



- 21/086      **THE WATERMARK COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (copy previously circulated) were received. Cllr Dredge confirmed and Cllr Spencer seconded and the minutes were agreed to be accepted.
- 21/087      **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 (copy previously circulated) were received. The Mayor confirmed and Cllr Dredge seconded and the minutes were agreed to be accepted.
- 21/088      **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 (copy previously circulated) were received. Cllr Dredge confirmed and Cllr Spencer seconded and the minutes were agreed to be accepted
- 21/089      **TOWN MAYOR'S & DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S INTERESTS:** The functions and activities attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor for the period 26<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 (previously circulated) were noted.
- 21/090      **BUTTERPARK:** The report (copy previously circulated) was considered.  
The Town Clerk advised that the expression of interest has now been published on the government contract finder website. He agreed to circulate a link to Councillors.  
Cllr L Rea thanked the Town Clerk for his hard work preparing the expression of interest and publishing this before Christmas.  
  
It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and information.
- 21/091      **PLANNING:** The planning matter regarding extending the operating hours of the Waste Transfer Station was considered.  
Cllr Cade asked what the traffic is like in the area between 5pm and 7pm. Councillors noted that it can be very busy if there is a football match on, also the tennis centre can be busy. Cllr Lannin pointed out that people use this road to avoid Western Road, and with all the developments to the east of the town this will only increase.  
The Mayor commented that the houses on Marshall Drive back onto the site and maybe disturbed by the noise.  
Cllr Wilson commented that there is a lot of on road parking in this area already and should HGVs going in opposite directions meet it can cause disruptions.  
It was put to the vote and the majority of members voted to object to this application.  
  
It was **RESOLVED** to object to this application on the grounds stated above.
- 21/092      **COMMUNITY USE AGREEMENT – IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE:** The recommendation from the Planning and

Infrastructure Committee to sign the proposed CUA (copy previously circulated) was considered.

Cllr A Rea explained that the plan was to resurface the pitch and that there is a commitment to open this up for the community. The Town Clerk reminded Councillors that the recommendation also stated that they should request at least 2 seats on the Review Committee be allocated to the Town Council.

Cllr Spencer proposed that this was accepted, Cllr Budd seconded and all were in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** to

- i. accept the recommendation to sign the proposed Community Use Agreement; and
- ii. request at least 2 seats on the Review Committee, being at least 25% of the total committee membership.

21/093

**GRANT APPLICATION:** The urgent application for Youth Genesis Youth Nights at the Leisure Centre (copy previously circulated) was considered.

The Town Clerk explained that the original application went to the Policy and Resources Committee, however more information was required. As they are keen to start these events as soon as possible, it was felt that it should be looked at by Council rather than waiting until the New Year for the next Policy and Resources Committee.

Cllr Wilson asked whether it would be possible to monitor the attendance at these events and to see whether it has an impact on the issues in the town.

The Mayor advised that a meeting is planned in the new year for the various groups, The Bridge Project, Youth Genesis etc, to discuss issues and how to work together.

Cllr Lannin commented that it is a lot of money so would want to ensure that it helps as many young people as possible. The Mayor agreed, commenting that she would want to see children from families who could not normally afford sessions such as these being able to attend.

Cllr Budd commented that having youth workers onsite is a really good thing.

Cllr A Rea commented that it is good to hear that they have been liaising with other groups. However, he still feels that the information from Youth Genesis lacks detail on how certain groups of young people will be identified. He went on to say that his biggest issue is that he prefers to see capital rather than an ongoing funding scheme.

Cllr L Rea asked how much is in the pot for grants and how much has been spent.

The Town Clerk advised there is £8,000 and so far none has been spent.

Cllr Wilson proposed that the grant be awarded to Youth Genesis. Cllr Khong seconded this. Councillors then voted and the majority were in favour.

It was **RESOLVED** to award the grant to Youth Genesis and to ask them to provide attendance information once the sessions are up and running.

- 21/094 **GRAFFITI:** The issue of offensive graffiti (copy previously circulated) was considered.  
The Mayor commented that the police felt that this was carried out by older individuals rather than young people.  
Cllr Budd raised her concerns about the comment which read '13 January boom!' as she felt it could be a threat.  
The Town Clerk advised that the police felt that the racist graffiti was separate from the tagging.  
Cllr Lannin said we need to ask for racist graffiti to be removed within 48 hours. Cllr T Rea agreed.  
The Mayor advised that the Admin Officer now has contact details for those responsible for removing graffiti at both South Hams District Council and Devon County Council.  
The Town Clerk commented that the problem also arises when the graffiti is on private property.  
Cllr T Rea asked whether the Town Council could write to Devon County Council, strongly requesting that they review the time allowed to remove graffiti their policy.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information in the report and to write to Devon County Council regarding the time it takes for graffiti to be removed.

- 21/095 **VIRTUAL MEETINGS:** The draft letters to Sir Gary Streeter and Kemi Badenoch (copy previously circulated) were considered.  
Cllr Dredge commented that with the new strain of Covid, it has highlighted how useful it is to have the option of virtual meetings.  
Cllr Spencer proposed that the draft letters be sent, Cllr Wilson seconded this. The majority of Councillors were in favour

It was **RESOLVED** to send the letters to Sir Gary Streeter and Kemi Badenoch.

- 21/096 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND FESTIVAL:** The update on the Christmas Festival events (copy previously circulated) was considered.  
Cllrs Wilson and Lannin thanked the Town Hall staff for putting in long hours to make the event a success.  
The Mayor commented that it had been a very successful event and added her thanks to staff and their families.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information in the report.

- 21/097 **UPDATE AND INFORMATION:** Updates and notes of meetings attended by Councillors (copy previously circulated) were received.

Cllr Dredge advised that he had also attended the DALC board meeting. He is intending to come off the Board at the next AGM and also to retire from IDALC at the next AGM.

The Mayor advised that Cllr Dredge had received a certificate from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and note the information.

The meeting closed at 8.36pm.

Signed: ..... Date: 24 January 2022

## **IVYBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Report of the discussions during the adjournment of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 13 December 2021**

#### **POLICE REPORT**

The police were unable to attend the meeting but provided the following report which was circulated prior to the meeting:

We had two distinct Graffiti incidents.

One was the SMG tag that was painted from the railway station to Fore Street. You may recall the individuals were caught on the Iphone shop CCTV. Sadly, attempts to identify the individuals met with negative results. These type of 'Graffiti Artist' see their work as 'art' and have some degree of pride in it.

Regardless, it is still a criminal offence.

The second incident, was separate to the above. As you are aware, we had some racist writing and a Swastika painted on to the walls of the underpass. There were no suspects for this offence although we strongly believe it is linked to the general (and rapid) escalation of ASB in Ivybridge town centre. With no viable lines of enquiry. The matter has been 'Filed' – we have however taken photos of the images and can refer back to this crime should a suspect be identified.

The main theme at this time is the ASB we are suffering, in and around Ivybridge Town centre. The graffiti, no doubt linked to the same group. We are working with John Ward SHDC ASB Officer – several individuals have been served with ASB Escalation letters. There is no tolerance for this type of behaviour and we will respond robustly.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

##### **COUNCILLOR ABBOTT**

Cllr Abbott provided the following report which had been circulated prior to the meeting:

##### **Harford Road**

The Ivybridge East Councillors will remember I followed up on a resident's email where he talked about problems on Harford Road. My thanks to the Councillors who replied. Would all Councillors support an ITC social media campaign to keep the Town tidy? It might be quite low key, come from all of us over an extended period, and try to encourage our less tidy residents to change their ways. I'd be glad to duplicate to my personal and political social media, and perhaps Councillors would be prepared to do similar on their own personal social media?

On the availability of bins, do you have a discussion forum outside of this setting? Have you talked about the anomaly of there being two bins in the North corner of the park on Blachford Road? My understanding of SHDC's position is:

- There will be no new bins paid for by SHDC;

- Underused bins can be redeployed within the Town at a cost to the Town of its installation (£50-£250+VAT, with a concrete base needed for a floor-standing version);
- Bins can be replaced with larger versions.
- The Town can decide to cover the full cost of a new bin (110 litre floor standing with seagull flaps - £285+VAT), its installation (see above) and the collection costs (£3 per collection per bin with a frequency decided by the Council). To overcome the collection charges for a redeployed bin, there would need to be prior agreement with SHDC.

Other opportunities for redeployment of duplicated bins are:

- the southern end of the Spinney;
- the public toilets.

One bin could be redeployed to Bridge Park. There is also a need for a bin at the play park in Lucerne Fields.

Lucerne Fields also need salt for the roads. I've put in a request for this.

Someone within our Town but at Lucerne Fields, enquires about the difference in treatment between those whose communal land is managed by a Council in contrast to those managed by a Management Company. I wonder whether our residents suffer an injustice; an imposition of leasehold rules onto freehold property owners. I'd be grateful to hear from Councillors or from residents on best practice on liaising with management companies or, indeed, on poor practice.

I attach photographs of the lower end of Harford Road. The residents on the right have structural problems with their bins/ steps/ and access to the road. Of course, there is no money for any immediate action, but I wonder if our County Councillor would consider the following. Do note, the road width is narrower to the south due to a parking area (photo - Harford Rd street parking), though, of course, the constraint on visibility is on the bend.

- the problem of footpath width and bin storage is most acute on the lower right-hand bend (going towards Stowford Mill and the College);
- there would be an advantage in straightening out the road on the left (photo - option to straighten);
- the consequential wider sweep would permit a wider footpath to the lower ground (photo - option to broaden);
- bins could be left against the wall, or alcoves could be set into the wall (photo - option to widen & inset).

### **The Watermark Walk**

Thanks to Jonathan for meeting with Ivybridge Heritage & Archives Group. I understand there are difficulties in crystallising a way forward. On the idea of information Boards (PL:21 & Tim Poate), the IH&G had an earlier proposal to use Watermark rollers as the information points. I'm told there may be a parallel with the Ropewalk at Torquay, though I've not yet identified this.

### **Mill Meadow**

Residents have asked for help with occasional misbehaviour around the Mill Meadow area. I have recently had a reply to my emails to the School and I propose to keep working on this.

### **Items from SHDC**

In order to support the building of affordable homes, SHDC will set up a Community Benefit Society (CBS). At St Ann's Chapel in particular, we're at the stage of developing 8 Affordable Homes, 3 Open Market Units and 2 serviced plots

The District Council recently supported a motion to advise builders of the intention to implement any change to sustainable heating immediately, i.e. without a grace period. This requires Westminster regulation first and then implementation as soon as possible afterwards.

SHDC have a Severe Weather Emergency Protocol relating to rough sleepers which will be in place until 1st March 2022. There are contact numbers to support accommodation provision (01803 861234 for office hours and 01803 867034 otherwise). They need to know where the rough sleepers are usually found and a brief description. A name is a bonus.

Last month, Councillor Croad raised the Household Support Fund to provide rapid short-term financial support for people who don't have enough for food or to pay for heating. This went live on the 15th November and requests are being received regularly.

From a £10m Forestry Commission fund, SHDC has received a grant of £250k for trees. The trees will be 'standards', being 3-4.5m high, and come with 3 years maintenance.

Photo – Harford Road Street Parking





Photo – Option to straighten



Photo - Option to broaden



Photo – Option to widen and inset



Cllr Lannin asked about the relocation of the bins. The Mayor advised that Tor Park and The Spinney both belong to South Hams District Council. Cllr Lannin asked whether bins could be considered at the Parks Committee during budget discussions.

Cllr Lannin went on to ask about widening the pavement. Cllr Abbott explained that it is a suggestion as there seems to be room on the left hand side. Cllr Lannin thought that the wider pavement sounded like a good idea.

Cllr Abbott mentioned a few further issues which he had been made aware of:

- The concrete lorry which had dropped aggregate all the way up Exeter Road – he asked whether Cllr Croad would like to respond.
- A resident had advised that they had tried to take a fridge to the recycling centre. It wouldn't fit in the car so they used a trailer but were turned away. Cllr Croad advised that there is a length issue for trailers but they should have taken it. He asked Cllr Abbott to contact him after the meeting regarding this.

The Town Clerk advised that the Admin Officer had made a number of calls to Devon County Council regarding the concrete on Exeter Road.

Cllr L Rea asked when food waste collections were likely to be reinstated. Cllr Abbott advised that the contractors have said that it would be by the end of the year but no plan for this has been received yet.

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

### **COUNCILLOR CROAD**

#### **Covid**

Confirmed cases has fallen in Devon with the main risings now in South Hams with 847 cases per 100,000. The highest figures remain with the 8-14 age group with young people, largely asymptomatic, passing on to parents/carers with the 40-50 age group the second highest. Hospital admissions are fluctuating with small rises and falls, presently there are 150 (18 in ICU) patients in our four hospitals with Covid. Deaths remain relatively low and flatlining over the past few weeks now.

**Vaccinations** – 95% of Devon’s population have had at least one dose.

Booster or 3<sup>rd</sup> dose –

- age 80+ - 85% jabbed
- 75-79 – 95.3%
- 70-74 – 83.9%
- 65-69 – 75%
- 60-64 – 59.8%
- 55-59 – 47.2%
- 50-55 – 39.3%

**Confirmed cases** week preceding 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – Devon 5,399 (666 per 100,000), Torbay 885 (649.7), Plymouth 2,290 (871.3), Cornwall 3,024 (527.5), England 286,977 (507.5), **South Hams 745 (847.1)**

**Cases aged over 60** – 940 which is about 8.1%. Down from previous weeks averaging 14% so it looks like the booster is working.

#### **Devon cases by age group:**

0-19	=	1,368.5 (South Hams 1,579)
20-39	=	609.1 (985.5)
40-59	=	770.6 (1,042.7)
60-79	=	195.9 (276.3)
80+	=	119.5 (124.6)

Reflecting that the South Hams presently has the highest number of cases in Devon (847.1 per 100,000, overtaking Torridge.

**Deaths** (covid related) – Devon 6, Torbay 3, Plymouth 3, Cornwall 7. England 667.

**Hospitalisation in Devon** – 150 (18 in ICU) in our four hospitals, about 5% of overall capacity.

**Omicron in Devon** – presently only 11 cases but set to double up every day.

## **Waste**

I thought it might be worthwhile getting some 2020 stats out for the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in Plymouth which processes our residual waste each year from the South and West of the County.

- Overall Waste Processed 261,000 Tonnes.
- Electricity Generated 204,000 MWh.
- Steam Generated 57,000 MWh.
- Plant Availability 88.93% (target 91%);
- Co2 Savings 84,000 Tonnes.
- Landfill Diversion 99.9%
- Cash Savings (vs Landfill) approx. £12million pa

Plant availability below target almost entirely because of an outage in October of 100 hours due to an exploding gas bottle causing damage to the fire grate.

Just to say that we probably have one of the least expensive (Plymouth) and one of the most expensive (Exeter) EfW's in the country. But both less expensive than Landfill currently £130 per Tonne.

Devon won an award for 'Best New Idea' at the recent Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (snappy title!!) with our Shared Savings Scheme working in partnership with 5 of our District Councils. Over £6.8million worth of savings have been generated over 4 years, with £3.4million shared back with East Devon, Teignbridge, Mid Devon, Torridge and North Devon.

## **Afghan Refugees**

We now have about 150 refugees in the county temporarily housed in hotels in Exeter and Exmouth with a number of rescued cats and dogs from the well-publicised animal sanctuary in the Tiverton area. We should be paid back monetarily by the Home Office but staff are becoming increasingly stretched by lack of resources.

## **Household Support Fund** (Mentioned this at last Council)

Allocated from the Department for Work and Pensions to each upper tier local authority in England. The notional fund for the DCC administrative area equates to £5,064,876.

The fund is for households facing financial hardship this winter, helping them to cover the cost of food, energy and water bills and/or any related essential costs. At least 50% of the fund must be used to support households with children.

The fund is being allocated across the county through various gateways such as (not exclusively) CAB – Energy Relief Scheme; Devon Food Network; Early Help Locality Teams; Action for Children Centres; Healthy Start Food Boxes and Homeless Support Groups, with £880,000 going to District Councils to provide help and support to those who are struggling financially.

Eligible cohort for Free School Meals (FSM) – Holiday Lunch Food Vouchers for Christmas, half term and Easter holidays - £15 per child per holiday week.

One-off additional generic food voucher (one £30 voucher/FSM eligible family for Christmas 2021 – estimated at c15k families.

Cllr T Rea commented that the information above mentioned Afghan refugees but he would like more information about refugees from other countries too.

### **SIMON NILES DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mr Niles explained that Devon County Council's role is to secure a site for the special school, then a Section 10 consultation would be carried out. Plymouth City Council have not turned down the proposal, they have not been able to secure a site therefore the offer came to Devon County Council instead. Special schools have to serve a wide area; Devon is currently a net exporter into Plymouth. The school would serve both Plymouth and Devon. Ivybridge has been selected as other potential sites had land issues. This site is the right size, has infrastructure, has services and is being marketed.

The potential for using the school for community use during the day is negligible. The aim would be to provide for children from 7-16 years with the bulk being of secondary age. The intention would be to have small class sizes.

The Trust will have to prove they can support the school. They would look to bring staff in from Cornwall and to recruit nationally. The school would be state funded and quality assured both by OFSTED and the local authority.

Parking would be onsite and it is likely that there would be onsite drop off too. A mix of private cars, shared taxis and minibuses.

There would be a security fence around the site.

The criteria are for those excluded from normal school due to issues such as autism and Social, Emotional and Mental Health issues.

Most of the children would come from other areas.

### ***It was RESOLVED to suspend Standing Order 3h to allow the discussion with Mr Niles to continue***

Of the 59 children living within the Ivybridge Community College Designated Area, not attending a mainstream setting, with ASD or SEMH as a primary need, 4 live over 30 miles away from their setting (as the crow flies). 9 live between 20 and 30 miles away from their setting (as the crow flies). 23 live between 10 and 20 miles away from their setting (as the crow flies). 15 live under 10 miles away from their setting (as the crow flies). 8 are electively home educated. The furthest away any of the 59 children live from the proposed new school site is 7.6 miles (as the crow flies).

Through the care process the child's needs would be matched to the care provider. The aim for this site would be high functioning children so a good curriculum, but small nurturing classes. The majority of the students will be coming via transport so they are unlikely to mix with students from the Community College.

The Mayor commented that there are already a large number of SEND students at the Community College and was concerned there may be a conflict.

Cllr Budd queried off-rolling.

Mr Niles advised that if children were off-rolled they would go to another school or be home schooled. In order to be placed at the proposed special school children would have to have a statutory plan and the school, parents and local authority to all be in agreement. They have to have the appropriate level of need.

Cllr Khong asked whether, if children are academically able, does having attended a special school cause any issues with them finding jobs?

Mr Niles advised that these children are not able to continue in mainstream schools. Parental choice is the special school as they can see their children's needs being met.

Cllr Budd commented that some mainstream secondary schools do nurture these children very well.

The Mayor queried whether there are 500 students in the Plymouth area awaiting provision. She also commented that she had heard that Mount Tamar School is closing. She voiced her concerns about schools closing in Plymouth but being opened here and that students may be moved out.

Cllr Budd queried whether the new provision would free up spaces in Plymouth. Mr Niles advised that this would depend on the child's needs.

Cllr A Rea commented that this is a difficult situation. From a Town Council perspective our responsibility is to the residents and children of Ivybridge, and the things which benefit those residents. We need the local services and jobs which the land is designated for. He went on to ask whether Ivybridge will be included in the consultation and not just Ugborough.

Mr Niles confirmed that the Section 10 Consultation will be for the catchment area, they are mindful that it is in Ugborough.

Cllr L Rea commented that this was the preferred site but were any other sites are being explored?

Mr Niles advised that there are currently no other sites and they would be keen to push for outline planning on this site.

Cllr L Rea asked what Devon County Council will provide in terms of shops and employment if they go ahead with the school on this site.

Mr Niles advised that the land to the north of the road would be for shops.

The Mayor commented that she would like a separate meeting with others involved in the school.

The public participation session closed at 7.50pm.