consideration – a ‘one size fits all’ approach is not acceptable.
8. This is the wrong time to implement this type of on street parking when businesses are struggling to survive.

The Town Council felt very strongly that its views should be taken into consideration and hoped that this was not just a ‘token’ consultation. Sidmouth had, for some

considerable time, been promised a Traffic Management Plan and the Council wondered why it was receiving this proposal prior to the development of a comprehensive Plan?

Finally, the Council felt so strongly that this scheme should be rejected that they asked that a representative of Devon County Council attend a meeting and listen to the Town's views on this very serious matter.

10:11/23 CHRISTMAS LATE NIGHT OPENING

A letter had been received from the Secretary of Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce extending an invitation to members of the Town Council to attend their late night opening event throughout the town on Friday 3rd December from 6-8pm.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

10:11/24 DOCUMENTS AND PERIODICALS

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

- The Tree Council – Tree News – Autumn/Winter
- The Royal Horticultural Society – Growing Communities – Autumn
- Community Council of Devon – Village Green – September
- National Housing Federation – Affordable housing keeps village alive
- Devon County Council – Emergency Management
- South Western Ambulance Service – Twentyfourseven
- Senior Council for Devon – Everyone's Tomorrow – October
- Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voice – Summer

RESOLVED: That these be noted.

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.**

10:11/25 ESPLANADE SHELTERS

The Chairman read a letter received from the Council's Architect – Mr Roger Norton.

RESOLVED: That half of the outstanding amount be offered as a good-will gesture.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL