

APPENDIX A



MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council held on

Thursday 26 January 2016 commencing at 7pm in Cullompton Town Hall

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

Cllrs: Daniel Barnes, James Buczkowski, Karl Busch, Iain Emmett, Camille Harrison, Janet Johns, Chris Stanford, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (DCC), PCSO Jonathan Sims and two members of the public

125. APOLOGIES received and accepted from: Town Mayor Cllr Rachel Sinclair (health) and Cllrs: Eileen Andrews (health), Gordon Guest (personal) and Kate Haslett (personal).

126. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

- (i) **Cllr Mike Thompson** declared a personal interest in respect of a question in Public Question Time, relating to Shortlands Lane as he had been involved in researching the status of the lane.

127. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: To receive questions from member of the public present at the meeting.

NOTE: Cllr James Buczkowski, once he understood the nature of the question, declared a pecuniary interest in the item below, as he has an interest in property owned by his late Father in Archers Close, off Shortlands Lane. He withdrew from the meeting whilst the discussion took place.

- (i) **Mr Mike MacIlroy:** Background information circulated to all Councillors present. He asked the Council to remove a copy of a highway report from its records and return it to the local resident that had commissioned the report as Mr MacIlroy felt that the report was not 'fit for purpose'.

Note: The report was given to the Council by the resident that commissioned the report for information purposes.

Cllr Mike Thompson objected to the document that had been circulated to the Councillors. His particular concern being that the document refers to the report as being 'criminal'.

The Chairman explained to Mr MacIlroy that the report would be treated in the same way as all the other information that the Council holds on the subject of Shortlands Lane. It was further explained that the Council will respond in writing to his question.

Mr MacIlroy continued to press his point after the three minutes allowed for public questions had expired. The Chairman asked him on several occasions to stop talking so that the Council could continue to the next item of business. When it became evident that Mr MacIlroy was not going to keep quiet the Chairman asked him to leave the meeting. Mr Macilroy ignored this request and continued to press his point.

RESOLVED: That the meeting is adjourned until Mr MacIlroy leaves the meeting. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

PCSO Jonathan Sims joined the meeting and escorted Mr MacIlroy from the meeting.

The meeting was restarted at approximately 7.20pm.

Cllr Mike Thompson asked that the Council seeks legal advice in relation to the content of the document presented to the Council by Mr MacIlroy.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk seeks legal advice, on behalf of the Council, in relation to the content of the document headed "Highway law survey" presented to the Council by Mr MacIlroy. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

(ii) **Mr C Snow** asked questions with regard to the following:

- Informal meetings: is the council aware that it is not good practice to hold informal meetings?
- Concern that Councillors who are also members of the Town Team did not declare a personal interest at the meeting held on 15 December 2016 when at Item 118 (ii) it was resolved that the Town Council administers funds for the Town Team and the money currently held by MDDC is transferred to the Town Council.
- Agendas for past meetings not available on the Town Council website.
- Concern that the Town Council is making a claim against its own insurance for the loss of the Deputy Town Mayor's chain of office. Considers that the Deputy Town Mayor should pay for a new chain from his own pocket.

128. MINUTES: the Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 15 December 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Janet Johns, seconded Cllr Richard Thorne.

129. MID DEVON LOCAL PLAN: To consider holding a meeting on Thursday 9 February to approve a response to the Mid Devon Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That the Council holds a meeting on 9 February to approve its response to the Local Plan consultation, MDDC Forward Planning Officer to be invited to attend the meeting. Proposed Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

130. REPORTS

(i) **Town Mayor's Report:** In the absence of the Town Mayor, the Deputy Town Mayor reported that he had been invited to make a presentation at the MDDC Annual Civic Service at St Andrews Church on 12 March. He also reported that a letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Chaim Ebanks.

RESOLVED: That the Council accepts the resignation of Cllr Chaim Ebanks and sends a letter of appreciation for all his hard work whilst a member of the Council. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Richard Thorne.

(ii) **Police Report:** PCSO Jonathan Sims explained that he had been appointed to replace PCSO Katy Butt. New sergeant recently appointed, Vicky Greenwood, now have a full compliment of staff to cover the town. Recorded crime for December up 6.7%. He explained that he would not be able to attend all the Council's meeting but would send a report to the meetings if unable to attend in person.

PCSO Jonathan Sims left the meeting.

RESOLVED: That a letter of appreciation is sent to PCSO Katy Butt for her hard work during her time working as a PCSO in Cullompton. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

(iii) County/District Councillor Reports.

(a) **Devon County Councillor John Berry's** reported included:

- Still trying to get DCC permission to place cones on the highway to deter parking when the M5 is closed.
- Attended meeting at Cullompton Community College to discuss expansion plans to accommodate additional students resulting from proposed new housing development.
- Concern about cuts in funding to schools.
- In discussion with Gregory's about ways to improve access from Kings Mill Road onto Station Road at peak times.

Cllr Daniel Barnes stated his concerns about cuts in funding for local schools. Cllr John Berry confirmed that a group of headteachers from Devon will be meeting with central government ministers about this.

RESOLVED: That the Council writes to Devon County Council expressing its serious concerns about reductions in funding for local schools when they are already underfunded when compared with the national average. Request justification for this decision. Copies to MP and Secretary of State for Education. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Daniel Barnes.

Cllr Daniel Barnes left the meeting.

(b) **Mid Devon Councillor Karl Busch** reported on discussion with Gregorys with regard to the Kings Mill Road/Station Road junction, garden village designation and economic development .

(iv) **Any other meeting reports.** None

131. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

(i) To approve the Financial Statements for December 2016

RESOLVED: that payments totalling £40,530.21 for December 2016 are approved and the Financial Statements for December 2016 are approved. Proposed Cllr Chris Standford, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.

(ii) TAP Fund

- (a) To consider support for application from Bradninch 12th Night for £700 for road traffic management equipment. The Clerk asked the Council to consider its support for an application from Bradninch Town Council for £2,000 towards play equipment.

RESOLVED: That the Council supports TAP Fund applications from Bradninch 12th Night for £700 for road traffic management equipment and Bradninch Town Council £2,000 for play equipment. Proposed Cllr Chris Standford, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (b) To approve submission of TAP Fund applications for cemetery notice board and Christmas Festival workshops.

RESOLVED: That the Council submits TAP Fund applications for cemetery notice board and Christmas Festival workshops. Proposed Cllr Chris Standford, seconded Cllr Karl Busch.

132. COMMITTEES: To receive the Minutes of the following Committee and Working Group meetings and approve the recommendations contained therein:

- (i) **Planning & Licencing Committee** meeting held on 8 December 2016, 15 December 2016 and 12 January 2017. *Noted*
- (ii) **Public Convenience Working Group** meeting held on 11 January 2017. *Noted*
- (iii) **Community Wellbeing Committee** meeting held on 10 January 2017. *Noted*
- (iv) **Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee** meeting held on 17 January 2017

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on 17 January 2017 are noted and the following recommendations are approved.

- (a) That the Council agrees to pay the YMCA £19,500 to provide a youth service during 2017/18 and looks to find the additional £2,500 budget shortfall from sources such as grants. (Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Karl Busch)
- (b) That the Council pays RBS Software £399 plus travelling expenses to provide one day's training and advice. (Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett).
- (c) That all members of the Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee are authorised to sign cheques and approve internet banking payments (any two to sign). Proposed Cllr Richard Thorne, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

- (v) **General Purposes Committee** meeting held on 17 January. *Noted*

133. NOMINATION FOR INCLUSIVE IN BALLOT FOR TICKETS TO A BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY.

RESOLVED: That the Town Mayor Cllr Rachel Sinclair is nominated for inclusion in the ballot for tickets to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

134. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- (i) **Kingfisher Reach/Swallow Way: To receive report of meeting with Environment Agency re planting alongside leat in public open space area.** Clerk reported that the meeting had been very successful. The Environment Agency agreed to work with the developer and planning officers to agree an appropriate planting scheme that can be extended through future phases of the development.
- (ii) **Swallow Way road report: To receive report of meeting held with DCC Highway Officers and agree way forward:** The Chairman reported that it had been a positive meeting.
- (iii) **Kingfisher Reach development meeting: To receive details of meeting and agree who will attend on behalf of the Town Council.**

RESOLVED: That the meeting, due to be held on 2 February, starts at 6.30pm. Council representatives to attend the meeting agreed as:

Cllrs: Daniel Barnes*, Iain Emmett, Gordon Guest, Martin Smith, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne.

*Check whether Cllr Daniel Barnes is able to attend, if not then Cllr Janet Johns to attend.

- (iv) **Play areas: To receive response from Mid Devon District Council regarding funding for play areas and agree way forward:** *Noted*
- (v) **M5, J28: To receive response from Highways England with regard to emergency plan in the case of motorway closure:** Response discussed.

RESOLVED: Investigate whether there is any legal way in which Chapter 8 qualified personnel can place cones on the public highway. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.

Also Cllr Chris Standford offered to find out what other towns in a similar situation to Cullompton e.g. Bridgwater do when the M5 is closed.

- 135. ST ANDREWS CAR PARK: To consider terms and conditions for parking and wording for signage:** Clerk reported that it had proved difficult to find wording for car park signs which was simple for people to understand and also provided clear information about the terms and condition of parking.

RESOLVED: That the terms and conditions of parking at St Andrew car park are simplified. Proposed Cllr Chris Standford, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

RESOLVED: That as the time was 9pm, that the meeting continues for another 15 minutes. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

136. MOTIONS PUT FORWARD BY COUNCILLORS

- (i) **That the Council obtains legal advice about any legal action that can be taken to resolve any of the range of problems currently being experienced by residents of new development.** (Cllr Gordon Guest).

RESOLVED: That, as Cllr Gordon Guest was not present, this item is deferred until the next meeting.

- (ii) **That the Council sets up a Planning & Development Scrutiny Committee** (Cllr Richard Thorne)

RESOLVED: That the proposal to set up a Planning & Development Scrutiny Committee is considered further at the next meeting.

137. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Devon Countryside Access Forum:** Looking for new members. *Noted*
- (ii) **Devon Communities Together:** Developing a new Healthy Ageing Framework with a group of interested Town/Parish Councils. *Noted*
- (iii) **Healthwatch:** Newsletter. *Noted*
- (iv) **Cycle/running race:** Sunday 4 June, from Killerton, will use the roundabout at Padbrook to turn around and back to Killerton. *Noted*
- (v) **East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership:** Annual conference, 5 April at Broadclyst Victory Hall. *Noted*

138. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 9 February 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____