

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Town Council on Monday 9th
January 2023 at 7.00pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr J Bonetta
Cllr R Fowles
Cllr H Hurford
Cllr A Proszowska

St Paul's Ward

Cllr J Furneaux-Gotch
Cllr D Hulin
Cllr S Keene
Cllr C Kolek
Cllr S Sexton

In attendance

Heloise Marlow, Deputy Town Clerk
2 members of the public (via zoom)
2 members of the public
Cllr P Twiss (DCC/EDDC)

22/251 Apologies for absence

Cllr J Brown
Cllr K Cloke
Cllr R Coombs
Cllr T Howard
Cllr C Maunder
Cllr T McCollum
Cllr A Pearsall

22/252 Declarations of Interests

Cllr J Bonetta – Personal Interest (Items 22/262, 22/265 and 22/266)
Cllr D Hulin – Personal Interest (Item 22/265 and 22/266)
Cllr S Sexton – Personal Interest (Items 22/265 and 22/266). Cllr Sexton confirmed that she would also leave the meeting during the discussion of those items)
Cllr R Fowles – Personal Interest (Item 22/262)

22/253 Dispensations

None

22/254 Public Question Time for items on the agenda

There were no public questions

22/255 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Twiss provided the [attached report](#). He reminded Members that EDDC parking charges were still currently £2 for the day until the end of March
Cllr Kolek led members in offering their condolences for the death of former Cllr Paul Diviani.

Cllr J Bonetta provided the [attached report](#).

Cllr Keene queried how EDDC would patrol the new dog exclusion zone at Allhallows Playing Fields and enforce the order. Cllr Bonetta advised that this would be the remit of Street scene and that he would make further enquiries.

Cllr Hurford asked Cllr Bonetta to comment on the recent report that EDDC had been criticised by the Housing watchdog as being one of the social landlords with the worst complaints record in England. Cllr Bonetta agreed that the report was disturbing and that he had contacted the contracts manager and the portfolio holder to discuss this. He confirmed that the portfolio holder was Cllr Dan Ledger from the Independent East Devon Alliance. He was also discussing the issue with Cllr Paul Millar who has experience in the area and would report back to Members as soon as possible.

Cllr Proszowska asked whether EDDC checked building sites were safe for the public – eg in the High Street where some contractors obstruct pavements causing issues for those with prams or the disabled. Cllr Bonetta advised that any issues should be reported to Devon County Council.

22/256 Reports from Honiton Town Council Members with Special Responsibilities and/or on Outside Bodies

Cllr Sexton reported as follows:

- The warm spaces initiative was not as well attended as had been hoped.
- The next “cost of living” meeting was on Thursday 12th January where the warm spaces initiative would be reviewed. Reports are that the library was being used well and the funding provided was helping. The Family Church had reported low take up, as had the CUB. The Beehive events were also quiet – despite the attendance of an eco-adviser at one of the events.
- Operation Rudolph had been very successful with about 45 sit down diners and 60 meals delivered. Cllr Sexton confirmed that the event had previously been held at the Beehive and that there had been a charge for Mackarness Hall. The organisers were looking at using the Beehive again for 2023.

Cllr Fowles reported as follows:

- He had been unable to attend the recent TRIP meeting as this was for Directors only.
- He had attended the recent Citizen Advice meeting remotely but there was nothing to report.
- The Beehive Working Group were currently working on drafting the tender documents but had found no suitable template. This had therefore been passed to the Strategy Committee with the Town Clerk’s assistance.

Cllr Keene thanked Cllr McCollum for organising the town's Christmas Lights.

22/257 Reports and Recommendations from Working Groups and Meetings.
No reports were received.

22/258 Correspondence: 8th December 2022 – 4th January 2023

Members **NOTED** the correspondence received.

Cllr Keene advised that he had received reports of problems with anti- social behaviour by teenagers (graffiti and abuse of alcohol/drugs) in Honiton.

Cllr Sexton suggested that Cllr Keene write to the police directly as a Councillor. Cllr Keene confirmed that he would take photos of the debris left and the graffiti.

Cllr Bonetta congratulated PCSO Darren England on his 20 years' service to Honiton for which he recently received an award. All Members joined in with the congratulations.

22/259 Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 12th December 2022
Members RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting on the 12th December 2022.

Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr Kolek.

For:7, Against 0, Abstentions 2.

22/260 Minutes of Previous Meetings

Members **NOTED** the item.

22/261 Membership of Committees and Working Groups

Cllr Hurford advised that she wished to resign from the following:

- Town Management Committee
- Strategy Committee
- Street Art Working Group
- Beehive Working Group

Cllr Hurford advised that she wished to join the Planning Committee

The Deputy Clerk advised that Cllr McCollum wished to join the Finance and Policy Committee

Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the above changes of membership.

Proposed by Cllr Keene and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

22/262 East Devon District Council Draft Local Plan 2020-2040

Cllr Sexton advised that in addition to the draft comments proposed by the Planning Committee, Cllrs Bonetta and Fowles wished to bring forward additional comments.

Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the responses agreed by the Planning Committee with the exception of those relating to sites Honi 01, Honi:07, Honi 10, and Honi 13.

Proposed by Cllr Furneaux-Gotch and seconded by Cllr Fowles.

Cllrs Bonetta and Fowles provided further details regarding their objections to the development of site Honi 01.

Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the responses agreed by the Planning Committee relating to site Honi 01 and include these further comments in the response to be provided to EDDC's consultation on the draft Local Plan 2020-2040.

Proposed by Cllr Proszowska and seconded by Cllr Bonetta.

Cllr Bonetta spoke in favour of the draft proposals for sites Honi 07 and Honi 13 as proposed by EDDC. Cllr Bonetta proposed that the sites be approved for development but with no seconder the motion failed.

Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the responses agreed by the Planning Committee relating to sites Honi 07 and Honi13.

Proposed by Cllr Furneaux-Gotch and seconded by Cllr Fowles.

Cllr Bonetta withdrew his previously circulated written comments for site Honi 10.

Members RESOLVED to approve the response agreed by the Planning Committee relating to Honi 10.

**Proposed by Cllr Proszowska and seconded by Cllr Furneaux-Gotch.
For: 8, Against 1, Abstentions 0.**

22/263 Accounts

Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the schedule of December 2022 payments

Proposed by Cllr Furneaux-Gotch and seconded by Cllr Keene.

22/264 Exempt Business

Members RESOLVED unanimously to take the following items into exempt business.

Proposed by Cllr Furneaux-Gotch and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

Cllr Sexton left the meeting at 07.55pm and Cllr Hurford took over as Chair of the meeting

22/265 Honiton Community Complex (HCC): Business Plan

Members discussed the councillor comments within Appendix B of the confidential report and whether these would need to be reworded prior to being sent to HCC.

- a) **Members RESOLVED unanimously to make comments on the HCC Business Plan.**
Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Fowles.
- b) **Members RESOLVED to delegate the collation of councillor comments to the Beehive Working Group to be agreed by Full Council at the February Full Council meeting.**
Proposed by Cllr Kolek and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.
For 7, Against 1, Abstentions 0.
- c) Members **NOTED** the draft financial safety net mechanism proposed by HCC.

22/266 Beehive Management, Honiton Community Complex
Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the principle of underwriting Honiton Community Complex's variable net costs of operating the Beehive at a current average estimate of £3.5k pm until 31st March 2023.
Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

Cllr Sexton returned to the meeting at 8.25pm

22/267 To close the meeting
The meeting closed at 8.25pm.