

Ward Councillors Report – Feb 2018

Four Elms Hill

Claire Wright has asked DCC to prepare a report on surveys and works the hill to be brought back to the HATOC meeting in July 2018. She had originally asked for it to be done by April 2018 but DCC say that does not give them enough time to complete the report.

Consultation on Car Parking

There is to be a consultation on car parking charges and terms in East Devon – see extract from the minutes of the Cabinet meeting of 7th Feb 2018:

Consultation on a review of car parking charges The report requested members to consider changes to car park tariffs and parking permits, in advance of a public consultation exercise, to enable the car parks team to better manage supply and demand, and to align charges across the district more closely. The standard car parking tariff had remained static for eight years, and no change to this charge was being proposed. Discussions included the following:

increased charges from £40 to £134 were too high. Charges must cover the cost of running the car parks only ☒

increase costs by just a small amount for existing residents permits and as residents leave and move on new occupants could pay the new higher rates

DCC should be in communication with the Council to find a way forward and link with improved on street parking provision ☒ increased charges would deter shoppers

Sidmouth Town Council may wish to look into the Temple Street proposal to increase reserved parking as the public use these spaces when attending council meetings ☒ Concern about the cost and take up of the new business users proposal

The Pavilion car park Exmouth should be included in the consultation exercise.

RESOLVED: that consultation takes place with customers, residents and representatives of local businesses on the following:

- 1. revised car park tariff for Underhill car park, Lympstone,*
- 2. revised car park tariff for Canaan Way car park, Ottery St Mary,*
- 3. revised car park tariff for Church Street car park, Sidford,*
- 4. revised car park tariff for Coombe Lane car park, Axminster,*
- 5. revised car park tariff for Dolphin Street car park, Colyton,*
- 6. discontinuing residents' parking permits for Dolphin Street car park, Colyton,*
- 7. discontinuing residents' parking permits for Underhill car park, Lympstone,*
- 8. discontinuing residents' parking permits for Camperdown Terrace car park, Exmouth,*
- 9. replacing town/area permits with a separate permit for each town or village,*
- 10. replacing economy and all East Devon permits with resident-all car parks and business permits,*
- 11. converting eight short stay parking bays,*
- 12. that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive in consultation with relevant Portfolio Holders to look into whether the Pavilion car park Exmouth should be included in the consultation.*

REASON: Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 sets out the duties of all local authorities in respect of a range of traffic related functions including the provision of offstreet parking. The Council has always been careful to balance the needs of its residents alongside the demand for parking from visitors and to consider the impact of any changes on our local businesses.

These proposals would not interfere with the security of (or access to) any other premises and it was believed that they would not be prejudicial to the amenity of the relevant localities. In all other material respects they were consistent with other relevant factors including the desire to support town centre economies.

Scrutiny Committee

Car Parking

Have asked to consider car parking in general terms – and why decisions are made and then consulted upon after the event. There is quite a lot of cross party agreement that car parking in general is not properly consulted upon. An example is Manor Pavilion Car Park in Sidmouth and whether revenue from the car park really will be put back into the Manor Pavilion.

Election May 2015

Scrutiny have also been asking for a report from Chief Executive Mark Williams on the running of the election in May 2015 and election expenses. So far this information has not been provided despite being asked for on a regular basis - nearly three years after the event. The CE has been due to report back to Scrutiny on this many times over the past three years. He was due to report to Scrutiny last November, this was delayed until the February meeting, this was delayed due to a forthcoming by-election and he will supposedly attend the April meeting to present a report and answer questions. But who knows – there might be another reason not to do so by then.

Developer requests to reduce the number of affordable houses on site Land West of Hayne Lane, Honiton

EDDC has received a request from Baker Estates to amend the amount of affordable housing that they provide on their development of 300 houses on land to the west of Hayne Lane in Honiton.

Planning officers are recommending that the request be agreed.

As present Baker Estates is required to provide 40% of the dwellings (120 units) as affordable housing in accordance with the original planning permission granted on the site in 2015.

However, the developer is now asking the LPA to agree to reduce the affordable housing provision to 30% or 90 dwellings, whichever is the greater. This change would also affect the amount of financial contribution being secured for off-site open space, which would be reduced from £488,000 to £210,000. In exchange Baker Estates is offering an improved mix of houses on the site and £500,000 financial contribution towards off-site provision of affordable housing.

<http://eastdevon.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/committees-and-meetings/development-management-committee/development-management-committee-agendas/>

It is not uncommon for developers to request to reduce the number of affordable homes it previously agreed to build on the grounds of 'viability' once they have secured planning permission

and as the Conservative government supports developers getting larger profits from development even at the expense of 'affordable housing' I imagine this will be approved.

EDDC Full Council

Two Notices of Motion for this meeting:

Motion – Reducing the use of single-use plastics by 2020

"That this Council resolves to lead by example to reduce the use of single-use plastic with a goal of zero single-use plastics by 2020. Washable options will be favoured and any unavoidable disposable goods purchased henceforth will be of the compostable variety. In addition Members commit to making alternative choices to reduce their own use of disposable plastic items and packaging."

Proposed by Councillor Cathy Gardner

Seconded by Councillor Eleanor Rylance

Supported by Councillor Val Ranger, Councillor Peter Faithfull, Councillor Eileen Wragg, Councillor Marianne Rixson, Councillor Geoff Jung, Councillor Susie Bond, Councillor Dawn Manley, Councillor Peter Burrows, Councillor John Dyson, Councillor David Barratt, Councillor Matthew Booth, Councillor Megan Armstrong.

Motion – Queen's Drive Regeneration Project

'Mindful of the Council's decision to progress the Visioning Exercise for Queen's Drive, and with a view to securing greater community support for the results of the Exercise, the Council confirms that a detailed and fully costed Business Plan for the full Exmouth Regeneration project be prepared following the conclusion of the Exercise, but prior to any decisions on what action the Council proposes to take in response to the Exercise, and that this Business Plan be the subject of independent and publicly available audit'.

Proposed by Councillor Megan Armstrong

Seconded by Councillor Geoffrey Jung

Supported by Councillor Marianne Rixson, Councillor Peter Faithfull, Councillor Eleanor Rylance, Councillor Matthew Booth, Councillor Dawn Manley, Councillor Ben Ingham, Councillor Cathy Gardner.

You can be sure that the Tory councillors will come up with an amendment to the wording of both these Motions just to make sure they are not left out... they will then vote for the amendment.

Council Tax Rise

On Wednesday 28th March EDDC Full Council will be voting on a Council Tax rise of 3.79%.

The Conservative Group voted for a new Leader and Deputy to be in post from May 2019:

Leader - Cllr Ian Thomas

Deputy – Cllr Phil Skinner

Val Ranger

Ward Cllr Newton Poppleford and Harpford

Feb 2018