

**EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at**  
**Knowle, Sidmouth, on Wednesday, 13 October 2010**

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Graham Liverton	(Chairman)
Tony Reed	(Vice Chairman)
Vivienne Ash	May Hardy
David Atkins	Stuart Hughes
Ray Bloxham	Douglas Hull
Roger Boote	John Humphreys
Peter Bowden	Stephanie Jones
Graham Brown	David Key
Derek Button	Ann Liverton
Bob Buxton	Stuart Luxton
Geoff Chamberlain	Andrew Moulding
Iain Chubb	Frances Newth
Trevor Cope	Barry Nicholson
David Cox	Marion Olive
Andrew Dinnis	Helen Parr
Paul Diviani	Bob Peachey
Christine Drew	Ken Potter
Vivien Duval Steer	Tony Reed
Jill Elson	Philip Skinner
Malcolm Florey	Pauline Stott
Ray Franklin	Ian Thomas
Chris Gibbings	Graham Troman
Roger Giles	Tim Wood
Graham Godbeer	Eileen Wragg
Mike Green	Steve Wragg
Steve Hall	

**Also Present**

Honorary Alderman Margaret Rogers

**Officers:**

Mark Williams, Chief Executive  
Denise Lyon, Deputy Chief Executive  
Karime Hassan, Corporate Director  
Diccon Pearse, Corporate Director  
Rachel Pocock, Head of Legal, Licensing and Democratic Services  
Diana Vernon, Democratic Services Manager

**Apologies**

**Councillors:**

Sara Randall Johnson (Leader)

Peter Burrows	John Jeffery
David Chapman	Jim Knight
Pat Graham	Darryl Nicholas
Peter Halse	Brenda Taylor
Ben Ingham	Mark Williamson

Honorary Alderman Dr Waterworth

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.25 pm.

**\*34 Public question time**

There were no questions from the public raised at this point of the meeting.

**\*35 Declarations of interest**

<b>Councillor/ Officer</b>	<b>Minute number</b>	<b>Type of interest</b>	<b>Nature of interest</b>
Cllr Vivienne Ash	45 – (Co-ord Cttee minute 14)	Prejudicial (left the Chamber during discussion)	Member of Honiton Town Council, Trustee of the Honiton Development Trust; Council's elected representative on the Honiton Community and Arts Centre Project Working Group.

**\*36 Minutes**

The minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting and Ordinary meeting of the Council held both held on 28 July 2010 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

At the July meeting of the Council Members had received a presentation from the Chairmen of SW Inshore Fisherman's Association and of East Devon's Fisherman's Association. They raised specific environmental issues in respect of the Crown Estate's proposal to lease an area of seabed of the coast of East Devon for the installation of an off-shore shellfish (mussels) farm.

Following the meeting, the Council, as consultee, submitted a response to the Crown Estate taking into account all implications.

The Council was advised in September that the Crown Estate had granted consent for the proposed mussel farm in defined areas of Lyme Bay, with the lease being granted for a pilot scale development with an Option Agreement for Lease for commercial scale development exercisable upon fulfilment of specified conditions.

**\*37 Obituary**

The Chairman advised Members that former EDDC Councillor Hilda Eastley had passed away in August. Mrs Eastley had represented Exmouth Halsdon Ward from 1995 until 1999 and served on a number of Committees, Sub Committees and Outside Bodies. These included Public Health, Environment and Planning, Tourism and Transportation, Amenities and Local Agenda 21.

Members were invited to stand as a mark of respect

**\*38 Partnering Contractor – up-date**

Members had previously been advised that one of the Council's partnering contractors had gone into administration. The Chairman up-dated the Council on the current situation and the cover now being provided in respect of repairs to Council properties and housing stock voids. He emphasised that the Council's tenants were receiving the same service as before despite the change in provider arrangements. This was credited to the co-operation of the Council's remaining partnering contractor and to the valued efforts of the Head of Housing and Social Inclusion and his team. The current situation would be re-assessed including practical, legal and contractual issues and the work re-tendered.

**\*39 Re-generation/Growth Point up-date**

The Deputy Leader invited the Portfolio Holder – Strategic Planning and Re-generation to up-date the Council on positive progress on Council development initiatives. Councillor Brown acknowledged and thanked Councillor Franklin, Karime Hassan (Corporate Director) and Fliss Morey (East of Exeter Project Director).

Councillor Franklin referred to a recent article in the Daily Telegraph's property pages in praise of the district; East Devon was becoming increasingly attractive as a place to live and work. Councillor Franklin emphasised the importance of affordable housing provision and the Council's investment in Seaton. He was able to advise that the new community partners had now signed an undertaking to progress Cranbrook, subject to final confirmation of Government funding; this would benefit the wider community and economy of the district. Initial related works would include key improvements to Junction 29 and the installation of the cycling/walking bridge. The Flybe Academy was nearing completion. Cranbrook was being recognised nationally as an example of excellence in respect of low cost housing and eco standards.

Councillor Franklin acknowledged the positive efforts of all those involved and particularly Councillor Stephanie Jones (Seaton Member Champion), Karime Hassan, Fliss Morey and their teams.

**\*40 Honorary Alderman Margaret Rogers**

The Chairman congratulated Margaret Rogers on being conferred with the title of Honorary Alderman at the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Council on 28 July 2010 in recognition of her eminent service to East Devon District Council and presented her with a badge, certificate and plaque. (Honorary Alderman Margaret Rogers had been unable to attend the meeting in July).

The Chairman advised that the decision had been unanimous; Members had spoken of her work, dedication and contribution to the district and Seaton in particular. The Council hoped that Honorary Alderman Rogers would recognise that this was a great honour for herself and as a way of recognising the valued contribution made by her husband, the late Noel Rogers.

In acknowledgement, Honorary Alderman Rogers thanked the Chairman and Council for their comments and had pleasure in accepting the honour on behalf of herself and her late husband, as they had worked together as a team. She referred to her husband's unique contribution, humour and his fair mindedness. She said that both she and her husband had spoken up for the vulnerable. She thanked Councillors and Officers for their kindness and particularly that shown by the Vice Chairman, Tony Reed, during her husband's final illness. She concluded by extending her best wishes to all in East Devon and the rest of the country in the hope that they would weather the financial and political storms ahead.

**\*41 Sidmouth Town Band**

The Chairman congratulated Sidmouth Town Band who had achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the finals of the 2010 Third Section National Brass Band Competition of Great Britain on 26 September 2010. He advised that this was the Band's best result since 1929. Sidmouth Band had represented the South West in the finals held in Harrogate and had been in competition with 17 other regional finalists. Councillor Tony Reed who was the Band's President and known by the Band as their good luck charm had given consistent support.

The Chairman presented an EDDC certificate to the Band's Musical Director, Adrian Harvey and Principal Trombone and Chairman, Christopher Holland. In thanking the Council for this recognition, Mr Harvey spoke of the hours of practice undertaken to achieve the necessary standard and of the Band's honour in representing East Devon nationally.

**\*42 Best Kept Village Awards**

The Chairman presented the awards for the Best Kept Village Competition. He spoke of the sincerity of his congratulations and acknowledged the community effort involved in these successes.

- (a) Baker Cup – awarded to East Budleigh with Bicton as the village in East Devon which scored the highest number of points in the Large Village category after Colyford (which was runner up in the Devon-wide Large Village Section);
- (b) EDDC Certificate to Kilmington as runner up to East Budleigh with Bicton within East Devon in the Large Village category;
- (c) Glanvill Cup – awarded to Offwell as the village scoring the highest number of points in East Devon in the Small Village category after Beer (which won the Devon-wide New Entry Section) and Branscombe (which won the Devon-wide Small Village Section)
- (d) EDDC Certificates to Dalwood and Talaton as runners up to Offwell within East Devon in the Small Village category;
- (e) EDDC Certificate to Colyford which was runner up in the Devon-wide Large Village Section.
- (f) EDDC Certificate to Branscombe which won the Devon-wide Small Village Section.
- (g) EDDC Certificate to Beer which won the Devon-wide New Entry Section.

**\*43 Long Service Awards**

The Chairman awarded Long Service Awards to the following East Devon District Council staff. He spoke of their individual careers and their valued contribution to the Council.

	Length of service	Section
<b>Michaela Pohl</b>	10 years	Economic Development
<b>Martin McGuire</b>	10 years	Street Scene
<b>Valerie Hysenaj</b>	25 years	Home Safeguard

**\*44 Questions**

Printed questions and answers from Councillor David Key, Chairman of the Local Development Framework (LDF) Panel had been circulated to Members at the meeting pursuant to Procedure Rule 9.2. In response to a supplementary question about the consultation process, Councillor Key confirmed that the process had now started and that this supplementary question would be clarified in a written response.

In response to a supplementary question about the LDF's classification of Budleigh Salterton, the Chairman of the Panel confirmed that this had raised no concerns from the local council and that this matter had been dealt with fully in the written answer circulated.

**\*45 Minutes of Executive Board and Committees**

**RESOLVED** (1) that the under-mentioned minutes be received and the recommendations approved

Executive Board	Minutes	46-66, 67-90
Development Management	Minutes	14-19,20-21, 22-26, 27-35
Audit and Governance	Minutes	13-22
Licensing and Enforcement	Minutes	5-11
Licensing and Enforcement Sub	Minutes	9-16, 17-18

(2) that the under-mentioned minutes be received.

The Executive Board (minutes 51 and 73) had noted or accepted the following Overview/Scrutiny Committees' recommendations with or without amendment.

O/S Co-ordinating Committee	Minutes	12-14, 15-23
O/S Economy Committee	Minutes	12-14, 15-23
O/S Service Delivery/ Performance	Minutes	11-18
O/S Communities	Minutes	7-14
Housing Review Board	Minutes	14-31

**Arising from consideration of the above minutes:-**a) Executive Board minutes – 6 October 2010

The minutes of the meeting held the previous week had been tabled. Despite the decisions having been reported in the Knowledge, Members would have preferred more time and opportunity to study the minutes in detail.

In respect of minute 80 (Statutory Changes – Leader and Executive Governance model), Members expressed concern that the existing structure (Leader and Cabinet model) did not give all Councillors the opportunity to develop area-specific expertise and that the difference in roles between the cabinet and other councillors was significant. Portfolio Holders' think tanks met only rarely. Members wished to explore alternative models and develop the advantages of the previous committee structure where it was felt that all Councillors were more involved in the business and decision-making of the Council. The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee reminded Members that his Committee would be scrutinising the governance and scrutiny options at its meeting in November.

The Chief Executive advised that the purpose of the decision at minute 80 was to give authority to carry out consultation on the governance options. He confirmed that this matter would be referred to the December Council when there would be an opportunity for full discussion. The consultation on the two governance models set out by Government was to comply with current legislation; this was liable to change under the new Coalition Government.

b) Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee – 19 August 2010

Councillor Roger Giles advised that this had been an excellent and well chaired meeting with the discussion on the Honiton Community Centre in particular being an example of effective scrutiny. He believed that this approach could only benefit the Council.

46 **Council representatives on Outside Bodies**

Members considered and nominated the following representatives:

**RESOLVED** (1) **East Devon Transport, Research and Information Project Working Party (TRIP)**

that Councillor Stephanie Jones be appointed to represent the Council on this Outside Body.

(2) **Community Council of Devon and Advisory Committee**

that Councillor Christine Drew be appointed to represent the Council on this Outside Body.

Chairman .....

Date .....