



Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris MSc ACIS

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Minutes of a meeting of the Planning and Licensing Committee held remotely on 17 December 2020 at 18:00

Chair: Councillor G Guest.

Councillors: J Johns, E Andrews, K Haslett, J Lochhead, M Smith.

Others present: S Reardon (Meeting Administrator), 2 members of the public.

PL102. Chair's Announcements

The Chair may make announcements relevant to the work of the Committee.

Note: Announcements are for information only and not for debate, discussion or questioning.

- The meeting of the Planning Authority to determine the planning application for the proposed Western Relief Road is scheduled for January 2021 but may be delayed.
- Councillor G Guest announced that Cullompton Town Council has been nominated as a consultee in Broadclyst Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan process. The plan is currently undergoing Regulation 14 consultation until 28 February 2021; the matter will be considered for formal response at a meeting of the Planning and Licensing Committee in January 2021.

PL103. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Councillors unable to attend the meeting.

There were no apologies for absence received.

PL104. Declarations of Interests

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors and Officers in respect of matters to be considered at this meeting, together with an appropriate statement regarding the nature of the interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest made by members or Officers present.

PL105. Public Participation

15 minutes is set aside at the beginning of the meeting to enable members of the public to raise matters which are relevant to the work of the Committee. Up to 3 minutes is allowed for each question. It may not be possible to reply straightaway and the question may only be noted and a written response sent at a later date.

The members of the public present had nothing to say.

PL106. Planning Matters

To consider and make comment on the proposal for Clyst Valley Regional Park within East Devon District Council extending from Bishop's Court parkland to Killerton House, Cranbrook Country Park and including Ashclyst Forest.

Councillor G Guest introduced the concept of the Clyst Valley Regional Park and felt that, as the park is close by the boundary of Cullompton Parish, the council should have a view. The content of the proposal may inform the embryonic plans for a similar park to form part of the Cullompton Eastern Extension/Garden Village Initiative. In company with the master plan document, there is a questionnaire (Appendix A) that is required to be completed online as follows:

1. Vision and Values:
 - Would EDDC be prepared to work with MDDC to provide links from the Regional Park to Cullompton and beyond?
 - There was a question concerning the availability of land and negotiations with local landowners for any new foot and cycle ways to be created.
 - Admirable vision overall and would provide an ideal opportunity to cycle off road to a work place in Exeter; connections to Cullompton and Willand (including the SusTrans route to Tiverton Parkway rail station).
 - A cycle path from Exeter, through Poltimore, Ashclyst and the GVI would be an excellent addition to the area.
2. All the objectives of the masterplan were agreed.
3. Discussion around improving the viability the flood plain along the Clyst and Culm whilst making it more useful land. It was reiterated the need for all paths and gates to be wheelchair and mobility scooter friendly; there is also a need for places to rest. It was noted that several Parish and Town Councils, including Chagford and Barnstaple, have established grounds maintenance companies as a mechanism to fund and carry out the maintenance of green spaces in new housing developments; long-term funding and maintenance of a project on the scale of the Clyst Valley Regional Park is a cause for concern.
4. Funding: Tend to agree. Whatever funding structure is adopted, it needs to be sustainable in the long term. The council is aware that, should Mid Devon District Council and Cullompton collaborate in this project, additional funding will be required.
5. It was noted that the DeFRA funding model is changing, moving away from an acreage model and toward funding land management projects such as higher level water retention and the planting of woodlands, in particular Willow and orchards. Tree can be a source of grant funding dependent on their species

and locations and can be valuable in managing the flow of surface water.

6. Whatever East Devon District Council and their partners can do to improve that area, it will benefit the whole region including creating jobs and enhancing tourism in the area.
7. There were several additional comments made:
 - There was reference to attractions for tourists such as high-level tree walks and long zip wires to further enhance tourism.
 - Hire of e-bikes and e-trikes to further improve accessible with less circular routes (hire a bike at one point and drop off at another in order to get a bus to another location) linked to existing facilities at Exeter Quay (and potentially the M5 Junction 27 proposal) with cafes and toilets.
 - Many of the roads are working roads and not suited to foot traffic; footpaths need to be off-road in order to be safe. It is noted, however, that EDDC is thinking in terms of routes from Exeter to Killerton House and not to Cullompton.
 - As a further incentive to MDDC, the route could take in the Tiverton Canal tow path as far as Tiverton and beyond.