



All members of Cullompton Town Council's Community Wellbeing Committee are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Committee to be held on Tuesday 9 April commencing 7:00pm at the Hayridge Centre

Judy Morris

Signed: Mrs Judy Morris, Town Clerk

Date: 2 April 2019

AGENDA

Members of the public are very welcome to attend this meeting

Membership: Councillors: Eileen Andrews, Jordann Barge, Janet Johns and Liza Oxford-Booth

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

15 minutes is set aside at the beginning of the meeting to enable members of the public to ask questions 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 response sent within 10 working days

1. **APOLOGIES:** To receive apologies for absence.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT:** Members are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.
3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** To receive questions from members of the public present at the meeting.
4. **MINUTES:** To receive and approve the Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2019 (Appendix A)
5. **RESOLUTIONS:** To receive list (Appendix B)

6. **FINANCE:** To receive Committee Income & Expenditure Report (Appendix C)
7. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:**
- i) To receive report from Footpath Warden.
 - ii) To receive update on the Leat path and associated works (Chimney stack & Leat repairs)
 - iii) To receive Cllr. Nikki Woolatt's Leat Path update and to agree any action to be taken (Appendix D)
 - iv) Leat Handrail: To approve the installation of the Leat path hand rail (Communities Together grant application was unsuccessful)
 - v) Any other Public Rights of Way matters.
8. **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT:**
- i) Cullompton Festival: To discuss arrangements for the Cullompton Festival and to consider including the Festival programme in the Crier publication
 - ii) Town Crier: To consider dates for the 2019-20 Town Crier publication.
 - iii) Defibrillator Project: To receive an update and to consider the way forward.
 - iv) Litter Pick Event: To consider involvement in the Great British Spring Clean.
 - v) Community Groups & Organisations Information leaflets: To consider payment of the printing costs.
9. **PLAY AREAS:**
- i) **Priorities Report:** To receive Play Area Priority Update Report (Appendix E)
 - ii) **Culm Lea Play Area:** To consider the arrangements for the official opening of the new play area.
10. **TREE AND HEDGE WORK: TIVERTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS/UPCOTT RECREATION FIELD:**
To receive an update on the tree and hedge works.
11. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Any correspondence received after the date of this Agenda.
12. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** To consider dates for future meetings.

*In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960,
members of the public and press are very welcome to attend the meeting.*



**Minutes of Community Wellbeing Committee meeting
held on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 7:00pm
the Hayridge Centre, Cullompton**

Present: Councillors: Eileen Andrews (Chair), Iain Emmett, Lloyd Knight, Janet Johns,

Also in Attendance: Nick Savage (Footpath Warden) & 2 no. members of the public

Clerk: Maria Weston (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES:** Received from Cllr. Oxford-Booth (work) & Cllr. Jordann Barge (personal)
RESOLVED: To accept apologies from Cllr. Oxford-Booth (work) & Cllr. Barge (personal)
Proposed: Cllr. Knight **Seconded:** Cllr. Emmett
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT:** Cllr. Emmett declared a personal interest as he is a Riparian owner on the Leat.
3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** None.
4. **MINUTES:**
The Minutes of the last meeting on 12 February 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record. **Proposed:** Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns.
5. **RESOLUTIONS:** Noted.
6. **FINANCE:** To accept Committee Income & Expenditure Report.
Proposed: Cllr. Johns **Seconded:** Cllr. Emmett
7. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:**
 - 7.i. **To receive report from Footpath Warden (Nick Savage):** Mr. Savage gave a verbal update. Mr. Savage stated that the main thing to report was an update on the issues that had been raised with the Devon County Council (DCC) Footpath Warden:
 - Replacement Finger posts (Colebrooke Lane, Ponsford & St. Georges Well leading into Bluebell Lane): These have been ordered and will be delivered as soon as possible;
 - Footpath diversion at Culm Lea leading to Culm Hill: DCC Warden has no concerns with this. A new, wide, two-way gate will be fitted by the Developers;
 - Further to the resolution that the Council are happy to install a bridge (using a standard 'bridge kit') on the Public Right of Way at Saxon Way subject to the agreement of the Devon County Council Warden: The DCC Warden believes this is a good idea and fairly straightforward. The

span will need to be checked. (Mr. Savage said the span is currently 39cm wide (very narrow) and approximately four metres in length and that six metres would be ideally required). An approximate cost to supply & fit a bridge kit would be in the region of £2-£3K and Section 106 monies could be applied for.

- The old Mill remains (chimney stack) just before Middle Mill Lane. The chimney is approximately 20ft high and the tree on top 40ft. DCC will inspect the structure. Investigation needed into who owns the chimney. DCC Warden has stated that if the chimney is considered a health & safety issue and if there is any concern for users of the path, then the path will be closed as soon as is practicable. NB: An electrical post is leaning precariously and Cllr. Emmett has reported this to Western Power.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk, in conjunction with the Footpath Warden, establishes who owns the chimney stack.

NB: Clerk to check first with Cllr. John Berry and if owner is still not established, Footpath Warden to check with HM Land Registry.

Proposed: Cllr. Knight **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

7.ii To receive update on the Leat path & associated works. Noted

It was noted that the footpath at Lower Mill is now much more accessible as the brambles had been cut back by the new landowners.

RESOLVED: The Committee would like to extend its thanks to the landowners responsible for cutting the brambles back at Lower Mill as this has enabled clearer access to the Leat path.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

A report (dated 12 March 2019) on the Leat path & (knee) barrier from Mid-Devon District Councillor - Nikki Woollatt, was circulated to members and noted. As no response to the application for the Communities Together Funding grant applied for (to install said barrier) has (as yet) been received, it was:

RESOLVED: That members will discuss (as a separate Agenda item) the Leat report from Cllr. Woollatt at the next meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

7.iii. Any other Public Rights of Way matters. None.

Cllr. Andrews (Chair) thanked Mr. Savage for all that he does as the Cullompton Footpath Warden, adding that all of his efforts and hard work are very much appreciated. The Committee agreed.

8. COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT:

8.i. Events Update: To receive report with regard to Town events including the Christmas Lights Event. Noted –

Cllr. Johns informed the members of the current arrangements, including that the Samba Band has been booked and that the theme of this year's event was 'Lighting the way – Santa's Journey'.

8.ii. Christmas Lights: To approve tender specification for the installation of the Christmas Lights Display in High Street & Fore Street.

Cllr. Emmett expressed his view that it would be beneficial to secure an external, professional contractor to install the Christmas Lights.

The Committee agreed that the Tender Specification was acceptable, covering all salient points and:

RESOLVED: That the Committee approves the Christmas Lights Display Tender Specification for the installation of the Christmas Lights in High Street and Fore Street and would like the Clerk to identify the appropriate companies to distribute this to.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

8.iii. Hanging Baskets: To consider the cost to supply an individual hanging basket to shops and businesses in the town.

The Clerk informed the Committee of the approximate costings (see table below) of:

- the individual aspects of supplying and maintaining the baskets;
- the total (overall) figure;
- the total of the overall figure divided by the number of baskets

DESCRIPTION	BREAKDOWN	TOTAL
To supply, fill & deliver	45 no. baskets @ £14.75	£663.75
Bracket Test	45 no. baskets x 1 no. test	£50.00
Installation	45 no. baskets @ £7.00	£315.00
Watering	45 no. baskets x twice a week for 16 no. weeks @ £40.78 a week	£1,305.00
Emptying baskets – End of Season	45 no. baskets @ £2.22	£100.00
OVERALL TOTAL		£2,433.75
OVERALL TOTAL DIVIDED BY NO. OF BASKETS	£2,433.75 /45 no. baskets	£54.08
Extra watering – as & when required	45. no baskets @ £0.89	£40.00
Last year's cost - per basket		£30.00

The Committee agreed that the baskets this year would be better quality than those in previous years and that savings would also be made e.g. Maintenance staff would not need to water the baskets & less watering would be required in general. Members also agreed that the Council would part subsidise the baskets, as these floral decorations would make the town more attractive: 'brighter', more vibrant and appealing to both residents and visitors.

RESOLVED: A charge of £35.00 (+VAT) will be made by the Council to supply, install and maintain a self- watering (filled) hanging basket this year to local shops and businesses.

Proposed: Cllr. Andrews **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

8.iv. Allotment Inspection: To agree a date for an inspection of Hayman's Close & Top Field Allotment sites.

It was agreed that the Clerk will liaise with Committee members outside of the meeting to arrange a mutually convenient date.

8.v. Policy: To receive and to approve the Allotment Policy for Hayman’s Close & Top Field Allotments.

As this matter had been:

- extensively discussed at the earlier (immediately preceding) meeting of the gift of A. Burrows Sub-Committee by the same Committee members now present;

and as it was agreed:

- that the Tiverton Road site (the gift of A. Burrows) was run as a charity (with the Council as sole trustee) and that as such, there should be a separate policy for this site,

it was:

RESOLVED: That the Committee would like two separate policies for the Councils’ Allotment sites:

1. Tiverton Road Allotment site (Gift of A. Burrows - Charity);
2. Hayman’s Close & Top Field Allotment sites *
 - any additional sites which the Council subsequently acquires
 - should be incorporated into the second policy * (unless of course set up as a charity)

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

RESOLVED: That the Clerk liaises with both the Cullompton Allotment Association and non-Allotment Association member plot holders to draft two Allotment policies:

1. Tiverton Road Allotment site (Gift of A. Burrows Committee)
 2. Hayman’s Close & Top Field Allotment sites (Community Wellbeing Committee)
- and supply these policies to the relevant Committees for review and approval.

Proposed: Cllr. Andrews **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

9. PLAY AREAS

9.i. Play Area Update: To receive Play Area Update Report. Noted-

The Clerk requested the Committee considers the provision of outdoor play facilities, especially basketball hoops, that cater for ‘older kids’ as per the request from a pupil at Cullompton Community College. The Clerk also advised the Committee of a consideration request from Cllr. Gordon Guest regarding the provision of –

- Trim Trail equipment;
- 5-a-side goals (Linear Park & play park at the top of Swallow Way);
- Basketball hoops *;
- Fibre glass climbing boulders

The Clerk showed the Committee pictures of the Trim Trail that had recently been installed in Tiverton (Amory Park) and reported that both herself and the Town Clerk had attended a meeting (last week) with Mid-Devon District Council to discuss Section 106 funding availability & use as well as Trim Trail provision.

Cllr. Andrews supplied a copy of an article which detailed the benefits of Trim Trails and the Clerk read eis out to members.

Discussion ensued and the Committee agreed that they support the provision of outdoor play equipment and equipment that caters for 'older kids' including:

- MUGA's (Multi use games area);
- Trim Trails – suitable for the use of all, including the older generation;
- Basketball hoops.

NOTE: The Committee agreed that submitting a bid for Tesco funding should be considered when looking to provide any equipment.

RESOLVED: The Committee would like the Clerk to write to the Cullompton Community College pupil to:

- say thank you for the communication about providing outdoor play equipment for 'older kids';
- mention that the Council feels it is useful for young people to get involved and to 'voice' their opinions;
- suggest that if they have any other ideas for youth provision, perhaps a consideration of joining the Youth Council would be an option

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

9.ii. Culm Lea Quotation: To approve quotation to paint the existing play equipment and to replace the rock hold board & grips on the multi-play unit in Culm Lea Play Area.

RESOLVED: The Committee accepts the quotation from Outdoor Play Devon Ltd. in the sum of £ 725.00 (+ VAT) for the re-painting of the existing play equipment (double swings & slide) and to replace the rock hold board and grips on the multi play unit.

Proposed: Cllr. Johns **Seconded:** Cllr. Andrews

9.iii. Basketball: To consider a request for the provision of a basketball net/board and agree on suitable location.

RESOLVED: The Committee would like the Clerk to research suitable locations and options for the provision of a basketball net/board and additional equipment to facilitate youth provision and to report findings to the Committee.

Proposed: Cllr. Andrews **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

10. TREE AND HEDGE WORK: TIVERTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS/UPCOTT RECREATION FIELD: To receive an update on the tree and hedge works.

The Clerk reported that the works had not been completed at the front of the Tiverton Road Allotments (Tiverton Road side) due to a parked car impeding work by the contractors and that in order for the remaining works (of bringing the tree (height) levels down to the height of the hedge) to go ahead, the contractor was now having to obtain a second Highways order.

11. CORRESPONDENCE: Any correspondence received after the date of this Agenda. Cllr. Woollatt's Leat Report – please refer to above Minutes – Point 7.ii.

RESOLVED: that due to the commercial nature of the business to be discussed, the following item is dealt with as Part 2 business and, in accord with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public are requested to leave at this point and the next section of the meeting is conducted in private.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Andrews

12. LEAT GRASS CUTTING: To receive grass cutting tender submission and to agree a preferred contractor.

After an in-depth discussion and consideration of all quotations received, the Committee:

RESOLVED: To accept the play area grass cutting quotation from Halcyon Landscapes in the sum of £1,635.00

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Andrews

13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Agreed as **Tuesday 9th April 2019** at **7:00pm** at the Hayridge Centre.

With no further business the Chair thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 8:35pm

It is certified that these Minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting:

Signed

Name.....

Date..... /...../.....

APPENDIX B

Description	Date of Meeting	Resolution	Financial implications	To be actioned by	Priority	Remarks
ALLOTMENT POLICIES	12/03/2019	RESOLVED: That the Clerk liaises with both the Cullompton Allotment Association and non-Allotment Association member plot holders to draft two Allotment policies: 1. Tiverton Road Allotment site (Gift of A. Burrows Committee)2. Hayman's Close & Top Field Allotment sites (Community Wellbeing Committee)-and supply these policies to the relevant Committees for review and approval.				Deputy Town Clerk will compile policies for Tiverton Rd + Haymans and Top Field Allotments - in conjunction with the Admin. Asst. & through liaison with Cullompton Allotment Association & non-association members.
BRIDGE KIT - SAXON WAY	12/02/2019	RESOLVED: The Council are happy to install a bridge (using a standard 'bridge kit') on the Public Right of Way at Saxon Way subject to the agreement of the Devon County Council Warden.				Clerk has liaised with the Footpath Warden who will visit the site with the Maintenance Supervisor to assess the correct span of the bridge required. Clerk will then investigate costs.
EX BT BOX /DEFIB	13/11/2018					Residents happy for the box & defibrillator to be placed somewhere close to, but not in, Culm Lea Play Area. Consideration must be given to where the power supply is.
CHIMNEY STACK	12/03/2019	RESOLVED: That the Clerk, in conjunction with the Footpath Warden, establishes who owns the chimney stack. NB: Clerk to check first with Cllr. John Berry and if owner is still not established, Footpath Warden to check with HM Land Registry.				E-mail sent to Cllr. John Berry - He does not know owner. Clerk has contacted Footpath Warden to ask for him to establish owner.
CULLOMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT - Basketball & Youth Provision	12/03/2019	RESOLVED: The Committee would like the Clerk to write to the Cullompton Community College pupil to: say thank you for the communication about providing outdoor play equipment for 'older kids'; mention that the Council feels it is useful for young people to get involved and to 'voice' their opinions; suggest that if they have any other ideas for youth provision, perhaps a consideration of joining the Youth Council would be an option				Deputy Town Clerk has written to the Student. COMPLETED

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

HANDRAIL - LEAT	12/02/2019	RESOLVED: That the Council accept the quotation of £825.00 + VAT for a bespoke handrail and that the Town Clerk should submit an application for funding from the Communities Together Fund.				Communities Together application was not successful - Committee to decide whether the handrail should still be installed.
LEAT PATH LIGHT	17/01/2019	There is also a section of the leat path that is narrow and extremely dark at night. Local residents have commented that they do not like walking along this section of the path. RESOLVED: That the Clerk writes to the Manager at Tesco to establish the feasibility of installing a light/s along the 'dark' section of the leat path between Higher and Middle Mill Lane. Proposed: Cllr. Andrews Seconded: Cllr. Emmett				Communities Together application was not successful - Committee to decide whether the handrail should still be installed.
PLAY AREA - YOUTH PROVISION	12/03/2019	RESOLVED: The Committee would like the Clerk to research suitable locations and options for the provision of a basketball net/board and additional equipment to facilitate youth provision and to report findings to the Committee.				Both Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk visited various play areas to determine facilities available and where additional/replacement equipment may be needed.
LEAT WORKS - REPORT	12/03/2019	RESOLVED: That members will discuss (as a separate Agenda item) the Leat report from Cllr. Woollatt at the next meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee.				CLLR. WOOLATT'S REPORT IS ON AGENDA FOR APRIL 2019. Deputy Town Clerk will meet with Cllr. Woolatt (having contacted the members of the Leat Conservancy Board) to take a walk down the path to establish what works are required
SPRINGFEST	12/02/2019	That the Committee would like the Town Hall to be made available during the SpringFest for stalls e.g. craft stalls;				Hardly any interest from stall holders to use the Town Hall so any applications were referred to the Walronds. Dancing will now take place in the hall with demonstrations and storytelling.
TOWN TUBS - FLORAL	12/02/2019	RESOLVED: That the Committee are happy for Council staff to decide on which plants and shrubs should be used in the Town's flower beds and tubs and that if necessary, quotations should be sought (and that these should be supplied to the Committee).				300 no. mixed busy lizzies have been ordered from Taiunton Deane and these will be delivered together with the hanging baskets.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

TWINNING ASSOCIATION	12/02/2019	RESOLVED: The Council would be happy to receive the Twinning Association and to welcome the French party at a coffee and cake morning at the Town Hall on Saturday 1 st June 2019 at 11:00am.				
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COMMUNITY WELLBEING COMMITTEE 1 April 2018 - 2 April 2019

	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
COMMITTEE GENERAL BUDGET	£1,500.00		
TAP Fund grant for trim trail leaflet	£100.00		
Twinning Gift		£66.00	
Community Toilet stickers		£60.00	
Trim Trail leaflet		£186.00	
Old photos put on boards for exhibitions		£68.44	
Footpath walk leaflet		£187.00	
WW1 Exhibition		£35.87	
Town Heritage walks leaflet printing		£102.00	
TOTAL GENERAL BUDGET	£1,600.00	£705.31	£894.69
Community Events - budget to be used to fund the purchase of 2 no. flag poles	£1,000.00		
EMR Community Events - Agreed 11/12/2018 £3k is allocated from the Ear Marked Reserve Community Event Budget as a financial contribution to the Christmas 2019 Festival	£3,000.00		
October Festival Craft Fayre Expenses		£86.00	
TOTAL COMMUNITY EVENTS	£4,000.00	£86.00	£3,914.00
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Christmas Lights	£8,100.00		
EMR Christmas Lights	£1,400.00		
Christmas Tree Supply	£245.00		
Donation towards Christmas trees	£540.00		
Christmas Lights purchased		£1,041.75	
Electricity for Christmas lights 2017 (EDF)		£29.11	
Sundries: Cable, switches etc.		£204.21	
Strip lighting for gazebos		£114.45	
2 no. Christmas trees		£900.00	
Christmas Lighting		£3,532.00	
Christmas Tree Removal		£500.00	
Christmas Lighting 2018-19		£2,173.50	
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOTAL	£10,285.00	£8,495.02	£1,789.98
PLAY AREAS - RUNNING	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Play Area Running Expenses	£3,000.00	£92.31	
Posts for Play Area		£112.80	
Boulder work in Upcott Recreation Field		£165.00	
Grass cutting		£1,193.36	
Padlock for gate		£10.45	
New drain cover (Tufty Park)		£43.80	
Removal of wasps nest (Culm Lea)		£60.00	
Graffiti cleaner		£62.04	
Labdons		£19.09	
Insurance		£516.00	
Mole Valley Farmers		£13.71	
Play area inspections		£303.00	
Signs		£280.00	
PLAY AREAS RUNNING BALANCE	£3,000.00	£2,871.56	£128.44

PLAY AREA PROJECTS	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Play Equipment Fund	£2,000.00		
EMR Play Area Fund	£7,339.00		
Culm Lea Fencing	£19,870.00	£19,870.00	
Gates for Tufty Park		£1,150.00	
Planting for Head Weir Road		£97.50	
Prop for tree at Head Weir		£450.00	
TOTAL PLAY AREA FUNDS	£29,209.00	£21,567.50	£7,641.50

TUFTY PARK	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Tufty Park Income for tractor project (Fundraising)	£2,576.00		
Section 106 Monies for Tufty Park Tractor	£8,732.00		
TOTAL TUFTY	£11,308.00	£0.00	£11,308.00

ALLOTMENTS	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Allotment Expenses budget	£330.00		
Top field maintenance expenses		£16.31	
Haymans Close maintenance expenses		£16.70	
Haymans Close Rental Income	109.00		
Top Field Rental Income	475.00		
TOTALS	£914.00	£33.01	£880.99

P3 SCHEME	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Balance brought forward			£5,949.00
Communities Together grant	£1,400.00		
Tree/hedge report		£290.00	
Legal fees for leat path project		£406.00	
Removal of hedge and replace with fence (leat)		£3,331.20	
TOTAL P3 SCHEME	£1,400.00	£4,027.20	£3,321.80

CRIER	INCOME	EXPEND.	BALANCE
Crier Budget £3K less £500 Budgeted Income	£2,500.00		
Advertising	£265.00		
Printing (June Issue)		£588.00	
Delivery (June Issue)		£425.00	
Delivery (October Issue)		£425.00	
TOTAL	£2,765.00	£1,438.00	£1,327.00

Item 7. ii Update on Leat Path

- I note from previous minutes you are having difficulty identifying a suitable contractor for work to the leat banks. Historically contractors arranged by Devon County Council have carried out such work on the leat. I am sure if you contact the DCC Footpath Officer Stuart Howell he will be able to suggest a contractor.
- I was unable to add my support as District Council Ward Member to the Town Council's application to the Communities Together Fund for the leat safety barrier project. My reasons are as copied below and whilst I appreciate that the Town Council will continue with the project as they see fit, I would ask that the issues raised are given further consideration before proceeding with the knee rail. (I have not included the photos as I'm sure you all know what the different stretches look like.)

When I commented on the application, I did so on the basis of the information in the application form. Unfortunately the Town Clerk did not answer my queries for further detail including identifying the proposed locations for the barrier, so I made an assumption based on the amount of money being asked for that it was for the whole length. That may or may not be correct so you may take the comments about the different parts of the path in context of whether the intention is to barrier that particular part. Also note that the application form referred only to a knee rail and did not refer to a hand rail as is being discussed in appendix D. You will note from the objection I submitted that I would have supported that element.

Since submitting my objections a member of the public has also raised concern with me that a barrier could make it more difficult to reach to pick up dog mess, resulting in more people failing to clear up after their dogs in these areas, something I had not thought of before, but is a valid point.

"I must declare a personal interest as I am a member of the Cullompton Leat Conservancy Board and I have lived at Higher Mill for the past 9 years. That gives me a strong understanding of the issues this proposal raises.

My reasons for asking you to refuse the application are:

1. The application does not meet the criteria "Applicants need to demonstrate to CTF Fund decision-makers (which includes the relevant District and Devon County Council members) that:
– they have explored opportunities to work with other community groups to either identify and/or carry out the proposed project." These sections have been left blank on the application form.
2. The natural community group to choose for a project such as this would have been the Cullompton Leat Conservancy Board. The board have not been consulted about this by the town council.
3. The evidence of how this project will benefit local people is weak. The footpath along the leat is already well used and there is no evidence that people feel insecure or regularly fall in to the leat. I see the path used daily by people of all ages and abilities. The alleged incident with a mobility scooter came up in 2011 (at which time Town Council resolved not to put a barrier along the leat). The area this was said to have happened was where the path comes off at

Station Road which is where the path is narrow and steep (see photo 1). I would suggest that because this section of path is quite narrow (single file pedestrian width) with a steep access and a gate to negotiate, it is perhaps inappropriate for mobility scooter use. There are other routes available to access the leat footpath which are more suitable for mobility scooter use.

What would be more appropriate in this location would be a small section of hand rail to assist people on the steep section.

4. Perversely, this proposal would make the footpath less safe for the two sections from Station Road to Middle Mill as the pathway is single file pedestrian width (along with some other small sections downstream). The section from Higher Mill to Middle Mill is particularly well used as it is a popular pedestrian route to Tesco's. When people meet on the path (often with a dog or bags of shopping) they generally step on to the leat bank to allow the other person to pass. A barrier would prevent people passing in this way and could result in people climbing over the barrier to allow people to pass which is more likely to result in an accident and falls into the leat, just the thing which is trying to be prevented. (see photos 1 & 2)
5. As you can see from photo 3, much of the pathway along the leat from Lower to Middle Mill is a good width and far enough from the edge of the leat for falling in not to pose any risk at all.
6. A barrier would make grass cutting and maintenance of the leat bank more difficult, costly and hazardous for the local authorities. Instead of standing safely on the path to trim the grass, in the narrow parts a barrier would result in the operative having to stand on the bank to cut the grass effectively which would not be safe.
7. The Leat Conservancy Board planted daffodil bulbs in the bank a few years ago, which as you can see in the photos look great at this time of year. It is unlikely that further enhancement projects like this would be carried out by this voluntary group if the banks became difficult to access. Work Devon County Council have done to maintain the banks in the past have included building steps to enable easy access into the leat. The Leat Board would not like to see any barrier to these accesses as they make it safer when entering the leat for litter picking etc.
8. The leat banks are soft and fragile in places. An attempt a few years ago to put a finger post sign in the bank below Higher Mill near the Tesco's exit failed and had to be removed and placed within Tesco's land as the bank was too soft to support it.
9. I persuaded Cabinet to have this area included within the area to be considered within the Cullompton Masterplan. In my opinion enhancements/improvements to the leat area should be left to be considered as part of that Masterplanning process which will then be properly consulted on with residents and stakeholders and the whole area dealt with holistically.
10. It will spoil the natural appearance of the leat bank (which is within Cullompton Conservation Area) and is seeking to fix a problem which does not exist. It would be like putting a barrier along the length of the Tiverton canal.

I have canvassed the opinion of numerous residents I have come across using the path. No one could see the point and all thought it would spoil the appearance. Nobody felt unsafe using the path. Ironically, the last person I spoke to was when I was taking photos this morning between Middle and Higher Mill and we had to stand on the bank to enable pedestrians to pass while we were talking, something we could not have done safely if there was a barrier!"

APPENDIX E

CULLOMPTON TOWN COUNCIL

2019 - PRIORITY PLAY AREA PROJECTS

REPORT TO: Community Wellbeing Committee

DATE: 2 April 2019

PREPARED BY: Town Clerk

RE: S.106 Funding for play areas and priority projects

1. GENERAL FUND: Unallocated funding £26389.00

2. BASKETBALL FACILITY

The Council has received a request for a basketball facility. This could be paid for from the unallocated pot but first need to identify location. There is an area adjacent to the Culm Valley Sports Centre that would be ideal for a MUGA but a MUGA would cost more than the £26,389 available.

RECOMMENDATION: Contact MDDC and the Manager of the Culm Valley Sports Centre to find out if they would be willing to work in partnership with the Town Council to install either a basketball facility or a MUGA on land adjacent to the Sports' Centre. If this is not an option then find an alternative location for a basketball facility e.g. Crow Bridge Park (opposite Tufty Park) or the open space at Cross Parks/Swallow Way

3. PRIORITY LIST FOR USE OF S.106 FUNDING

Site	Available funding		PRIORITY
Culm Lea		Refurbishment completed	
Tufty Park		Delay with installation of tractor due to installer going into hospital. Hope to install towards the end of April. Project then completed.	
Linear Park	£11,000 – Court Farm Youth contribution £9350 – Remaining from Culm Lea £2884 – Holly House	Project to install youth shelter and fitness equipment worked up by Youth Council but may need a rethink with regard to youth shelter.	HIGH PRIORITY ONE

	Total available: £23234.00	Consider trim trail and five a side goal posts or basketball facility for older children.	
Rivermead	£5768 available with a further £1205 to come (land at Hayne Farm)	Consult residents to find out ages of the children living in the local area and equipment preferences	HIGH PRIORITY TWO
Upcott Field	£36750 from Astra Print site	Money not available until development is started. Start to work up a project and keep eyes open for any progress with the planning application.	MEDIUM PRIORITY THREE
Culm Lea – Phase 2	Unallocated pot?	It was suggested, during the consultation with residents that either five a side goals posts (to deter older children from playing football in the play area) or fitness equipment is installed on the land adjacent to the play area.	MEDIUM PRIORITY FOUR
Knightswood Phase 2	17/01978/FULL Exon Buildings £1166.00 - Available 17/01127/FULL Weavers Meadow £1442.00 17/00824/FULL Springbourne £4326.00 18/01212/OUT – Land adj. St Helena, Shortlands Lane £1205	Only £1166 is available at present. Wait until all the money is available and, in the meantime survey nearby residents to find out what equipment they would prefer and find out the cost of either a basketball facility or cycling track. Start to work up a project	MEDIUM
Cross Parks	£59045 – from development at land at Knowle Lane 16/01988/MOUT	Development not yet started, funds available on occupancy Of 20 th /40 th dwellings. Start to work up a project and consult residents to find out their views.	MEDIUM