

DRAFT



**MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council
held on
Thursday 26 May 2016 commencing at 7pm at Cullompton Town Hall**

PRESENT: Cllr Rachel Sinclair (in the chair)

Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Anthony Buczkowski*, Chaim Ebanks*, Gordon Guest, Camille Harrison, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Martin Smith, Chris Standford and Mike Thompson.

Also in attendance: Inspector Stephen Bradford (D&C Constabulary), Cllr Karl Busch (MDDC)*, one member of the press and four members of the public.

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk

*In attendance for part only of the meeting

NOTE: Cllr Eileen Andrews took the chair for the first section of the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received and accepted from: Cllr Deborah Christopher (personal) and Cllr John Berry (DCC).
2. **ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR**
 - (i) **To elect Town Mayor for the ensuing civic year.** Three nominations, one of which received no seconder, the nominations were:
 - Cllr Rachel Sinclair, proposed by Cllr Camille Harrison, seconded by Cllr Janet Johns and
 - Cllr Martin Smith, proposed by Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded by Cllr Chaim Ebanks.

A paper vote was taken and it was

RESOLVED: That Cllr Rachel Sinclair is elected Town Mayor for the ensuing civic year 2016/17.

- (ii) **To receive Town Mayor's declaration of acceptance of office.** Cllr Rachel Sinclair signed the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance and resumed the chair.

3. **ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR:** Three nominations:
Cllr Chaim Ebanks, proposed by Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded by Cllr Eileen Andrews,
Cllr Anthony Buczkowski, proposed by Cllr Anthony Buczkowski, seconded by Cllr Mike Thompson and

Cllr Martin Smith, proposed by Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded by Cllr Janet Johns.

A paper vote was taken and it was

RESOLVED: That Cllr Martin Smith is elected Deputy Town Mayor for the civic year 2016/17.

4. Declarations of Interest: To receive disclosures of pecuniary, non-pecuniary and personal interests.

Cllr Mike Thompson declared a personal interest as he wished to make a comment about the Minutes of the Planning & Licencing Committee meeting held on 12 May 2016 and he lives close to site of the planning application he wishes to talk about.

Cllr Rachel Sinclair declared a personal interest in respect of Item 11 (II) approval of financial statements as her father is the recipient of one of the payments made.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: To receive questions from member of the public present at the meeting. None

6. MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 28 April 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Anthony Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

NOTE: It was suggested that, in future, a note is made in the Minutes about whether a verbal or written response is given to a question posed during public question time.

7. POLICE REPORT: Inspector Stephen Bradford introduced himself as the new Mid Devon Section Inspector having recently taken over from Inspector Jane Alford-Mole. He reported the crime figures for April 2016 as compared with the previous April and explained that, although there had been a slight increase (30 crimes in 2016, compared with 28 crimes in 2015), overall for the year the figures are showing a slight decrease.

He confirmed that Cullompton was a comparatively safe place to live, with Devon being the 3rd safest area in the UK to live. In response to a question from a member of the public he confirmed that there was no intention to decrease the number of police officers in the local area.

Cllr Anthony Buczkowski asked him to thank Inspector Jane Alford-Mole, on behalf of the Council.

The Town Mayor thanked Inspector Bradford and he left the meeting.

8. COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: To appoint committees, sub-committees and community representatives for the ensuing civic year.

RESOLVED: That membership of Committees, Sub-Committees and community representatives for the 2016/17 is approved as follows:

Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee	Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Mike Thompson Gordon Guest Chaim Ebanks
General Purposes Committee	Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Mike Thompson Christopher Standford Brett Lewis Gordon Guest Camille Harrison
Planning & Licensing Committee	Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Gordon Guest Janet Johns Christopher Standford Kate Haslett Deborah Christopher
Market Committee	Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Chaim Ebanks
Community Wellbeing Committee	Rachel Sinclair Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Kate Haslett Janet Johns Deborah Christopher Martin Smith
s.106 Sub-Committee (Reports to Planning & Licensing Committee)	Eileen Andrews Anthony Buczkowski Gordon Guest Janet Johns Martin Smith Mike Thompson
Appeals Sub-Committee	Kate Haslett Janet Johns Chris Standford
Audit Sub-Committee (Reports to Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee)	Chaim Ebanks Camille Harrison Mike Thompson

WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Allotment Association	Anthony Buczkowski
Cullompton John Tallack Centre	Anthony Buczkowski Mike Thompson Martin Smith Eileen Andrews
Citizens Advice Bureau	Eileen Andrews
Town Team (Two representatives)	Martin Smith Janet Johns
Cullompton Community Association	Martin Smith
Devon Playing Fields Ass	Eileen Andrews
Larger Local Councils	Anthony Buczkowski Mike Thompson
Community Safety Partnership Two representatives	Eileen Andrews Mike Thompson
Tree Protection Officer	Camille Harrison
Voluntary Car Scheme	Chaim Ebanks
Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign	Kate Haslett
Culm Valley in Business	Rachel Sinclair Gordon Guest
Neighbourhood Plan	Eileen Andrews Gordon Guest Martin Smith
Cullompton United Charities	Eileen Andrews Martin Smith
Cullompton Pub-Watch Scheme	Brett Lewis
Community Bus Working Group	Eileen Andrews Mike Thompson Martin Smith

10. REPORTS**(i) County/District Councillor Reports.**

(a) Devon County Councillor John Berry had been unable to attend the meeting but had sent a written report as follows:

- Problem with traffic light sequencing being looked into.
- Problem with water gathering in Station Road being investigated.

Cllr Anthony Buczkowski left the meeting

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson expressed concern that District Councillors don't often attend Town Council meetings to make reports. Clerk to contact District Councillors and encourage them to attend Town Council meetings to make a report.

- (b) **Mid Devon District Councillor Eileen Andrews** reported that the tenancy agreements for Mid Devon housing are being revised and that she has requested information about the number of council houses to be built in Mid Devon in the next year, in particular how many in Cullompton.

In response to a question from Cllr Martin Smith she agreed to find out the reason for the changes to the tenancy agreement.

- (ii) **Any other meeting reports.**
- (a) **Cllr Gordon Guest** reported that details of the options for the route of an eastern relief road have been delayed until August/September 2016.
- (b) **Cllr Eileen Andrews** reported that the Community Safety Partnership Local Action Group has now changed its name to Local Advisory Group. Its role has also changed and, in future, it will hold two meetings each year with a speaker on different topics. The public will be invited to attend these meetings.

11. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- (i) **Annual Return: To approve 2015/16 Annual Return**

RESOLVED: That the Annual Accounting Statements and the Annual Report 2015/16 are approved. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Chaim Ebanks.

- (ii) **To approve the Financial Statements for April 2016.**

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £26,849.65 for April 2016 are approved and the Financial Statements for April 2016 are approved. Proposed Cllr Chaim Ebanks, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.

12. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- (i) **Drainage and flooding in the Station Road area.** Discussion with regard to flooding and drainage issues and also drainage into the town leat.

RESOLVED: That a meeting is organised with Devon County Council, the Environment Agency, Mid Devon District Council, and other interested parties, including land owners and members of the public, to discuss ways to resolve the drainage and flooding issues in Cullompton. This could include attenuation ponds, drainage in the Higher Bullring area and Station Road and the Town Leat. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Rachel Sinclair.

- (ii) **Road Warden Scheme.**

RESOLVED: That the Council organises a well publicised public meeting to make people aware of the Road Warden Scheme, possibly in September 2016. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Rachel Sinclair.

13. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

- (i) **Drainage and flooding in the Higher Bullring area and Clark's Court.** (see 12(i))
- (ii) **To consider lending support to a letter sent by the Town Team to the Leader of Devon County Council with regard to concerns about second section of Swallow Way**

RESOLVED: That the Council lends its support to a letter sent by the Town Team to the Leader of Devon County Council with regard to concerns about the second section of Swallow Way and highlighting concerns about HGVs and buses using the road, also send visual evidence. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Chaim Ebanks.

NOTE: Try to obtain copies of any comments made by the emergency services and haulage companies with regard to the road through Kingfisher Reach.

14. COMMITTEES: To receive the Minutes of the following Committee meetings:

- (i) **Market Committee meeting held on 27 April 2015:** Noted
- (ii) **Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 3 May 2016.**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 3 May 2016 are noted and the recommendation that “the draft social media guidelines are approved” is approved. Proposed Cllr Chaim Ebanks, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.

- (iii) **Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 10 May 2016 (Appendix H), including the following recommendation “That the Council does not loan equipment for the Town Fayre to be held on 28 August 2016”.**

RESOLVED:

1. That the recommendation is not approved and instead the Council invites the people organising the Town Fayre on 28 August to make a presentation to the members of the Community Wellbeing and Market Committees. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.
2. That the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee drafts a policy with regard to the loan of council equipment. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

Cllr Chaim Ebanks left the meeting

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson declared a personal interest in respect of the Minutes of the Planning & Licencing Committee meeting held on 12 May 2016.

- (iv) **Planning & Licencing Committee meeting held on 28 April and 12 May.** Noted

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson made comment with regard to the Minutes of the Planning & Licencing Committee meeting held on 12 May as he had a concern about the way in which planning application no. 16/00580/FULL had been dealt with.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Culm Voluntary Car Scheme:** Thank you for the grant. *Noted*
- (ii) **Citizens’ Advice Bureau:** Thank you for the grant. *Noted*
- (iii) **Phillip Ham:** Signing through Swallow Way. *Noted*
- (iv) **Jan Jackett:** Central government should respect the wishes of local people when determining whether fracking goes ahead. *The Council noted the comment and felt that it would make comment with regard to this issue if there are ever any proposals for fracking in the South West.*

- (v) **Tiverton & District Community Transport Ass:** Thank you for grant. *Noted*
 - (vi) **Samaritan's Purse:** Thank you for your support. *Noted*
 - (vii) **Phil James:** Notice of resignation from the Council. *Letter of appreciation to be sent.*
 - (viii) **Tiverton Town Council:** Mayoral Civic Dinner, 9 July, tickets £19 per head. *Noted*
16. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT:** Mid Devon District Councillor Karl Busch had arrived late at the meeting and asked to make a short report with regard to a project to incorporate local business technology. He reported that a grant had been submitted for this work.
17. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 30 June at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____