

APPENDIX A



**MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council
held on**

Thursday 2 March 2017 commencing at 7pm in Cullompton Town Hall

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

Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Martin Smith and Cllrs: Eileen Andrews, Daniel Barnes, James Buczkowski, Karl Busch, Iain Emmett, Gordon Guest, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk

Also in attendance: Cllr John Berry (DCC) and two members of the public.

145. APOLOGIES received and accepted from: Cllrs Camille Harrison (personal) and Chris Stanford (work). Also Cllr Rosemary Berry (MDDC).

146. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None at this stage of the meeting.

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

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

- Deferral of the project to provide a market power supply: *Clerk reported that this had been installed, waiting for meter to be connected.*
- John Tallack Youth & Community Centre: date of handover to the Trust: *Clerk reported that the Trust had received the conveyance documents from Devon County Council and hoped to complete the transfer in the next few weeks.*
- Disabled buggy in doorway of Town Hall is a fire hazard, concern about public safety: *Discussion ensued with regard to fire risk assessment.*

RESOLVED: Clerk to obtain a Fire Risk Assessment for parking of disabled buggies in the front porch/doorway of the Town Hall. Cllr Richard Thorne offered to provide a brief for this report. Proposed Cllr Richard Thorne, seconded Cllr James Buczkowski.

148. MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 9 February 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

149. COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS: To approve co-option of new members:

RESOLVED: That members are co-opted onto Committee and Working Groups as follows:

Audit Sub-Committee: Iain Emmet and James Buczkowski

Trustee Upcott Field and Gift of A Burrow for Allotments: James Buczkowski

Market Committee: James Buczkowski

Policy, Finance and Personnel Committee: James Buczkowski

S.106 Sub-Committee: Karl Busch and Richard Thorne

Culm Voluntary Car Scheme: Eileen Andrews

NOTE: It was noted that representatives on outside bodies are required to bring reports to the Council

150. REPORTS

- (i) **Town Mayor's Report:** Town Mayor reported her attendance at the opening of a new "lash & brow" salon, good to see new businesses opening in the town.
- (ii) **Police Report.** Written report circulated and noted. Disappointed to learn that a local PC is leaving the force.

RESOLVED: That the Council writes to the PC Laura Beal to let her know that the Council is sorry to learn of her resignation. Proposed Cllr Kate Haslett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

(iii) County/District Councillor Reports.

- (a) **Devon County Councillor John Berry's** report included the following:
 - Childrens' Centre moving to the John Tallack Youth & Community Centre from 1 April 2017. DCC is paying for redecoration of the Centre. St Andrews Primary School will use their current premises as an additional classroom.
 - Devon schools underfunded by about £290 per child when compared with other areas such as London boroughs.
 - Moratorium on any additional development until M5 junction has been improved.
 - Greater Exeter Strategic Plan: consultation Phoenix House, 15 March 2pm-8pm. The Plan includes a "call for sites".

RESOLVED: That the Town Council writes to Devon County Council asking for details of their plans to improve the highway infrastructure e.g. M5 junction and relief road and also why they are now instigating a moratorium on any new housing development and recommending refusal of planning application for additional development off Knowle Lane. This would appear to contradict their original assertions that the new section of Swallow Way and the Knowle Lane/Swallow Way junction is fit for purpose. Copies to Head of MDDC Planning and local MP. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

Note:

1. Cllr Martin Smith declared a personal interest in respect of the previous resolution as he is Chairman of the Cullompton Town Team.
2. Cllr Mike Thompson requested that an item is placed on the agenda for the next meeting with regard to the role of Councillors on outside bodies.

(b) Mid Devon District Councillor Karl Busch's report included:

- Will report back to the Council following meeting with Gregory's Transport.
- Concern about dangers of vehicles using the site entrance in Ponsford Lane: *Item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting of the Traffic & Environment Working Group.*

- Concern about removal of play area fence at Culm Lea and confirmation that there is s.106 money available to improve the play area.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council requests that it is fully involved in any discussions about the Culm Lea play area.
2. That the Council contacts the developer and MDDC to find out why the fence was removed and what the plans are for replacement.
3. That the Council writes to developers, MDDC and DCC to find out why the repairs to the Public Right of Way, due to be carried out in October 2016 have not be carried out.

Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Rachel Sinclair.

- Refuse/recycling collections round days being rearranged.
- Discussion about the benefits of more business development/technology in Cullompton. *It was suggested that Cllr Karl Busch puts together a proposal for discussion at the next Council meeting.*

NOTE: Cllr Karl Busch agreed to follow-up a complaint that the bins along the path in the CCA Fields are not being emptied.

- (c) **Mid Devon Councillor Nikki Woollatt** had submitted a written report which was circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

NOTE:

1. Cllr Mike Thompson declared a personal interest in respect of the following item as he owns property adjacent to the Meadow Lane site.
2. Cllr Eileen Andrews declared a personal interest as she is a member of the Cullompton Community Association Committee.

- (iv) **Meeting with MDDC Chief Executive re Meadow Lane leisure facilities:** Cllr Gordon Guest reported that he had attended a meeting on 1 March together with the Town Clerk and Cllrs: Daniel Barnes, Iain Emmett, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne. The meeting had discussed the allocation in the Local Plan of the land in Meadow Lane for the expansion of the Cullompton Community College and the possibility of a land swap if it is deemed that the land is not suitable for development.

It was explained that the Community College will need to expand to take the additional students generated by the housing development proposals. It is thought that there are storm drains and sewers under the land and this could mean that it is not suitable for building on.

The reason for the meeting was to make the MDDC Chief Executive and the MDDC Director of Operations aware of the issues and ensure that all the different parties work together to achieve the best outcome for Cullompton.

Discussion included loss of sports facilities should it be decided to construct a relief road through the CCA Fields.

Concern that, if Meadow Lane is linked to a new relief road this will increase the highway dangers for children.

(v) Any other meeting reports.

- (i) Cllr Daniel Barnes** reported that he had attended a meeting of the Cullompton Community College School Council which he had found very interesting. He and the Town Mayor will be attending a school assembly on 13 March to promote the idea of a Youth Council.
- (ii) Cllr Gordon Guest** reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had returned part of a grant from central government as it had not been used but has now re-claimed the money.

151. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- (i)** To approve the Financial Statements for January 2017

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £26,083.37 for February 2017 are approved and the Financial Statements for February 2017 are approved. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

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

- (i) Planning & Licencing Committee** meetings held on 26 January and 9 February. *Noted.*
- (ii) General Purposes Committee** meeting held on 24 January. *Noted*
- (iii) Market Committee** meetings held on 25 January and 8 February: *Noted*
- (iv) Town Team meeting** held on 19 January 2017: *Noted*
- (v) S.106 Working Group meeting** held on 31 January 2017

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the S.106 Working Group are noted and the recommendation "That the Council requests that MDDC identifies a 'link' Officer, someone within the Planning Service that CTC can continually liaise with about s.106 Agreements" is approved. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Richard Thorne.

153. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- (i) Kingfisher Reach: To receive summary of meeting held on 2 February 2017 and any responses from Barratt Homes/David Wilson Homes following the meeting.** Concern that Barratts/DWH have still not delivered on several of the actions that were agreed at the meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That Barratts/DWH are contacted to ask when the agreed actions will be carried out, this includes road safety and speed limit signs, plans for fencing of attenuation ponds. Proposed Cllr Daniel Barnes, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.
2. That the Council contacts the Health & Safety Executive, citing a number of issues where it considers that the contractors are not complying with Construction Management Plan and Health & Safety legislation and request a site meeting. Cllr Richard Thorne offered to find out the most effective way to make an approach to the HSE. Proposed Cllr Richard Thorne, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

3. That the Council contacts all its Mid Devon ward members with a request that they lobby Mid Devon Planners and Planning Committee to develop a policy which requires developers to adhere to their Construction Management Plans and all Health & Safety legislation. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Martin Smith.

NOTE: As the time was 9pm it was **RESOLVED** to continue the meeting until 9.30pm. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Mike Thompson.

- (ii) **Placing of “No Waiting” cones: To receive response from Devon County Council:** Disappointed with response from DCC, suggest that we ask Chapter 8 qualified staff to put out “no waiting” cones if considered necessary. Publicise that the Council will put out these cones when the M5 is closed and make local media aware of what the Council is doing and why. Write to Highways England and ask that the Town Council is advised when the M5 is closed.

- (iii) **St Andrews car park: To approve revised terms and conditions of parking.**

RESOLVED: That the Council approves the revised terms and conditions of parking with the proviso that:

- Payment can be made by both cash and phone.
- Anyone parking before 9am is able to obtain a ticket to park for up to 4 hours.
- That the parking meter is able to accept the new £1 coins

Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

154. **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: To consider the proposal to set up a committee, including suggestion by Cllr Iain Emmett that the role of the existing Planning & Licencing Committee is expanded.**

RESOLVED: That a Planning & Development Working Group is set up to consider the suggestions put forward by Cllrs Iain Emmett and Richard Thorne and report back to Planning & Licencing Committee. The Group to run for 6 months. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Daniel Barnes.

NOTE: Due to time constraints it was **RESOLVED**

1. To defer Agenda items 11. (Motions put forward by Councillors), 12. (Correspondence) and 15. (To consider briefing document for feasibility study) until the next meeting. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Karl Busch.
2. As the time is 9.30pm to continue for a further 10 minutes, until 9.40pm. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Richard Thorne.

RESOLVED: That due to the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be discussed the following items are 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 Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

155. **Funding for Devon schools: To receive response from Devon County Council:** Concern at the reduction in funding for local schools. Discussion about the formula for working out the

funding, it was felt that children in all parts of England should be treated the same. Equal opportunities for all.

RESOLVED: That the Council writes to its MP expressing concern about cuts in education funding and asking why Devon children receive substantially less than children in other parts of the country. Would like details of how funding is calculated. Proposed Cllr Rachel Sinclair, seconded Cllr Eileen Andrews.

156. To consider and approve signing of lease for land at Knightswood, Cullompton for siting of container and consider estimate for legal advice.

RESOLVED: That the Council requests removal of Clause 3.19 which states as follows: *“On completion of this lease to pay to the Landlord the sum of five hundred pounds (£500) by way of contribution to the legal and surveyors’ costs incurred by the Landlord in the negotiation preparation and completion of this lease”* as the Council will be paying £225 per year rent which can be used to cover these costs.

157. To consider draft briefing document for feasibility study. Deferred until the next meeting.

158. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 23 March 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____