



## Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF ELDC Committee [In-person] held on **Monday 17 February 2025** at **17:00**. The meeting was held in the **Ottery St. Mary Town Council**

Present: Cllrs John Green (Chair), Richard Grainger (Mayor) and Nick Sneller  
In Attendance: Kerry Kennell (Town Clerk), Emma Grainger, Joe Williams, John Waddingham and one member of the public  
Minute Taker: Kerry Kennell (Town Clerk)

### **ELDC/25/02/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Stewart, Lucas and Williamson.

### **ELDC/25/02/02 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

To receive Declarations of interest for items on the Agenda and receipt of requests for new Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) dispensations for items on the Agenda

Cllr Sneller	No interests declared.
Cllr Grainger	No interests declared.
Cllr Green	No interests declared.

### **ELDC/25/02/03 ADMISSION TO MEETINGS**

In consideration of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted): to agree any items to be dealt with after the public and press have been excluded

There is none.

### **ELDC/25/02/04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To allow members of the public present to submit questions/comments for consideration  
Individual contributions will be limited to 3 minutes

It was AGREED that the member of the public will speak prior to the agenda item in relation to whether the Council will renew their contract with Ignyte being discussed.

### **ELDC/25/02/05 MINUTES**

To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment, Local Development and Commerce Committee of 20th January 2025 (*minute refs ELDC25/01/01 - ELDC25/01/18*) and 27th January 2025 (*minute refs ELDC25/01/19 - ELDC25/01/28*) and to approve the signing of the Minutes by the Mayor as a correct record

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The minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting by the Chair. The minutes of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting by the Chair.

#### **ELDC/25/02/06 COAST AND COUNTRY EAST DEVON PROJECT**

A member of the public and local business owner voiced their concerns regarding the current Visit Ottery project. They felt that elements of the way that the project work make it appear that there is not much going on in Ottery which is not the case. They also expressed concerns regarding Visit Ottery being a bolt on to Visit Sidmouth.

- A. To consider information provided by Ignyte

The update from Ignyte was noted.

- B. To receive an update from the traders association in relation to the project

The trader's association has not met this year.

- C. To review the quote from Glide to deliver the remaining Visit Ottery leaflets

It was **RECOMMENDED** that a final Glide campaign is commissioned at a cost of £245 + VAT.

- D. To consider whether the Council wishes to renew their contract with Ignyte from 1 April 2025

Visit Devon worked very closely with the English Riviera BID team and Brixham Chamber of Commerce and South West Water following the Cryptosporidium outbreak in 2024. SWW agreed to pay a sum to the English Riviera BID to support tourism and to work on repairing brand Devon with a large marketing campaign over the coming 2 years. Visit Devon has the funding to create a microsite that will be created for [www.visitdevon/eastdevon](http://www.visitdevon/eastdevon). It was noted that it has previously been agreed that all businesses within the parish should have a free listing with the opportunity to upgrade their listing if they wish. This will improve the site considerably and give a better reflection of what is available in the town. If all businesses were members Ignyte would have access to a far larger social media feed than the current feed which is just from members of the scheme. It was AGREED that the Clerk will contact EDDC to find out what is happening next from their perspective. It was AGREED that a meeting will be set up with Ignyte to confirm how a new website could work and what their offering would be for 2025/26.

#### **ELDC/25/02/07 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE OTTERY PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND AGREE THE NEXT STEPS**

The list of projects for further investigation has been agreed upon by the Full Council. The Council is awaiting a quotation for the next steps from Callidus.

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**ELDC/25/02/08 TO AGREE THE NEXT STEPS WITH REGARDS TO UPDATING THE A5 VISIT OTTERY LEAFLET AND LARGE TOWN MAPS**

It was **RESOLVED** that consultation will take place with local businesses regarding updating the Visit Ottery leaflet and large town map.

**ELDC/25/02/09 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING BECOMING A COACH FRIENDLY TOWN**

This will be discussed as part of the consultation with businesses. The Council will need to work with businesses to ensure they are open when coaches are visiting the town.

**ELDC/25/02/10 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE SETTING OF A MINIMUM STANDARD FOR SHOPFRONTS WITHIN THE TOWN**

Feedback has been received from EDDC that this should be included in the updated Neighbourhood Plan. The Planning Committee has also been looking at this. The Council will ensure this is included in the new Neighbourhood Plan.

**ELDC/25/02/11 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE EMERGENCY PLAN WORKING GROUP**

There is no update.

**ELDC/25/02/12 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF EV CHARGING POINTS AT THE STATION HUB**

The Clerk has contacted several companies regarding EV charging points at the Station Hub. It was noted that for this to be utilised by local residents the gates will need to be left open overnight which will need to be considered. The Hub does not have three phase electricity and National Grid has been contacted to see whether this could be available at the property. Further information will be available for review at the next meeting.

**ELDC/25/02/13 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING THE PROPOSED PLANTING STRATEGY AND TO AGREE NEXT STEPS (IF APPROPRIATE)**

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the hanging baskets are offered to businesses at a discounted rate. The Council is awaiting information from Otter Garden Centre regarding the cost of the baskets.

The Council is awaiting a response from EDDC StreetScene. It was **AGREED** that for the first year there may be a need for something more ad hoc until the planting strategy is established and a voluntary group of people to water and maintain the planters is extended. The Clerk has written to Otter Garden Centre, Rainbow, Devon Lavendar and In Focus.

**ELDC/25/02/14 TO NOTE ANY SPECIFIC CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

An email has been received regarding the Ottery Food and Families Festival and their need for extra committee members. It was **AGREED** that the Council will approach EDDC to see if there is any support available. It was noted that the Council supports the event continuing

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and reinforce their search for additional committee members. It is very much hoped that this successful local event can continue.

The Peninsula Coach Action Plan was noted and the Clerk will submit a response.

A resident sent an email to advise they have been able to walk the legal line of the closed footpath. It was AGREED that the Clerk will contact the footpath officer at DCC and ask them to come out. It is likely that the footbridge will need to be reinstated.

It was noted that there is a damaged footbridge on the west side - one field in from Millenium Green. This will be reported to DCC Public Rights of Way.

**ELDC/25/02/15 TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS**

There were none.

**ELDC/25/02/16 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**

There were none.

**ELDC/25/02/17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: TBC**

Reports & Appendix 1

Meeting concluded at 18:40

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