

APPENDIX A



MINUTES of a Meeting of Cullompton Town Council held on Thursday 27 April 2017 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, Gordon Guest, Camille Harrison, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Will Jones, Mike Thompson and Richard Thorne

Mrs Judy Morris: Clerk

Also in attendance: Cllrs: Rosemary Berry and Terry Snow (MDDC), Cllr John Berry (DCC and one member of the press.

188. APOLOGIES received and accepted from: Cllrs Eileen Andrews (personal), Rachel Sinclair (personal) and Chris Standford (work).

189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: To receive disclosures of pecuniary, non-pecuniary and personal interests.

- **Cllrs Camille Harrison and Janet Johns** declared a personal interest in respect of the Townscape Heritage presentation as they both own property within the area covered by the Heritage Lottery Fund bid.

RESOLVED: That MDDC Cllr Terry Snow makes his report at this stage of the meeting to enable him to leave.

NOTE: Cllr Mike Thompson declared a personal interest in respect of discussion relating to Shortlands Lane as he has been involved in discussions/meetings about the lane in the past.

190. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT: Cllr Terry Snow reported on

- (a) Shortlands Lane research appeared to confirm that the status of the lane is that of Public Bridleway and that it was not included within the Conservation Area at the time a wall, which is currently at a centre of a resident's dispute with DCC, was erected. Cllr Mike Thompson offered to liaise with Cllr Terry Snow and share the information he had collected.
- (b) Written to English Heritage about damage to Manor House Hotel caused by pigeons and confirmed that MDDC had issued an enforcement notice to the owner of the hotel to make necessary repairs within four months.
- (c) Concern about running costs for public toilets, also cemetery rates.

191. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: None

192. TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PROJECT: To receive update report from MDDC Economic Development & Regeneration Manager: John Bodley-Scott reported that, although the initial bid had been unsuccessful, it is rarely the case than an application succeeds first time. The Townscape Lottery fund programme is massively oversubscribed and second time bids are prioritised as the applicant has had more time to develop and improve the bid.

There is an intention to update, strengthen and resubmit the bid in December 2017, outcome will be known May 2018 and, if successful, there will be one year's development funding to develop the project before submitting second stage application.

Bid includes funding for public realm improvements, training for traditional craftsmen and a Volunteer Heritage Warden Scheme.

Discussion about an overall strategy/vision for the town centre.

The Chairman thanked John Bodley-Scott for attending and he left the meeting.

193. MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Full Council meeting held on 13 April were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

194. MEETING DATES: To consider dates for June meetings.

RESOLVED: That a full council meeting is held on Thursday 1 June 2017, primarily to approve the 2016/17 Annual Return.

195. REPORTS

- (i) Town Mayor's Report:** The Deputy Town Mayor reported his visit to St Andrews Primary School to promote a project to make wicker figures for the Christmas Lights Parade. All three local schools have been invited to design a figure to be made into a life size model for the parade.
- (ii) Police Report:** Written report circulated with the agenda, Cllr Iain Emmett reported his concerns about noisy vehicles using the main street as a race track.

RESOLVED: That the Police are asked to send a local police officer to Council meetings. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Iain Emmett.

(iii) County/District Councillor Reports:

196. Devon County Councillor John Berry thanked the council for its hospitality over the past four years.

RESOLVED: That a vote of thanks is recorded to Cllr John Berry for his help and support over the past four years. Proposed Cllr Martin Smith, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

197. Mid Devon District Councillor Karl Busch reported a meeting with two business people who are interested in supporting the Town Council to develop the Harlequin Valet project.

RESOLVED: That the two business people interested in supporting the Council to develop the Harlequin Valet project are invited to a future meeting to explain their proposals/role. Proposed Cllr Mike Thompson, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

198. Mid Devon Councillor Rosemary Berry reported that MDDC had done well to only have a £60k overspend during 2016/17. They are promoting zero tolerance to fly tipping and initiatives to provide faster broadband to rural communities. It was felt that the local area had been let down with regard to broadband speeds.

(iv) Highway infrastructure meeting: Cllr Martin Smith reported on meeting attended by himself and Cllr Gordon Guest. It was explained that they had been invited by Neil Parish MP, representatives from MDDC, DCC and Highways England had also attended the meeting.

Concerns about lack of progress by DCC which could mean delay in any new highway infrastructure and lack of communication between Highways England and Devon County Council.

(v) Any other meeting reports: Cllr Daniel Barnes reported on the first meeting of the Youth Council, he had hoped that more young people would turn up but found those that did inspiring and enthusiastic.

RESOLVED: That a vote of thanks is recorded to Cllr Daniel Barnes for his hard work in organising the first meeting of the Youth Council. Proposed Cllr Will Jones, seconded Cllr Camille Harrison.

199. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

(i) To approve the Financial Statements for March 2017

RESOLVED: That payments totalling £33631.98 are approved and the Financial Statements for March 2017 are approved. Proposed Cllr Will Jones, seconded Cllr Richard Thorne.

NOTE: Recorded vote requested: Cllrs Daniel Barnes, Karl Busch, Gordon Guest, Camille Harrison, Kate Haslett, Janet Johns, Will Jones, Martin Smith and Richard Thorne voted to approve and Cllrs James Buczkowski, Iain Emmett and Mike Thompson abstained from voting.

(ii) Grants: To approve payments as per recommendation of the Policy, Finance & Personnel Committee.

RESOLVED: That the payment of grants is approved as follows: Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

NOTE: Cllr Kate Haslett declared a personal interest in respect of the grant application from Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign as she is a member of the committee and abstained from voting.

Organisation	Purpose of grant	Amount requested	Grant paid 2015.16	Recommended grant 2017.18
Citizens' Advice Bureau	To provide an outreach service in Cullompton for the benefit of the local community providing free, independent advice and information.	£500	£500	£500
Cullompton Ace Majorettes	28 no. new batons (£25 each)	As much as you can give	£200	£200
Cullompton Board Games Group	Pay for hire of room at Community Centre	£120	£50	£25
Culm Voluntary Car Scheme	To help towards general running expenses of this essential service for local residents who would find it difficult to get to hospitals, doctors' surgeries and other health visits by any other means.	£200	£200	£300
Cullompton Swimming Pool Campaign	New gazebo for use at outside events	£500	Nil	Defer for additional information
Noah's Ark PreSchool	To replace ancient mobile handwash unit as there is no running water in the main room.	£350	Nil	Offer to purchase the handwash unit and gift to Noah's Ark Pre-School (estimated cost £450.00)
Tiverton & District Community Transport Association	Assist with the running costs of Ring & Ride bus service, offering a fully accessible door to door service for frail, elderly, disabled and rurally isolated people, currently available 3-4 days a week in the Cullompton area.	£500	£150	£400.00
Total				£1425 plus handwash unit (approx. £450.00)

(iii) Audit Sub-committee:

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Audit Sub-committee meeting held on 3 April 2017 are noted and the following recommendations are approved: (Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr James Buczkowski).

- (a) That the Sub-Committee's terms of reference are approved as per the Minutes.
- (b) That the Council approves the Statement of Internal Control 2016/17 to be signed by the Town Mayor and Town Clerk

(iv) Town Hall survey work: To consider quotes and agree way forward.

RESOLVED: That this item is deferred until the end of the meeting and dealt with as Part 2 business (private and confidential). Proposed Cllr Will Jones, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

200. 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 13 April: Noted
- (ii) **Public Convenience Working Group** meeting held on 10 April, including details of MDDC charges 2016/17: Noted
- (iii) **Community Wellbeing Committee** meeting on 11 April 2017: Noted
- (iv) **Policy Review Working Group** meeting held on 18 April 2017: Noted

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the above Committee and Working Groups are noted. Proposed Cllr Gordon Guest, seconded Cllr Kate Haslett.

201. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- (i) **Kingfisher Reach: To consider arranging a further follow-up meeting with Barratts/David Wilson Homes to discuss resolution of problems experienced by residents of new development.**

RESOLVED: That the Council writes a strongly worded 'open' letter to Mid Devon District Council stating that the town and residents have been badly let down by the lack of any enforcement of the Construction Management Plans and planning conditions. Issues have been allowed to get out of hand and this has led to a raft of problems which could have been prevented with stronger enforcement from the outset. Copy to MP and publish on the Town Council website. Proposed Will Jones, Seconded Kate Haslett.

NOTE: As the time was now 9pm it was agreed to extend the meeting for an additional 15 minutes. Proposed Cllr Will Jones, seconded Cllr Janet Johns.

- (ii) **Culm Lea: Ongoing problems reported by residents with regard to removal of play area fencing, highway barrier for new path and highway reconfiguration.**

RESOLVED: That the Council sends an 'open' letter to Mid Devon District Council emphasising that the play area was there before the construction of the new development and people bought their new homes knowing that. Also the path to the Public Right of Way alongside the River Culm is a popular dog walking area. Refer to guidance of Devon Countryside Access Forum. Proposed Cllr Iain Emmett, seconded Cllr Gordon Guest.

202. CORRESPONDENCE: None

RESOLVED: That due to the commercially sensitive nature of the business to be discussed the following item is 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 James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

PART 2

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS WERE REQUESTED TO LEAVE BEFORE THIS SECTION OF THE MEETING COMMENCED

203. Town Hall survey work: To consider quotes and agree way forward: Discussion ensued and it was

RESOLVED: To delegate the consideration of quotes for Town Hall survey work to the General Purposes Committee to be looked at in detail. Proposed Cllr James Buczkowski, seconded Cllr Will Jones.

204. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 18 May 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____