



**MINUTES of Cullompton Town Council meeting  
held on  
Thursday 23 April 2015 at 7pm at Cullompton Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Rachel Sinclair (in the chair)

Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Anthony Buczkowski, Jane Campbell, Phil James, Chris Snow, Michael Speirs, James Wakefield\* and Jim Young

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk.

Also in attendance: Cllrs Linda Holloway & Nikki Wollatt (MDDC), Inspector Jane Alford-Mole and PC Nigel Berry, Simon Newcombe (MDDC), one member of the press and approximately six members of the public.

\* in attendance for part only of the meeting.

**168. APOLOGIES received and accepted from:** Town Mayor Cllr Gordon Guest (personal) and Cllrs: Chaim Ebanks (personal) and Pauline Hammett (unwell).

**169. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

- (i) **Cllr Anthony Buczkowski** declared a personal interest in respect of the John Tallack Centre report as he is a trustee of the John Tallack Centre.
- (ii) **Cllr Eileen Andrews** declared a personal interest in respect of grant for the Cullompton Community Association as she is a committee member.

**170. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**

- (i) **J Stuckey** asked what the Council can do to stop Shortlands Lane being used as a "rat run" now that Tiverton Road is closed. The first section of the lane is private and has not been adopted by DCC but it is a designated bridlepath, this means that it is not being maintained by DCC but due to the high volume of traffic currently using the lane the surface is being worn away. As the lane is only wide enough for one vehicle to pass through drivers often need to reverse back onto Tiverton Road due to oncoming traffic which creates a danger for both motorists and pedestrians.

*It was agreed to contact Devon County Council to investigate what can be done to resolve this problem.*

- (ii) **Anita North** asked why the Council's CCTV system in the town centre is inadequate. She suggested that it was about time something was done to improve the system.

*It was explained that the Council intends to install 2 additional cameras on a shop in Fore Street (opposite the Walronds). The Mid Devon Safety Partnership has offered the Council a £1,000 grant to assist with a further upgrade and the Council is currently obtaining advice on the most effective way to upgrade the system.*

Cllr James Wakefield joined the meeting.

- (iii) Jim Myers asked whether the CCTV is manned and what is being done to deter under-age drinking and the drinking of alcohol in the launderette.

*It was explained that the CCTV is not manned, the Police and pub landlords are working very hard to deter under-age drinking and the launderette is a private premises and the owner would need to be approached about this. The Police offered to pursue this matter.*

**171. PRESENTATION BY AND DISCUSSION WITH SIMON NEWCOMBE (MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES MANAGER) RE PREMISES LICENSING AND OTHER ASSOCIATED MATTERS.**

Simon Newcombe explained how MDDC manage licensing and also how to go about requesting a licence premises review. There is straight forward guidance on the MDDC website about this.

Discussion ensued about a joint community approach to licensing.

**RESOLVED:** That the Police Report item is brought forward to this part of the meeting to enable the Police to respond to any relevant questions.

- 172. POLICE REPORT:** Inspector Jane Alford-Mole reported the recent crime figures. Crime is down 5.2% over the previous year. Decrease in crimes such as shop-lifting but an increase in cyber crimes. Cuts in funding making it increasingly difficult to cover all areas of Mid Devon effectively.

Discussion about an incident in the street outside the Manor House Hotel on Friday 4 April. The incident was caused by an over-indulgence of alcohol and one arrest was made. Warning letters have been sent to 5 people following the incident and the Manor House Hotel's door supervisors have been invited to the Police Station for advice and guidance.

Mid Devon is one of the safest places in the country to live. Police will continue to engage with the community but do require intelligence information to help understand the problems and where to deploy officers.

Concerns raised that the Manor House Hotel's licence runs until 2am whilst other licensed premises are required to close at 1am, this will be looked into. Concern also about people finding it difficult to sleep before 3am due to noise levels in Fore Street at weekends.

People felt that there was no point in contacting the Police as they were there talking to the people in the street and were already aware of the problem. Inspector Jane Alford-Mole stressed that complaints need to be logged and that the Police can only act when they have evidence of a problem. She asked people to contact her if they would like to discuss any of the matters raised.

Cllr Anthony Buczkowski thanked the Police for their report and they left the meeting.

**173. MINUTES:** The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 26 March 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Anthony Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Jane Campbell.

**174. REPORTS**

**(i) Chairman's report and announcements:** None

**(ii) District/County Councillor reports:**

- **Mid Devon District Councillor Nikki Wollatt** reported that the Article 4 direction review report will not go to Cabinet until June 2015.
- **Mid Devon District Councillor Linda Holloway** reported that the Listed Building Consent application for repair work to the Manor House Hotel is being fast tracked by MDDC. Harlequin Valet site now cleared.

**NOTE:** A vote of thanks was recorded to Cllr Linda Holloway for all her help and support over the past years, we will miss her at our meetings as she will not be standing in the forthcoming election.

- **Mid Devon Councillor Eileen Andrews** reported on the annual meeting of the Community Safety Partnership which she had attended recently along with Cllr Anthony Buczkowski.

**NOTE:** Cllr Anthony Buczkowski declared a personal interest in respect of the following item.

**(iii) John Tallack Centre:** The Town Clerk circulated a report which was noted.

**(iv) Cullompton Traders Association:** Cllr Michael Speirs reported that they have now changed their name to Culm Valley in Business.

**175. COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES: To accept the Minutes and approve the recommendations of the following:**

**(i) Market Committee** meeting held on 18 March 2015: **Noted**

**(i) Planning Committee** meetings held on 26 March and 9 April 2015: **Noted**

**(iii) Policy & Resources Committee** meeting held 14 April 2015

**NOTE:** Cllr Eileen Andrews declared a personal interest in respect of grant application for the Cullompton Community Association.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 14 April 2015 are noted and the recommendations contained in those Minutes are approved as follows:

- (a) That the cemetery income over budget for 2014/15 is carried forward to 2015/16 and used towards the purchase of a ride-on lawn mower for the cemetery.
- (b) That the £7,000 budget for election expenses is transferred to the contingency budget.
- (c) That the Statement of Internal Control 2014/15 is approved.
- (d) That grant applications are approved as listed below:

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
Citizens Advice Bureau (outreach service)	£500.00
St Andrews Church (PA System)	£200.00
Cullompton Community Association (play equipment)	£200.00
Cullompton Rangers FC (perimeter fencing and spectator cover)	Deferred as no accounts submitted
Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign	Deferred as no accounts submitted
Culm Voluntary Car Scheme	£200.00
Cullompton Town Team (shop front grant scheme)	£1,000.00
Unite- Carers in Mid Devon	£250.00
Tiverton & District Community Transfer	Deferred for more information about the services they offer to Cullompton residents.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2350.00</b>

- (e) That, with effect from 1 April 2015, the Clerk's salary is increased by one spinal column point.
- (f) That the revised Scheme of Delegation is adopted for implementation from May 2015.
- (g) That the Risk Management Strategy and Policy Statement is adopted.
- (h) That the Member/Officer protocol is adopted.

**(iv) General Purposes Committee** meeting held on 14 April 2015: **Noted**

#### **175. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- (i) To approve the Financial Statements for March 2015

**RESOLVED:** That payments totalling £41,900.44 for March 2015 are approved and the Financial Statements for March 2015 are approved. Proposed Cllr Jane Campbell, seconded Cll Anthony Buczkowski.

#### **176. COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT**

- (i) **Duke Street: To consider requesting that Devon County Council finds ways to discourage use of Duke Street by vehicles except as a means of access** (Cllr E Andrews). Concern about the dangers to residents as, in the narrowest section of Duke Street people open their front doors directly onto the street. Also some sections of Duke Street do not have a footway due to the limited width of the road. Cllr Andrews suggested that Duke Street could become one-way only and bollards installed to limit the width of vehicles.

**RESOLVED:** That the Traffic & Environment Working Group is asked to look at how Duke Street can be made safer for both residents and pedestrians.

(ii) **Willand Road: To consider amendments to the current parking restrictions.** A plan was circulated to all members present detailing Devon County Council's recommendation that the parking restrictions are extended to the opposite side of Willand Road and also further along Willand Road to just past St Georges Well. It was suggested that the restrictions should also be continued to Goblin Lane as residents were finding it difficult to drive out of the lane safety as visibility is often obscured by parked vehicles.

Concern also raised about obscured visibility when driving out from the Integrated Centre for Health due to vegetation growth. It was suggested that it is the responsibility of the Integrated Centre for Health to keep this cut back.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council supports Devon County Council's proposals to extend the parking restrictions in Willand Road and requests that the restrictions are extended to Goblin Lane.
2. That the Council finds out if the Police will support the proposals to extend the parking restrictions in Willand Road.
3. That the Integrated Centre for Health is asked to cut back any vegetation which is obscuring visibility for drivers.
4. That Devon County Council is requested to carry out a traffic survey.

(iii) **Fore Street: To consider amendments to the current parking restrictions.** Due, in part to the closure of Tiverton Road, there is often traffic tailbacks due to vehicles being parked in Fore Street.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council supports extending the loading/unloading restrictions until later in the evening.

(iv) **Upcott Field:** To consider request for use of the field on Sunday 30 August for "Love Cully 2015" approximately 12noon – 5.30pm.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council grants permission for St Andrews Church to use the Upcott Field for "Love Cully 2015" on 30 August 2015. Proposed Cllr Eileen Andrews, seconded Cllr Anthony Buczkowski.

(v) **Play Area Report: To receive the report and consider the recommendations**

**RESOLVED:** That the Council supports the recommendations contained in the Play Area Report. Meeting to be arranged with MDDC to progress the recommendations.

(vi) **CCTV: To consider improvements to CCTV system.:** It was reported that the Mid Devon Safety Partnership has offered £1,000 towards upgrading the CCTV system and the Assistant Clerk is currently preparing a report of the options for upgrade.

**177. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) Healthwatch Voices newsletter:** Noted
- (ii) Devon Senior Voice newsletter:** Noted
- (iii) Hayridge Centre:** Thanks for the grant towards lego kits for the Lego Club: Noted
- (iv) Sally Davis:** Gift of postcards and photographs

**RESOLVED:** That a letter of thanks is sent to Dr Sally Davis thanking her for her kind donation of postcards and photographs.

- (v) Devon Association of Local Councils:** Newsletter: Noted
- (vi) Devon Army Cadet Force:** Leaflet and details of recent achievements: Noted
- (vii) Devon County Council:** Weight restriction order to prohibit HGVs over 18 tonnes except for loading on all roads in Cullompton between Willand Road and Millennium Way: Noted

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

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