

MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF
SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON
MONDAY 7TH MARCH 2011
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 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 Councillor C.H. Wale	
Primley		
Sidford	Councillor I.J. McKenzie-Edwards	
Sidbury	Councillor Mrs. C.E. Drew	
Salcombe Regis	Councillor D. Barratt Councillor A.W.J. Reed	

11:03/1 **PRAYERS**

Prayers were taken by the Reverend Angie Gammon.

11:03/2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.J. Brokenshire, Dr. D.S. Fung, C.F.A. Gibbings, J.W. Hollick and J. Turner.

11:03/3 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Town Council meetings held on Monday 7th February 2011 were signed as a true and accurate record.

11:03/4 **MATTERS OF URGENCY**

The Chairman requested that Item 11 be brought forward on the agenda as Mr. Dibble had another meeting to attend.

11:03/11 **GROUND TRUSTEES OF SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS,
CROQUET AND HOCKEY CLUB**

A letter had been received from the Secretary, A.H.J. Holland, reporting that in 1935 the Sidmouth Cricket Ground was purchased and a Trust Deed was set up with four Trustees with one being a nominee of the Sidmouth UDC (now Sidmouth Town Council). In 1975 the Town Council agreed that, following the death of Brigadier Crick, Mr B.E. Fitzgerald should be the representative as a Ground Trustee.

The Club was now in the position, following the death of Mr Brian Fitzgerald that the Town Council could nominate another trustee. The Secretary's letter asked if the Town Council would agree that Mr Michael Dibble be its nominee to serve as a Ground Trustee in accordance with the Trust Deed. Mr Dibble's portfolio was attached to the agenda and he was present at the meeting to introduce himself.

RESOLVED: That it be agreed that Mr. Dibble be nominated as a Ground Trustee for the Sidmouth Cricket Ground. Mr. Dibble agreed to make annual reports to the Town Council.

11:03/5

Standing Orders were suspended for
PUBLIC OPEN QUESTION TIME

Mr. Ian Skinner (as Chairman of Sidmouth Locality Health & Care Team) asked whether the Town Council intended to enquire where and how would local assessments of people suffering from Dementia/Alzheimer's and secure Day Care facilities to provide respite care for their Carers be provided. Also what is going to happen to Stowford Lodge.

Mrs. Joan Bougourd (Hon. Sec. of the Sid Vale Branch of Carers UK) asked the Town Council to press for the continued use of Stowford Lodge for the purpose for which it was originally built and was of considerable benefit to both the patients who were treated there and to their carers.

The Chairman reported that no notification or consultation regarding any closure or change of use had been received by the Town Council. Councillor Mrs. Drew reported that she would raise this issue at the next meeting of the Devon County Health and Adult Services committee.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council would write to Mr. Tulley, Dr. Virginia Pearson and Hugo Swire MP asking what was happening to Stowford Lodge and why there had been no consultation with the Town Council. It was essential that sufferers and carers have suitable provision in Sidmouth to the high standards which have been offered at Stowford Lodge.

Mr. Stewart Williams asked whether the Town Council had considered the report presented by himself and when will a response be provided? Also did the Town Council still intend to control the habitat at Fire Beacon Hill Nature Reserve through erection of fencing and grazing of cattle in spite of the potentially adverse effects reported and increased public opposition to the proposal?

The Chairman replied that the report had been received by the Town Clerk and Chairman and had been sent on to the RSPB for their comments. The Chairman read Minute number 11:01/11 from the January 2011 meeting and reported that the Town Council is advised by the RSPB and has a High Level Stewardship agreement with Natural England and that it follows the recommendations from these two bodies who advise on the management of Fire Beacon Hill Nature Reserve.

Mr. Stewart Williams (on behalf of **Susie Ford**) asked whether the Town Council intended to uphold the 1993 byelaws relating to Fire Beacon Hill Nature Reserve and prohibit the erection of fencing and grazing of livestock on the site. If not, under what authority are the byelaws to be revoked?

The Chairman reported that the 1993 Bye Laws had been put in place by East Devon District Council and it was understood that the RSPB would be looking into this matter.

There being no further questions Standing Orders were reinstated.

11:03/6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received as follows:

- 11:03/5 Cllr Mrs. Newth – Member of the Sidmouth Locality Health & Care Team Committee
- 11:03/14 Cllr Mrs. Liverton – Chairman of Sidmouth Consolidated Charities
- 11:03/14 Cllr G.K. Liverton – Wife is Chairman of Sidmouth Consolidated Charities
- 11:03/14 Cllr Reed – Trustee of Sidmouth Consolidated Charities

11:03/7 MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

- The Chairman's diary, as attached, was tabled for Members information.
- The Chairman reported that the 1st Sid Vale Scout Group had invited the Town Council Members to attend a scouting event to be held on Saturday 7th May from 10am until 8pm at the Salcombe Regis field. The Chief Scout, Bear Grylls would also be attending, arriving by helicopter during the afternoon.
- The Chairman reported that confirmation had been received from Persimmon Homes that they would be willing to sponsor the flower bed at Stowford in the sum of £1,177.70.

11:03/8 POLICE REPORT

The Town Clerk reported that Sergeant Andy Turner was unable to attend this meeting.

11:03/9 COMMITTEE/WORKING PARTY REPORTS

11:03/9.1 Planning Committee Reports

The Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor McKenzie Edwards presented the reports of the Planning Committee meetings held on Wednesdays 2nd and 16th February 2011.

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

11:03/10 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

11:03/10.1 Finance Report

In the absence of the Member with Special Responsibility for Finance, the Town Clerk presented the Finance Report for January and the Interim Finance Report for February 2011.

RESOLVED: That the Finance Reports be noted and agreed.

11:03/10.2 Tourism Report

Councillor Pollentine, Chairman of the Tourism & Publicity Committee, gave a verbal report regarding the Guide Account finances.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Pollentine's report be noted and agreed that £6,000 be transferred from Sidmouth Town Council General Reserve into the Tourism Account.

11:03/10.3 Larger Local Councils

Councillor Pollentine gave a verbal report regarding the Larger Local Councils meeting.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Pollentine's report be noted.

11:03/10.4 Parish Paths Partnership

Councillor Dyson gave a verbal report regarding the proposal to create a new Public Right of Way in Sidbury as discussed at the January 2011 meeting under item 11:01/15.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dyson's report be noted.

11:03/10.4 Devon Maritime Forum

Councillor Dyson gave a verbal report regarding a workshop held by the Devon Maritime Forum to discuss issues at Pennington Point.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Dyson's report be noted.

Item 11:03/11 had been taken earlier in the meeting.

11:03/12 INTERPRETATION CENTRE – SIDMOUTH ESPLANADE

At a meeting of the Esplanade Shelter Working Party held on the 16th February, a presentation (produced by Martin Cooke) was given on the proposals for the Interpretation Centre on the seafront. It was proposed at that meeting that the presentation/proposals should be shown to the Town Council at this meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council were pleased with the progress, approved the design of the Interpretation Centre and accepted that there would be ongoing maintenance costs. A suitable person should be approached to officially open the centre in due course.

11:03/13 QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS CHALLENGE

Council's across the country had been asked whether they might be interested in participating in Fields in Trust's new project being led by Prince William to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge was a programme to mark both the Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics. The aim is to protect 2,012 outdoor recreational sites for communities all across the country by 2012. This network of fields would be a successor to the King George V Memorial Fields and any large or small council could participate by nominating a recreational site to be included in the programme. At the February meeting it was resolved that the Town Council investigate the designation of Long Park as a Queen Elizabeth II Field. (See Town Clerk's report attached) The Town Clerk reported that there may be possible funding available from other sources, such as the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People.

RESOLVED: That Long Park would not be dedicated as a Queen Elizabeth II field.

11:03/14 SIDMOUTH CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES

The Administrator of Sidmouth Consolidated Charities had written to the Council reporting the resignation of the Town Council nominee, Mrs Jane Sutherland Earl. A new nominee would be required.

RESOLVED: That this be deferred until after the May elections.

11:03/15 TOWN ENTRY SIGN ARTWORK

A request had been received from a member of the Masonic Lodge of Perseverance No. 164, Sidmouth to use the artwork from the Sidmouth town entry signs on a banner they were commissioning to celebrate the bicentenary in 2013. If successful the banner would be made for the Lodge to mark its long association with Sidmouth (meetings commenced in 1828). The Town Clerk reported that the original artist Mr Derek Brooks had no objection and the original artwork was lodged with the Council.

RESOLVED: That this be noted and agreed.

11:03/16 DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

On the 17th February the Town Clerk sent an email to all Members reporting the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service consultation process which would end on 20th April 2011.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

11:03/17 MAKING IT WORK LOCALLY CONFERENCE

On the 9th February the Town Clerk sent an email to all members asking whether they wished to attend the 'Making it Work Locally' conference at Exeter City Football Club on Tuesday 15th March 2011. Councillor Turner had responded in the affirmative, Councillors Pollentine, Jolly and Dyson were unable to attend. Other Members were asked to respond.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Mrs. Drew, Sullivan and Turner would attend on behalf of the Town Council.

11:03/18 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS – 5TH MAY 2011

Attached to the agenda was the timetable of proceedings leading up to the elections on Thursday 5th May 2011 for Members information. One of the most important days for Members to remember was that nominations must be received by the Returning Officer at East Devon District Council no later than noon on Monday 4th April, 2011. The Town Clerk reported that nomination packs would be available in the Town Council office from Tuesday 22nd March and also at EDDC offices, Knowle.

RESOLVED: That this be noted.

11:03/19 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP

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

RESOLVED: That Councillor Wale and the Chairman would follow up with Sidmouth PCSOs the problem of a van parking dangerously at Manstone. Councillor Hughes would report to the County Council the large pothole by the swimming pool as described by Councillor Mrs. Jolly.

11:03/20 PHOTOCOPIER CONTRACT

The Council's current photocopier contract was due to expire on 13th March 2011. Investigations had been made into either purchasing a replacement outright or entering into a new five year contract. Quotations had been received for a new 5 year contract in the sum of of £331.92 per quarter (Konica) and £519.46 per quarter (Cannon). The Council's current copier was Konica and there was no reason to fault the service received. If the Council wished to purchase a machine the cost would be £2,118.73.

The Town Clerk reported that the current contract price would be dramatically reduced by either of these proposed new contracts. If a machine was purchased outright the saving over five years would be £457.47; but the service level would be less.

RESOLVED: That a five year contract with Konica be agreed in the sum of £331.92 per quarter.

11:03/21 ROAD CLOSURES

The following Road Closure Orders had been received:-

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| • Sid Road | 24 th to the 26 th May | South West Water |
| • Laskeys Lane | 21 st , 22 nd & 25 th March | Western Power |
| • Woolbrook Road | 7 th to the 8 th March | DCC Highways |
| • Arcot Park | 14 th to the 16 th March | Carillion Telent |

RESOLVED: That these be noted.

11:03/22 EVENTS ON COUNCIL LAND

East Devon District Council had sent notification of the following:-

Blackmore Gardens	2 nd May 2011	Living with Cancer May Day Fayre
Connaught Gardens	24 th June, 22 nd July & 19 th August	Honiton Town Band

RESOLVED: That these be noted and agreed.

11:03/23 DOCUMENTS AND PERIODICALS

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

- Journal of the International Tree Foundation
- Devon Association of Local Councils – Newsletter Mar/Apr 2011

RESOLVED: That these be noted.

TRUSTEE ITEMS

THE HAM

Sidmouth Sailing Club had requested use of The Ham for the following events:-

30 th April to 2 nd May	Scorpion Open
19 th June	Topper Open
11 th September	Laser Open & South West Grand Prix

RESOLVED: That these be noted and agreed.

SALCOMBE REGIS COUNTRY FAIR

A letter had been received on behalf of Salcombe Regis Country Fair requesting the use of the 'Scout Field' at Salcombe Regis for car parking on the day of the fair (2nd June 2011) They confirmed that they had insurance cover to the value of £5,000,000 for any claim to cover this event.

RESOLVED: That this be noted and agreed.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL