



**MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council  
held on  
Thursday 14 July 2016 commencing at 7pm in Cullompton Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Martin Smith (in the chair)

Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Karl Busch, Chaim Ebanks, Camille Harrison, Janet Johns, and Mike Thompson.

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk

33. **APOLOGIES** received and accepted from: Cllrs Anthony Buczkowski (unwell), Deborah Christopher (work), Gordon Guest (personal), Kate Haslett (personal), Rachel Sinclair (unwell) and Chris Standford (work) .
34. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None at this stage of the meeting.
35. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** None
36. **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 30 June 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews

**NOTE:** Clerk agreed to prepare an "Action List" of actions from each meeting to show the follow-up action taken and circulate to members with the agenda for Full Council meetings.

37. **RE-OPENING OF CULLOMPTON RAILWAY STATION: To consider request for a contribution towards the cost of a feasibility study.** Taunton Deane Borough Council has agreed to contribute £40,000, Wellington Town Council has committed a further £10,000 and Mid Devon District Council is hopefully going to match the contribution made by Taunton Deane Borough Council and has asked if Cullompton Town Council will match the contribution being made by Wellington Town Council.

Concern that, to-date, the Council has not been involved in the discussions about the delivery of a railway station to serve Cullompton.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That, in principle, the Council is happy to make a contribution of £10,000 towards the cost of a feasibility study to look at the provision of a Cullompton railway station with the provisos that:
  - (i) The Council is involved in the discussions relating to the delivery of a railway station to serve Cullompton and
  - (ii) the Council has involvement in the feasibility study and is consulted on the questions to be asked.
  
2. That the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee is tasked with deciding the means of funding a contribution of £10,000 towards the cost of a railway station feasibility study.

Proposed: Cllr Chaim Ebanks, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews

**NOTE:** MDDC to be asked to invite Devon County Council representatives to be involved in the discussions.

**38. HIGHWAY AND FORWARD PLANNING MATTERS: To consider response from Devon County Council and agree way forward regarding:**

**(i) Design of extension to Swallow Way:** Discussion included:

- Road constructed in accordance with the approved planning application. Developers will not be willing to pay for alterations so looks like the town is stuck with what it's got.
- The current plans show the NW Distributor Road running alongside the cemetery boundary and coming out into Tiverton Road opposite the entrance to Langlands Road. Is there any intentions to use Langlands Road as the link rather than the new section of Swallow Way?
- Request that the policy is included in the Neighbourhood Plan setting out the criteria for any future road construction in Cullompton.
- A judicial review can only be used if it is considered that due process has not been followed. There is no mechanism to apply for a review of an approved planning application. Unlikely that anything will be achieved by applying for a judicial review.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a meeting is arranged with the NW Extension developers to find out what their plans are for the NW Distributor road and also ask for a policy to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan stipulating the criteria for road construction for future development in Cullompton. Involve the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and a planning officer in the meeting. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.
2. That our Devon County Councillor is asked to find out Devon County Council's policy with regard to liaising/consulting with towns and parishes on highway planning matters. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

**(ii) Congestion created by traffic lights at the M5 junction:** Response from Devon County Council concluded that there was nothing that could be done to improve the current situation. It was considered that the comments were unacceptable, as there was no problem before the traffic lights were installed there should be a solution. Concerns that the future development planned for Cullompton will make the situation worse. Suggestions included:

- Changing the phasing of the lights.

- Stopping cars from parking in Fore Street at peak traffic flow times.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That Devon County Council is requested to consider changes to the shift patterns for Parking Enforcement Officers to ensure that no vehicles park in Fore Street at times of peak traffic flows.
2. That Devon County Council is reminded that the problem didn't exist before the traffic lights were installed and so there must a way to resolve it. The Council requests details of the current data with regard to the volume of traffic using the junction. Make it clear that the current situation is unacceptable particularly as
  - (i) There is massive residential expansion planned for Cullompton which is going to make the situation worse.
  - (ii) Cullompton is a detour route when the M5 is closed.

Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

**NOTE:** Cllr Eileen Andrews declared a personal interest in respect of the following item as she is Vice-Chairman of the Cullompton Community Association

**(iii) The Eastern Distributor Road:** It was noted that a considerable amount of money has been spent in Somerset to improve the A38 North East of Taunton.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council contacts its County Councillor to ask, if Somerset County Council can invest in new roads for Taunton why can't Devon County Council do the same for Cullompton?

**(iv) The Northern Distributor Road.** This matter has been dealt with at 38(i).

**39. LOCALLY LED GARDEN VILLAGES, TOWNS AND CITIES:** To approve writing a letter in support of submitting an application in respect of the Government's Garden Towns and Villages initiative

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council writes a letter of support for the submission of an Expression of Interest in respect of the Government's Locally-led Garden Villages and Towns initiative.
2. Investigate incorporating in the Neighbourhood Plan. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

**40. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) **Willowbank Primary School:** Thank you for loan of gazebos. *Noted*
- (ii) **Devon County Council:** Letter re grass cutting will be passed to Head of Highways to respond directly. *Noted*
- (iii) **Devon Senior Voice:** Newsletter. *Noted*
- (iv) **Deborah Christopher:** Resignation. *Noted*

Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED:** That, due to its confidential nature, the following item is dealt with as Part 2 business and in accord with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and 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 Camille Harrison, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

**41. ST ANDREWS CAR PARK**

(i) To consider the revised contract for the management of the car park.

**RESOLVED:** That the revised Agreement for the management of St Andrews car park is approved.

**42. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 28 July at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_