

Queen's Drive Redevelopment Update Autumn 2019

East Devon District Council is investing in this site to create a modern, exciting and attractive new leisure area. The Queen's Drive redevelopment is a place that can bring new investment into Exmouth that reflects the changing leisure expectations of residents, visitors and businesses, offering all-weather and all-year-round entertainment, suitable for all ages.

Delivered in 3 phases, Phase 1 (new car park and road) works are now complete and works to construct the Watersports Centre (Phase 2) have started. Planning consent has been granted to develop a mixed use leisure area (Phase 3). See below for more details.

The Leisure area currently on site, Queen's Drive Space, is a temporary leisure development designed to keep the site active throughout the development phases and to show what new and different leisure opportunities and options could be delivered on this site. Queen's Drive Space was a great success in summer 2018 and planning permission has been granted to continue the temporary use for a further 3 years to ensure there is always some leisure offer available whilst development takes place.

See the results of our [User Survey](#) from summer 2018 and a summary of the ["Best Bits"](#) quotes from the many people who enjoyed using Queen's Drive Space last year. See the Regeneration pages at www.eastdevon.gov.uk



Please do get in touch with us if you have questions about the redevelopment at Queen's Drive. You can contact us via our email at: econandregen.post@eastdevon.gov.uk

Phase 2 – Watersports Centre

This not-for-profit scheme will provide training and changing facilities alongside an outdoor events space and eateries, to enhance Exmouth's waterfront, water sports heritage and leisure amenities. Offering immediate beach access for all, the venue will provide high quality services throughout the year.

Delivered by Exeter based sustainable property development company Grenadier; the building combines distinctive architectural design with a small carbon footprint, reducing the impact of the building to both land and marine environments. As with all of Grenadier's projects, there is a commitment to achieving excellent environmental standards.

The Watersports centre will be run by local kitesurfing champions, Steph and Eric Bridge and Michael Caines, locally based Michelin star chef, will be the new restaurant operator.



Architects image of Watersports Centre

Phase 3 – Visioning Exercise

Planning consent has been given for a mixed use leisure area on this site. East Devon District Council has appointed HemingwayDesign to refresh the proposed design and leisure mix in light of changing leisure trends and aspirations.



In 2018 HemingwayDesign launched an online questionnaire and received over 1200 responses. The results of their questionnaire can be found here:

[Hemingway questionnaire results](#)

Key themes emerging are that people want an attractive place for the young, old and in-between to spend leisure time together and they want to maximise the site's relationship with its high quality and natural environment. There was also a preference for more active evening events and recreational opportunities as well as creating relaxing and inspiring places to eat and drink throughout the day and evening.

The next stage will be to work on some concepts and design ideas that can be further consulted on.